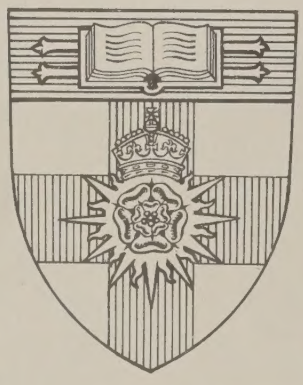
THIS BOOK
MUST NOT BE REMOVED
FROM THE LIBRARY

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON LIBRARY

PARL. PAPERS
FOR REFERENCE ONLY.



UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
LIBRARY

611228

REPORTS

FROM

COMMISSIONERS, INSPECTORS,

AND OTHERS:

FIFTY-ONE VOLUMES.

—(*32.*)—

CONGESTION IN IRELAND (ROYAL COMMISSION)—
continued.

Session

29 *January* 1908 —— 21 *December* 1908.

VOL. XLII.

1908.

REPORTS

FROM

COMMISSIONERS, INSPECTORS,

AND OTHERS:

1908.

FIFTY-ONE VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE

THIRTY-SECOND VOLUME.

N.B.—*THE* Figures *at the* beginning of the line, *correspond with the* N° *at the foot of each* Report; *and the* Figures *at the* end of the line, *refer to the* Paging *of the Volumes arranged for The House of Commons.*

CONGESTION IN IRELAND (ROYAL COMMISSION):

[Cd. 4006.] Tenth Report of the Commissioners. p. 1

[Cd. 4007.] Appendix to the Tenth Report. Minutes of Evidence (taken in Counties Galway and Roscommon, 18th September to 4th October 1907), and documents relating thereto. 5

[Cd. 4088.] Eleventh Report of the Commissioners. 583

[Cd. 4089.] Appendix to the Eleventh Report of the Commissioners. Minutes of Evidence (taken in London, 22nd to 24th January 1908), and documents relating thereto. 587

[Cd. 4097.] Final Report of the Commissioners. 729

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

TENTH REPORT

OF

THE COMMISSIONERS.

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

DUBLIN:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY ALEXANDER THOM & CO. (LIMITED), ABBEY-STREET.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
E. PONSONBY, 116, Grafton-street, Dublin; or
WYMAN and SONS, Limited, Fetter-lane, E.C., and
32, Abingdon-street, Westminster, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, Tweeddale-court, Edinburgh.

1908.

[Cd. 4006]. *Price* ½*d.*

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

WARRANT APPOINTING THE COMMISSION.

EDWARD *R. & I.*

EDWARD THE SEVENTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, to

Our right trusty and right well-beloved Cousin and Councillor WILLIAM HUMBLE, EARL OF DUDLEY, Knight Grand Cross of Our Royal Victorian Order;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor SIR ANTONY PATRICK MACDONNELL, Knight Grand Commander of Our Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, Knight Commander of Our Royal Victorian Order, Under Secretary to Our Lieutenant-General and General Governor of that part of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland called Ireland;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor SIR JOHN CHARLES READY COLOMB, Knight Commander of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor SIR FRANCIS MOWATT, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Companion of Our Imperial Service Order; and

Our trusty and well-beloved :—

The Most Reverend PATRICK O'DONNELL, Doctor in Divinity;

JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esquire;

WALTER INCH KAVANAGH, Esquire;

CONOR O'KELLY, Esquire; and

ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esquire; Chairman of the Fishery Board for Scotland;

GREETING!

Whereas We have deemed it expedient that a Commission should forthwith issue to inquire into and report upon the operation of the Acts dealing with Congestion in Ireland, the working of the Congested Districts Board, and the Land Commission under these Acts, and the relations of the Board with the Land Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction; what areas (if any) outside the districts now scheduled as congested, require to be dealt with as congested; what lands are most conveniently situated for the relief of congestion; what changes in law or administration are needed for dealing with the problem of congestion as a whole, for facilitating the migration of the surplus population from congested areas to other lands, and generally for bettering the condition of the people inhabiting congested areas.

Now know ye that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your knowledge and ability, have nominated, constituted and appointed, and do by these Presents nominate, constitute and appoint you the said William Humble, Earl of Dudley (Chairman); Sir Antony Patrick MacDonnell; Sir John Charles Ready Colomb; Sir Francis Mowatt; Patrick O'Donnell; John Annan Bryce; Walter Inch Kavanagh; Conor O'Kelly; and Angus Sutherland to be Our Commissioners for the purposes of the said Inquiry.

And for the better effecting the purposes of this Our Commission, We do by these Presents give and grant unto you, or any three or more of you, full power to call before you such persons as you shall judge likely to afford you any information upon the subject of this Our Commission; and also to call for, have access to, and examine all such books, documents, registers and records as may afford you the fullest information on the subject; and to inquire of and concerning the premises by all other lawful ways and means whatsoever.

And We do by these Presents authorize and empower you, or any three or more of you, to visit and personally inspect such places as you may deem it expedient so to inspect for the more effectual carrying out of the purposes aforesaid, and to employ such persons as you may think fit to assist you in conducting any inquiry which you may hold.

And We do by these Presents will and ordain that this Our Commission shall continue in full force and virtue, and that you, Our said Commissioners, or any three or more of you, may from time to time proceed in the execution thereof and of every matter and thing therein contained, although the same be not continued from time to time by adjournment.

And We do further ordain that you, or any three or more of you, have liberty to report your proceedings under this Our Commission from time to time, if you shall judge it expedient so to do.

And Our further will and pleasure is that you do, with as little delay as possible, report to Us under your hands and seals, or under the hands and seals of any three or more of you, your opinion upon the matters herein submitted for your consideration.

Given at Our Court at *St. James's*, the 20th day of July, 1906, in the sixth year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command.

H. J. GLADSTONE.

Appointment of Secretary.

DUBLIN CASTLE,
July 24, 1906.

WALTER ERNEST EVERARD CALLAN, Esquire, B.L., The Castle, Dublin, has been appointed to be Secretary of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into and report upon the operation of the Acts dealing with Congestion in Ireland.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

TENTH REPORT.

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

We, the Commissioners appointed by Your Majesty on the 20th July, 1906,

> "To inquire into and report upon the operation of the Acts dealing with Congestion in Ireland, the working of the Congested Districts Board, and the Land Commission under these Acts, and the relations of the Board with the Land Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction; what areas (if any) outside the districts now scheduled as congested, require to be dealt with as congested; what lands are most conveniently situated for the relief of congestion; what changes in law or administration are needed for dealing with the problem of congestion as a whole, for facilitating the migration of the surplus population from congested areas to other lands, and generally for bettering the condition of the people inhabiting congested areas,"

Availing ourselves of Your Majesty's permission to report our proceedings from time to time, desire to submit to Your Majesty, as an Appendix to this tenth preliminary Report, minutes of the evidence taken in the Counties of Galway and Roscommon during the months of September and October, 1907, and statements and returns in writing that have been furnished to us in connection therewith.

We think that the immediate publication of these documents is desirable.

All of which we humbly submit for Your Majesty's most gracious consideration.

DUDLEY, *Chairman.*
A. P. MACDONNELL.
JOHN C. R. COLOMB.
FRANCIS MOWATT.
✠PATRICK O'DONNELL.
JOHN ANNAN BRYCE.
WALTER KAVANAGH.
CONOR O'KELLY.
ANGUS SUTHERLAND

WALTER CALLAN,
Secretary.

LONDON. Dated this 28th day of February, 1908.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

APPENDIX

TO THE

TENTH REPORT.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

(TAKEN IN COUNTIES GALWAY AND ROSCOMMON, 18TH SEPTEMBER, TO 4TH OCTOBER, 1907),

AND

DOCUMENTS RELATING THERETO.

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

DUBLIN:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY ALEXANDER THOM & CO. (LIMITED), ABBEY-STREET

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
E. PONSONBY, 116, Grafton-street, Dublin; or
WYMAN and SONS, Limited, Fetter-lane, E.C., and
32, Abingdon-street, Westminster, S.W.; or
OLIVER and BOYD, Tweeddale-court, Edinburgh.

1908.

[Cd. 4007.] *Price* 5*s*.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	Page
List of Members of the Commission,	iii
Terms of Reference,	iii
List of Witnesses,	iv
Digest of Evidence,	v
Minutes of Evidence,	1
Index to Appendices,	269
Appendices,	273

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.

The Right Hon. The Earl of Dudley, G.C.V.O. (Chairman)

The Right Hon. Sir A. P. MacDonnell, G.C.S.I.

The Right Hon. Sir John C. R. Colomb, K.C.M.G.

The Right Hon. Sir Francis Mowatt, G.C.B.

The Most Rev. Patrick O'Donnell, D.D., Lord Bishop of Raphoe.

John Annan Bryce, Esq., M.P.

Walter Kavanagh, Esq., D.L.

Conor O'Kelly, Esq., M.P

Angus Sutherland, Esq., Chairman of the Fishery Board for Scotland.

Secretary—

Walter Callan, Esq.

TERMS OF REFERENCE.

"To inquire into and report upon the operations of the Acts dealing with Congestion in Ireland, the working of the Congested Districts Board, and the Land Commission under these Acts, and the relations of the Board with the Land Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction; what areas (if any) outside the districts now scheduled as congested, require to be dealt with as congested; what lands are most conveniently situated for the relief of congestion; what changes in law or administration are needed for dealing with the problem of congestion as a whole, for facilitating the migration of the surplus population from congested areas to other lands, and generally for bettering the condition of the people inhabiting congested areas."

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF WITNESSES.

Name.	Page of Digest.	Page of Evidence.
Armstrong, Mr. E. G.,	xliii.	127
Ashtown, The Right Hon. the Lord,	lix.	176
Beirne, Mr. Daniel, J.P.,	xciv.	267
Blake, Mrs. C.,	xviii.	36
Bowen, Mr. Edward F., J.P.,	xci.	258
Brady, Mr. Thomas,	lxxxix.	250
Burke, Mr. Henry A., J.P.,	v.	1
Cahill, Mr. Thomas,	lxxiv.	210
Callanan, Rev. J., P.P.,	xlix.	143
Cassidy, Mr. Michael,	xciii.	264
Cloherty, Mr. Joseph,	xix.	39
Concannon, Mr. Martin,	lxxx.	225
Conroy, Mr. J. C.,	xxxiv.	89
Conroy, Rev. M., P.P.,	xxvii.	68
Costello, Mr. Peter,	xxxiii.	88
Cotton, Mr. Cox,	lxxxi.	226
Craddock, Rev. J., P.P.,	xli.	116
Crosbie, Mr. David Talbot-,	lxvii.	194
Cullinane, Mr. M.,	xix.	39
Cunningham, Mr. John,	lxiii.	185
Curran, Mr. Patrick,	xxxiii.	87
Curran, Rev. J., P.P.,	xlviii.	140
D'Arcy, Mr. John,	xlv.	131
Doran, Mr. Henry,	lxxxiii.	232
Doyle, Mr. John J.,	xci.	257
Drury, Mr. John,	xciv.	268
Eagleton, Rev. Mark, P.P.,	xlvii.	139
Edmonds, Mr. Leslie,	xii. & lxxii.	18 & 208
Egan, Mr. Matthew,	lxxxix.	251
Feeley, Mr. Joseph,	xciv.	267
Feeney, Mr. Timothy,	lxv.	189
Finnerty, Mr. Martin,	lxx.	202
Fitzgibbon, Mr. John, J.P.,	lxxix.	223
Flatley, Rev. John, C.C.,	ix.	12
Glynn, Mr. Thaddeus,	lxviii.	197
Glynn, Mr. J. A.,	xli.	117
Gough, The Viscount,	liv.	160
Green, Rev. W. S.,	xvii.	34
Griffiths, Miss Rose A.,	lix.	175
Hardy, Mr. William,	lxxv.	212
Hayden, Mr. J. P., M.P.,	lxxv.	213
Hazell, Mr. Thomas,	xxiii.	54
Hibbet, Mr. T. B.,	lxix.	198
Hosty, Rev. T., P.P.,	xxxiv.	90
Irwin, Mr. John,	lxxxv.	237
Joyce, Mr. J. H.,	xxxvi	98
Joyce, Mr. Michael,	xiii.	20
Keaveney, Mr. John,	xc.	253
Kelly, Mr. J.,	xxvi.	64
Kelly, Mr. Peter J.,	li	152
Kelly, Rev. James, P.P.,	xiii.	21
Kennedy, Mr. Cornelius J.,	xliv.	128
Kirwan, Mr. Denis,	xxxvii.	102
Lawless, Mr. William,	xxxv.	92
Lyden, Mr. J. M.,	xv.	27
Lyons, Mr. Michael A.,	xxxi.	81
Macken, Very Rev. Canon, P.P.,	xlv.	132
M'Alpine, Very Rev. Canon, P.P., V.G.,	xvi.	29
M'Andrew, Rev. B., P.P.,	xx.	41
M'Donagh, Mr. Patrick,	xxix.	73
M'Hugh, Rev. M., P.P.,	xx.	44
M'Hugh, Rev. Redmond, P.P.,	xxx.	77
Moeran, Mr. Archibald,	liv.	162
Mongan, Mr. Martin,	xxvi.	65
Murphy, Mr. Henry A.,	xxxviii.	107
Mullen, Mr. John,	li.	153
Naughton, Mr. Patrick,	xxxv.	94
Neary, Mr. James,	lxxxv.	235
Neil, Mr. William,	lv.	164
O'Conor Don, The, H.M.L.,	lxxxviii.	246
O'Connor, Mr. Christopher,	xxiv.	57
O'Halloran, Mr. Patrick,	xxxv.	92
O'Malley, Mr. Peter J., J.P.,	vii.	6
O'Rourke, Mr. Thomas, J.P.,	lxxxix.	251
Pelly, Rev. Joseph Alfred, C.C.,	lv.	166
Poë, Lieut.-Col. Wm. Hutcheson, C.B., J.P., D.L.,	lxxix.	222
Rafferty, Mr. J. H.,	lxxiv.	211
Reidy, Rev. Th., P.P.,	lxxiii.	208
Reilly, Mr. Thomas,	lxxiv.	210
Robinson, Mr. Henry A.,	xxxii.	85
Ryan, Mr. James,	lxvi.	190
Satchwell, Mr. Herbert, J.P.,	lxvii.	195
Sharkey, Mr. James,	xc.	255
Stuart, Mr. W. H.,	xlviii.	141
Sullivan, Mr. Patrick,	xvii.	34
Taylor, Mr. Frank Shawe-, J.P.,	li.	153
Tener, Mr. E. Shawe-, J.P.,	liii.	158
Trench, Mr. P. Chenevix, F.S.I., J.P.,	lxxv.	212
Walker, Mr. W. J. D.,	xxiii.	52
Walpole, Mr. W. J.,	lxxxvii.	242
Walsh, Mr. Patrick,	xxxv.	93
Ward, Mr. John F.,	lxiii.	186
Webb, Mr. Patrick,	lxxxii.	228
White, Mr. Edward,	xcii.	261
Wills, Mr. E. W. Sandford-, J.P.,	lxxx.	225

DIGEST OF EVIDENCE.

BURKE, Mr. HENRY A.

See pp. 1-6.

Kelp Industry.

Witness lived at Drumkeen, Ballinamallard, Fermanagh, 52013, 52015.—And formerly lived in Galway, about twenty miles from Leenane, 52014, 52017.—He had broken his connection with Galway twenty-five years previously, 52019.—But still visited it, 52021-2.—Witness had acted as agent for the kelp industry from the time he was eighteen years of age, till twenty-five years ago, 52016, 52024.—His father had been a kelp agent till six years previously, 52025.—Witness's knowledge, though not of recent times, was from personal experience, 52020.—He was not now in any way connected with the kelp industry, 52024.—At one time kelp was a staple industry in that part of Ireland, 52021-2.—In conjunction with fishing, it had caused the congestion of population along the coast, 52030.—Kelp of a good quality at one time sold for £10 to £12 a ton, and even when other sources of iodine were discovered it sold for £7, 52021-2.—£7 or £6 10s. was the highest price witness remembered; when he managed a district from the mouth of Killery Bay to High Island, including the islands of Boffin, Shark, and Innisturk, it dropped to £4, or £4 10s. a ton, when iodine was discovered in South America, 52030.

Causes of Decline.

After the discovery of Chilian iodine, buyers would not take as much kelp, and required it up to a certain standard, 52032-3.—This standard could only be reached by weed gathered before June, 52031-3.—This had so much shortened the season (which at one time lasted till October) that at the lowered prices the gathering did not pay, and for the last twenty-five or thirty years had been dwindling, 52033.

Revival of Kelp Industry.

There were still many people who knew how to trim kelp, 52033A.—Witness believed the industry, even in existing circumstances might be made to pay by assistance from Government, by educating the workers in better methods, and inducing them to abstain from adulteration by sand, stones, or bad weed, which produced a small proportion of iodine or none at all, 52026, 52033-5.—This might be done through Parish Committees, 52033A.—The kelp-workers used to depend entirely upon drift-weed, but cut weed was not only of a better quality, but was procurable at will, whereas the drift weed only came intermittently, and then in so large a quantity that it rotted before it could be dealt with, 52033A.—A Mr. Stephens in witness's time advanced money for purchasing boats, or induced landlords to assist in supplying boats, for the purpose of cutting weed, but this was a failure owing to the conservative habits of the people, 52033.—However, improved and labour-saving methods of fattening the weed might be made use of, and families might co-operate, using a boat in common, and dividing the profits, 52033A.—A good kelp might be insured by providing the people with large drying sheds of a simple and inexpensive kind, 52026.—A chemical factory might be started in a central position, like Westport or Sligo for the manufacture of kelp, 52033.—A central burning-place might be provided, where the dried weed could be brought and burned on a large scale, and sheds where it could be weighed and burned according to its quality, 52033A, 52036.—This would be to the advantage of the purchaser by ensuring a good quality, and if there were several of these depots the vessels could call for the kelp instead of the gatherers taking it twelve or thirteen miles by boat, 52036.—Kelp absorbed moisture after burning, and this spoiled the quality; it was possible to detect the weed which did not produce iodine without applying a chemical test, 52033.—The best weed

BURKE, Mr. HENRY A.—*continued.*

was locally called "Coughlagh," 52026, 52029.—It was saleable in a dried condition without burning, 52026.—It had a long "sea-rod," 52028.—But was not known as "sea-rod"; this rod should be collected in winter and burned with the "Coughlagh" to prevent it clogging in the kilns, 52033A.

Market for Kelp.

The whole output of Irish kelp was at one time bought by one Scotch firm; as competition increased other purchasers bought the worst qualities; this firm inspected and organised the industry, 52033.—There were bye-products from kelp such as black-bottles, soap and soda; kelp at the present time must contain a large proportion of iodine if it were to be profitable, 52033.

Migration.

Witness believed that if the Government succeeded in migrating congests from the coast, they would sell or abandon their land, and go back to kelp-gathering, 52033A.—The dwellers on the coast had been accustomed to earning their living by fishing and kelp-gathering, or migrating to England or Scotland as labourers, and they knew nothing of farming and would take generations to teach, during which time they would be living at the expense of the ratepayers, 52437.

Graziers as Purchasers from Small Farmers.

Witness considered the grazing land of Ireland an economic necessity in a country where small farms predominated, 52095.—The small holders were really most concerned in the preservation of grazing lands, 52040, 52098.—It would be disastrous for the small farmer if he were dependent on dealers and English markets for the sale of his young stock; the farmer with from five to fifteen acres was obliged to sell young calves; the farmer with twenty to thirty acres kept them till nine months' old and then sold them, 52437.—Having no room or food for them, 52437-8.—Even with twenty to thirty acres he might only have room for two or three cattle, 52038-9.—Small farmers could not keep even one bullock calf for longer than nine months or a year because they had no room; they had no land capable of fattening beef, and well-bred calves would not live on mountain land, 52040, 52054.—Farmers preferred well-bred calves because they got a better price for them, 52040.—Much land that was suitable for keeping milch cows would not fatten beef, 52040.—And bull calves were produced in a proportion of nearly three to one, 52437.—The calves could not be profitably hand-fed after nine months, 52055-7.—Nor would it pay to feed them on poor grass till they were ready for beef; owing to foreign competition food was now cheap, 50257.—Therefore these calves must be sold by the small farmer to a larger class of grazing farmers, who would keep them as long as the land was fit to feed them, from nine or twelve months, till they were ready to be fattened by graziers; it was only necessary to feed them sufficiently to keep them in healthy grazing condition; it would not pay to keep these cattle on fattening land all the time, even were there land sufficient, and sometimes there were two or three changes of pasture between nine months and two and a half years; at two and a half years the cattle were bought during April or May by the large graziers and fattened, then sold from the autumn, till possibly December; the graziers expected small profits and quick returns; some graziers, who had the various qualities of land required, bought calves direct from the small farmer and kept them till fat, 52040.—The greater number of calves produced in Ireland were had by the small farmers, the men whose numbers the Congested Districts Board wished to increase, 52437.—According as the small farms were increased, would be increased the production of young cattle (from nine to twelve

BURKE, Mr. HENRY A.—*continued.*

months), but the area required for keeping young stock till they were fit to be fattened, would be correspondingly decreased, as would the land required for fattening, 52040.—And as the small farmers and young stock increased, so would the demand for young stock diminish, 25062.—The object of the Congested Districts Board in introducing new breeds of cattle was to enable the small man to produce animals which would command the highest price from the grazier, 52096.—And the abolition of the grazier and grazing lands would make all these efforts useless, 52097.—The land now grazed was once under tillage, 52104A.—The grazing system then did not exist, 52105.—But these tillage farmers disappeared when the potato crop failed, 52105.—They tilled to provide themselves with the necessaries of life, as there were no imports from abroad, but now they only grew enough for their own use, as tillage did not pay; it did not pay to grow crops for sale or feeding, 52104A.—Nor could the small holders feed their cattle with green crops till they were old enough to sell to dealers from Meath, or from England or Scotland, 52099.—Witness was not aware that this was done in Mayo; he spoke of his own district, 52102.—He knew Tyrone as well as Fermanagh; Tyrone was an agricultural county, 52103.—And in Fermanagh there was both good and bad land, 52103.—There was tillage and fattening of cattle in Fermanagh, and dairying was only lately introduced, 52104.—If hand-feeding would have paid the small farmers, they would have been doing it for fifty years, 52101.

Graziers keep up the Breed of Cattle.

Witness had experience of farming 200 acres, principally grazing land, and managed 600 acres, 52037.—For landowners, buying and selling all classes of cattle; he considered that the graziers had been the means of keeping up a high class and breed of stock in the country; for thirty years witness had been attending cattle fairs and markets, and he considered that a well-bred animal paid, even at a relatively high price, 52037.—The well-bred short-horn bulls, which produced profitable calves, were kept by the larger graziers, 52400.—And cost, at thirteen to fifteen months, from £10 to £35.—For their services from 2*s.* to 3*s.* was charged, or more in the case of a specially good bull; the small farmers could not afford to buy such bulls, or to hand-feed them all the year round, as was necessary, 52040.—And if the grazing farms were broken up the class of bulls would deteriorate, 52041.—The Department operated in witness's neighbourhood, and still it was the large farmers who had the bulls, 52042.—Although a grant of £12 or £15 was given with the bull, it did not pay to buy one for £30, and keep him for two seasons, 52044.—Tenants preferred coming to witness, as he had bulls that were not too pure-bred; he charged 2*s.* for the service; it was a pity to have bulls too pure-bred, because they produced calves too fine in the bone, 52040, 52045.—Any kind of animal could be provided by the Department, 52046.

Galloway and Polled Angus Cattle.

Witness preferred short-horn cattle for certain purposes, 52047.—He was aware that the Congested Districts Board had introduced Galloway cattle into mountainous districts, 52048.—The farmers got higher prices for young Galloway cattle than for other breeds; Galloways and Polled Angus cattle were good for beef, but not for milk, and in some districts people were depending on them for milk, 52049-50.—In a district where there was no market for butter it was better to rear grazing than milch cattle, 52051-3.—The Galloways were suited to mountain districts, but some mountain districts were adjacent to good land; the calf of a good short-horn bull and a mountain cow could not be reared on mountain land, 52054.

Land suited for Tillage or Grazing and Dairy.

Excluding the moors and mountains suitable for grouse preserves, nine-tenths of Ireland was as suitable for tillage as for grazing, 52040.—The "middle land" at present under grass would do perfectly well for tillage for which land from 15*s.* to 17*s.* an Irish acre was enough; first-class land was not required for tillage, 52091, 52094.—Land under grazing did not deteriorate, 52106.—This was true of all land suitable for grazing, 52107-9.—Grass land could remain under grass and improve, but soil could be exhausted by cultivation and not being properly manured, 52108-9.—If a part were tilled and the manure put on to it in a proper system, more could be got out of the grass, 52110-3.—Mountain land that cannot be worked with a horse was more suited for dairy than for grazing purposes; land of this sort at 5*s.* an acre would produce a higher percentage of butter than fattening land; fattening land was not suitable for butter, nor dairy land for grazing; witness sold milk produced on land averaging 25*s.* an acre, and received 3*d.* and 3½*d.* a gallon, while his tenants were getting 4½*d.* to 5*d.* for milk off land at 7*s.* A farmer would not break up permanent pasture for tillage if he had other land suitable.

Economic Holdings.

Witness thought an uneconomic holding was one worked by a spade, and an economic holding was worked by a horse, 52090.—A farm ought to be of sufficient size to keep a horse, 52088-9.

Unsuitability of Belgian System to Ireland—Education, &c.

The Belgian system of intensive cultivation was unsuitable to the Irish climate, 52064.—Its main feature was rotation of crops and "catch" crops, 52063.—The Irish climate rendered the raising and saving of "catch crops" precarious, 52065.—Also education in Ireland was more advanced than in Belgium, and persons who had a good education considered they were wasting their time on small farming; no man who had a good education was content to work with a spade, 52052.—Young people who had been to school till fourteen would not take to spade labour, 52065.—Witness thought that in primary education care should be taken from the beginning to fit boys for agricultural and pastoral occupations, 52061-2.

The Status of Labourers.

Witness considered that Irish farmers had been changed by civilization, education, machinery, and Land Acts, and now required more room; if the labouring class were raised by means of education, and grants of houses and plots of ground, it would be at the expense of the industrious farmer, who now must have additional capital to work a reasonable-sized farm; one class could not be raised without lowering the others, by artificial means, at all events; there must be an upper class; the present method of building labourers' houses, cutting the country up into small farms and giving advanced education was an unwise one, and tended to increase population before there was any increase in their means of support; labourers were taking plots of ground as they took seed potatoes, thinking they were getting something at other people's expense; the supply of labour in rural districts did not equal the demand, 52065.

Labourers' Cottages.

Witness knew of some labourers' cottages in Fermanagh, 52066-70.—He had no knowledge of whether the authorities took steps to assure themselves that the dwellers in these houses were *bona fide* labourers, 52071-2.—He knew of no case of a man in one of those cottages who was not a labourer, 52071.—All of them worked in the neighbourhood on farms, 52073-7.—Witness had been told that they did not labour, but that, having obtained an acre of ground with their houses, they worked on that, 52078-9.—The purpose of giving the labourer an acre of land was that it should supplement his work as a labourer, 52080-1.—But having it, he could afford to do with less labour than before, 52082.—It might be decided later to give him three or more acres, 52065.—The Labourers' Act originally defined a labourer as an agricultural labourer, and a recent change in the Act made the earning of daily or weekly wages the only qualification, 52083.—So that some of the

BURKE, Mr. HENRY A.—*continued.*

labourers were now not agricultural labourers at all, but came from the country towns or villages, 52084-5.—Still he must actually be a labourer, and not merely in search of work, before he got the house, 52086-7.

Document put in by Mr. Henry A. Burke.

Notes of Evidence, ... *Page* 273

O'MALLEY, Mr. PETER J.

See pp. 6-12.

POVERTY IN OUGHTERARD.

Witness represented Oughterard Union, which had a valuation of £15,623, and comprised 3,914 holdings, 52118.—Of these 2,988 were agricultural holdings, 52119-20.—And 3,281 of these were under £5 valuation, and were occupied by 3,260 families, 52118, 52121.—If about forty large holdings were taken out, they would be all under £15.—The barest necessaries of life could in many instances not be obtained from the land alone, and the people were largely dependent on help from friends in America and England, 52121.

KELP AND TURF INDUSTRIES.

In Lettermore, Crumpaun, Comus, and Turlough a good deal of money used to be made out of kelp, but of late years the industry had been almost a total failure, 52121.—The cutting and saving of turf used to be a source of income; it used to be sold in Galway, Kinvara, Clare and Avon, but now the bogs were nearly exhausted, especially in Turlough, Gorumna, Crumpaun, and Lettermore, and there was no alternative for the people but starvation or the workhouse, 52121.

AVAILABLE GRASS LANDS IN OUGHTERARD.

In the divisions of Curr, Cong, Clonbur, Ross, Kilcummin and Letterbrickaun the population was not so congested; Letterfore, Oughterard, and Wormhole were much the same; grass farms in the hands of graziers in Ross, Curr, Letterbrickaun, Letterfore, Oughterard and Wormhole would, if divided, relieve a few of the congests; these farms were formerly occupied by tenants and cleared by landlords who, if the land were good, sometimes cleared whole villages and laid the land down to grass, 52121.

PURCHASES OF THE BOARD.

The Board had purchased no land except the townlands of Tumneenaun, near Clonbur, and Glannagirlagh, and part of Letterbrickaun, near Leenane, 52121.

OTHER SALES OF LAND.

No land had yet been sold under the Act of 1903, and under the Ashbourne Act only parts of the Berridge Estate in the division of Turlough at ten and a half years' purchase; parts in the Letterbrickaun division at sixteen years' purchase, and the townland of Shanafarahane, on the Kilmaine Estate at fourteen years' purchase; the landlords were disinclined to sell, except at prices the tenants could not give, owing to the ease with which they obtained their rents, 52121.

DEBTS TO SHOPKEEPERS.

Since the Connemara peasants had an interest in their land, they would pay their rent at all costs, paying rent with the money they obtained for labour, and getting the necessaries of life from the shop on credit, 52121-5.—They did not actually borrow from the shop-keepers, 52123.

SHOP-KEEPERS AS MEMBERS OF PARISH COMMITTEES.

Witness thought Parish Committees did good, but the grants were too small, and often the persons taking charge of them took no real interest, 52121.—If the priest did not interest himself in the matter, the Parish Committee was generally a failure, 52135, 52160.—Shop-keepers were debarred by a rule of the Congested Districts Board from acting as Parish Committees, 52126.—In witness's opinion

O'MALLEY, Mr. PETER J.—*continued.*

shop-keepers who were Guardians or District or County Councillors should be on the local committees, 52125.—District Councillors were debarred if they were shop-keepers, 52127-8.—No man knew the local needs and means better than the shopkeeper, 52125, 52132-3.—And it was to his interest to promote the prosperity of the people, 52125, 52136-7.—If a shop-keeper were an honest man, he knew who most deserved a grant, 52133, 52140.—And if he were likely to be unduly influenced by considerations of his own advantage, he might be prevented from obtaining any profit on money expended by the committee in the same manner as poor-law guardians at present, 52133A, 52135.—Legislation must be arranged for the dishonest as well as the honest, 52141.—A grant from a Parish Committee was allocated to a certain work, and the money so obtained could not be employed in paying the shop-keeper, 52142, 52148.—The work was done under the inspection of the supervisor, and according to specifications, 52142.—But applicants for grants were selected to qualify for competition work for money grants, 52144-5.—And the shopkeeper might favour his own customer in the selection, 52147, 52150.—And grants from the Parish Committees for improvements which the tenant would otherwise have paid for himself might set free an otherwise unattainable sum for the payment of the shopkeeper, 52148-9.—The shopkeeper would always be influenced and steadied by other members of the committee, 52138.—Though these would not always know his relations with his customers, 52139.—The man selected would get a grant for provision of materials, and the shopkeeper might have a collusive interest in where he got his materials, 52151-2.—The shopkeeper who was on the Parish Committee might be debarred from supplying materials paid for by grants, 52153-5.—Witness thought this would not be got over by collusion, as at East Ham, 52156-7.—It might be good to try and interest the small man in his neighbours if it were possible to bring them together, and get rid of their mutual suspicion, but those qualities of the poor prevented the formation of committees, 52135, 52158.—If some of the shopkeepers who were members of the District Council were eligible for the Parish Committees, they would try and cultivate the interest of the small holder in his neighbour, 52158.—Witness was himself a shopkeeper, 52130.—Had no licence, 52131.—And was a farmer in a small way, 52129.

EFFECT OF THE LACE SCHOOLS ON EMIGRATION.

The lace schools established by the Board had done good work, and witness thought great benefit would accrue from the establishment of permanent schools at Oughterard, Killannin, Cornamona, Clonbur, Cloughbrock, Maam, Leenane, Shanaforabane, or similar places, 52160.—Some girls were keeping house for relatives and earning a pound a week at lace-making besides; there should be lace schools wherever a closs of thirty or forty girls could be collected, 52163.—Witness remembered that a year or two ago it was not easy to sell lace, 52165.—And that all the schools had to be shut down for a time, 52166.—The number of schools established must bear some relation to the demand for lace, 52164, 52167.—Witness used lace as an example, and advocated schools for varied cottage industries, 52166-8.—Witness thought schools and money earned by cottage industries discouraged emigration, 52170-2.—Some girls working at cottage industries earned more than emigrants saved while in America, 52169.—And lived more comfortably at home than they would in America, 52172.—Witness's experience of this did not extend beyond Connemara, 52173-4.

POTATO SPRAYING.

The Department of Agriculture had done good where they had assisted the people in getting seed oats, seed potatoes, spraying machines, and spraying material at cost price, but should extend their operations to the whole union, as the agricultural instructors who went round could only supply these things to persons who paid cash down, and this debarred the most necessitous from obtaining them,

O'MALLEY, Mr. PETER J.—*continued.*

52174.—Payment might be deferred, as in the distribution of seed potatoes by the unions, 52175.—Witness thought it would be better if the whole of this work were undertaken by Local Parish Committees, 52176-7.—Witness had not met with more than one person in ten who disbelieved in spraying, 52178.—But some persons could not, or would not, spray unless they could obtain the materials on credit, 52179-80.—Also some persons put on the spraying material with a brush, which was better than nothing, but not nearly so effective, 52181-3.—It was a waste of good material, 52814.—There was now a guarantee with every parcel of spraying material; the stuff given away by the Agricultural Instructor was genuine, and a heavy penalty was incurred if the material, on analysis, was found to be bad, 52185.—There was a new Act to this effect, under which Government undertook inspection of materials, 52187.—Witness was nearly certain that this Act applied to Ireland, and had known samples sent away for analysis, 52187.—The Government inspectors were not numerous enough to penetrate everywhere, and it would be better that there should be a general inspection of materials offered for sale, 52192.—The inspectors of the Department now took samples, and the Department or the Public Analyst would examine it free of charge; some of the poor holders knew that they could prosecute if supplied with bad materials, 52191.—Shopkeepers sometimes kept spraying machines, and lent them to their customers, 52188.—But though a good system, it was difficult to induce shopkeepers to adopt it, 52189.—And there was a danger that it would not reach the poorest people, since a shopkeeper would prefer to give it to his best customer, 52190.—If the material were bad it was not the fault of the trader, who did not know how to mix it himself, 52192.—Local shopkeepers at one time made the mixture, but it was now sold cheaper by the Department's officers, who got it carriage paid, and no one came to the shopkeeper but those who had not ordered in time, or were unable to pay, 52198.

Distribution of Grass Lands, and Migration of Groups of Congests.

Witness thought that the proper way to meet the question of congestion was by the compulsory purchase, by the Estates Commissioners or Congested Districts Board, of the whole of Connaught, 52195, 52200.—The land should be distributed first to persons living near the rich grazing farms, 52195, 52201.—Who had at present uneconomic holdings, 52202.—Relieving congestion and making existing holdings economic before considering farmers' sons and other people, 52203-4.—The people along the seashore were capable of migration, being exceedingly hardy and industrious, 52025, 52209.—They now could make a living out of a piece of land, when one was obtainable, and would not be long in acquiring farming experience, 52206.—It would not take generations to teach them farming; if they were migrated to Roscommon they would learn quickly, 52208.—And would grow when there the same crops in the same way as at present, but on a larger scale, and more profitably, because on better land, 52210-2.—Agricultural instructors should be sent with migrants to teach them modern methods, and they would soon learn there, 52213, 52231.—Houses should be built for migrants, 52215.—And they should be supplied with stock by means of cheap loans, 52215-7.—The migrants might be able to raise a little capital themselves, 52218.—And their friends in America might, in some cases, provide them with the little capital necessary to settle them in grazing farms in Galway or Roscommon, 52219-22.—Nearly all tenants in the union had a little stock, with the exception of those along the seacoast, at Rossmuck and Lettermore, where they had neither cows or sheep, 52223.—In these districts the children, after they were weaned, had no milk but drank black tea, 52224, 52225.—The people there in some cases had no milk, and did not eat meat once in five years, 52226.—Migrants to the same district should all come from the same neighbourhood, 52195-6, 52228-9.—As they would protect each other and be company for each other,

O'MALLEY, Mr. PETER J.—*continued.*

52197-8.—They would not quarrel with their earlier settled neighbours, as there would be plenty of land, 52196.—And by degrees they would mix with the other people and settle down, 52196.—These migrants should be relatives and connections, or at all events, neighbours, in groups of forty, fifty, or one hundred families, 52195, 52229.—But they should be selected, those being chosen who were strong to labour, 52232-4.—They should not only be the strongest for labour, but the most industrious of the congests, 52235.—A whole district should not be cleared by migrating its inhabitants, 52230-1.—Migration must be carried out on a broad basis, for the land in Oughterard Union was quite inadequate to provide anything like an economic holding to each family under any system of re-adjustment; if the union were divided into £10 holdings, and a holding given to each family, more than half the population, 1,680 families, or 8,400 persons must be removed, which witness considered difficult and undesirable, as the families would be unwilling to migrate, and their reception would be unfavourable; therefore witness would resort to a wholesale migration of groups, 52194-5.

Fishing Industry—Sea Fisheries.

By the development of the fishing industry, the condition of the poor would be materially improved—a pier should be built at Trabone, where the landing place was both dangerous and comparatively useless; the people of Trabone were hardy and persistent fishermen, dependent to a great extent on fishing for their subsistence, and handicapped by want of facilities easily afforded by the Congested Districts Board; a pier should be erected at Lettermullen, and a pier and curing station at Kiggaul Bay, when the islanders of Gorumna and Lettermullen would fish in good weather, and attend to their farms when the weather was rough; in Gorumna, Crumpaun, and Lettermullen the fishing would, with very little assistance, develop itself, 52235.—The Board had lost money in building boats and trying to make a fishery in this district, but the loss was owing to the fishermen being alleged to go to Arran and Roundstone, and when the weather was rough remaining there for a week or two at an expense exceeding their earnings; this would be obviated if piers were constructed for them, 52235-6.—The Board should supply five modern fishing boats, and two competent instructors to send out with them to teach the most approved methods of fishing, curing, net-mending, &c.; the boats could be employed all the year round with the spring mackerel fishing, summer and autumn herring fishing, and conger fishing in winter, 52235.—If there were good harbour accommodation the men would turn out steady and good fishermen, 52239.—Witness did not wish them to live entirely on fishing, as they did not wish to leave their farms, 52239-41.—To succeed in fishing they must be fishermen, and follow the fish wherever they went, 52240, 52242.—In time these men would get into the way of following the fish, 52243.—Witness aimed at the initial process, 52244.—If the fishermen were said to have given up fishing for turf-cutting there was none in Lettermore, and the turf at Gorumna was nearly exhausted, 52237.—The turf by the seaside would employ only a few, 52238.

Inland Fisheries.

The Board should develop the fisheries in Lough Corrib; the fishery, its outlets, and its tributaries should be taken over by the Board of Agriculture (if necessary compulsorily); the owner, Mr. Halkett, should be expropriated, as he was not treating the fishery fairly by holding the fish back at Galway; a hatchery for white trout should be established, and the lake thrown open for free fishing, with a nominal fee to defray working expenses; in this way, Lough Corrib would attract thousands of anglers, and would become in a few years the best free fishing in Europe; thousands of boatmen, car-drivers, and fishermen would be employed; hotel accommodation occupied, and money put into circulation in the district which was now spent elsewhere, 52273.—Witness considered the preservation and increase of game and fish as

O'MALLEY, Mr. PETER J.—*continued.*

very important in the national interests of Ireland, 52274-5, 52278.—The Congested Districts Board gave a small grant of perhaps £20 to improve Lough Corrib, with the result that about £10,000 was spent in the vicinity last year by tourists, 52276.—It was almost as much a duty of the Board to improve inland as sea fisheries, 52278.—And if the Department of Agriculture were to develop the fishing in Lough Corrib, it might bring thousands of pounds into the neighbourhood, 52278.

HORSE-BREEDING AND CATTLE.

The Board had improved the breeds of cattle in the union, but had done irreparable harm to the breed of Connemara ponies by the introduction of worthless hackney stallions, 52160-1.—The Department of Agriculture should take immediate action to preserve and revive that valuable breed of ponies, which would otherwise become extinct, 52160-3.

MINES AND MINERALS.

The union was very rich in minerals, particularly the division of Curr, Letterfoe, Crumpaun, Cong, and Kilcummin, and Oughterard, and under the care of Government and with modern machinery and appliances, these might be worked so as to give employment to thousands of persons; the Board, after acquiring these estates, should hand them over to the Department of Agriculture, which should be compelled to test them, the profits on minerals going to the reduction of premiums on the estate, 52244.—When an estate was sold now, the mineral rights were reserved to the Land Commission, 52245.—A mine was being tested near to Maam, where witness lived, 52118, 52245.—This was being done by prospectors under a Mr. Bacon; it was said to be rich in lead and silver, and there were other mines in the county, 52246.

AFFORESTATION.

In the union were thousands of acres of bog and worthless mountain land, which would in time become profitable, if planted with timber; profits in this case also should go to reduce premiums, 52246.

ROADS—MAUMEEN-ROAD AND DUNMANUS PASS AND THE CLOOSH-ROAD.

The Board should without delay finish the roads and bridges, which were useless in their present state, and would be of benefit to populous centres if finished, besides giving much-needed employment in their construction; the Maumeen-road, between Maam and Recess, was unfinished, and would mean a short cut of eight miles to persons going from Mayo to Clifden, Roundstone, Cashel, Carna, &c., and consequently improve the fairs and markets in that district, as the chief part of the store cattle reared in Connemara was bought by farmers from Mayo, 52246.—This was a new road begun by the Board and the Clifden District Council, 52246.—Each of which contributed £300 during the last two years, 52253, 52248-9.—It was now abandoned, 52250-1.—No undertaking to finish it was given by the Council or any other body, 52252.—About a third of the road was built, 52256.—That was two miles on the Recess side, 52246, 52248.—The part from Curr to Derryveetamaama was unfinished, 52246.—And most of the unfinished part was in Oughterard Union, and the remainder in Clifden Union; neither union would finish it without further assistance from the Board, because the rates were high, 52252.—The poor-rate was 3*s.* 2*d.* on land, 52258-9.—And 5*s.* or 5*s.* 4*d.* on buildings, 52260.—Witness thought 3*s.* 2*d.* on land very high, 52261-2.—It was a little higher last year, but never before since the Act of 1898, 52263.—The second road which ought to be finished was Dunmanus Pass, between the parishes of Rossmuck, Carraroe, and Spiddal, 52264.—This road involved a bridge over the estuary, 52264-5.—Which would save going round many hours by Scrule; the road had been brought by the Board to the estuary, but it was useless until the bridge was built, when it would be of enormous advantage to persons attending fairs and markets, and to priests and doctors, and would save much pain and suffering, 52264.—The Cloosh-road was begun before witness's time, and never finished; it was begun for relief purposes, and about three or four miles in the centre were left unfinished, while the ends from Oughterard at one end, and Costello at the other, were finished to within three or four miles of Leenane, 52265-6.—Witness knew about the roads in the Leenane district; there was an old road from Leenane to Recess, which would considerably shorten the distance, 52271-2.—Ballinakill was in Clifden Union, as also were Letterfrack and Barnanockhaun, 52268-70.—The £300 given by the Board towards the Maumeen-road, 52249, 52253, was not wasted, as it served people at the foot of the hill, 52258-9.—Considerable period at the work, 52300.—The County Council did not differ much from one three year period to another, 52298.—And if a man was nominated from outside the Council by one County Council its successor would be likely to nominate him again, unless he were incompetent, 52299.—There would not be much danger of want of continuity of policy from this source, 52284.—It was necessary to have men acquainted with the various localities, 52282, and the tendency for local representatives to lay too much stress on local needs, and neglect broad issues would be balanced by other members of the Board, 52281.—A local representative could not domineer over the Board, or act without the consent of the majority, 52283.

CONSTITUTION OF THE CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD.

Witness thought the Board was not representative enough, but that it should include representatives of counties, at least one representative from every congested county appointed by the County Council, 52279.—These representatives should be elected for three years, the same term as the County Council, 52280, 52285.—If he were superseded just as he began to learn his work, the plan would not tend to efficiency, but three years was a good time, and experienced members of the Board would give the county representative assistance, 52287.—The present members would have more experience, 52288.—Witness would have no objection to the county representative retaining his position for six years, so that if he lost his seat on the Council he might remain a member, 52289.—And a Council might nominate and elect a member from outside its own body, 52290, 52292.—The man thus sent by the County Council from outside should only sit for three years, as he could be returned again if competent, 52284, 52294.—His competency would not be necessarily judged by the amount of money he obtained for his district, 52295-7.—He would be judged by how he discharged his duties, 52295.—The other members of the Board would not allow him to do jobs, 52297.—There was an advantage in leaving a man for a considerable period at the work, 52299.

FLATLEY, Rev. JOHN.

See pp. 12-8.

IMPROVEMENTS BY THE BOARD.

Witness now resided in Clare Island, but had been for many years in the Leenane district, and had served in nine parishes along the coast in the diocese of Tuam, from Spiddal to Achill, 52302.—He had been a priest thirty-seven years, and all that time had worked in congested districts, 52384.—Witness would give evidence as to the improvement of the people during his knowledge of them, much of this being due to the action of the Congested Districts Board; the Board would have justified its existence if it had done no more than its work in Arran; the Board had improved fishing, live stock, cottage industries, and had benefited the people through its Parish Committees, and had done many useful engineering works, 52302.

GALLOWAY CATTLE.

The introduction of Galloway cattle by the Board had been of great benefit, the stock being quickly saleable at a good price, 52306.

FLATLEY, Rev. JOHN—*continued.*

LACE-MAKING, CARPET-MAKING, SEWING, &c.

The lace-making classes had been a success, the girls in one valley having earned £1,008 in six months; this was between Leenane and Partry, in the Maamtrasna district; witness had seen the accounts of the lace school at Killiteen, and was astonished at the amount of money earned; few girls would now leave that valley to go to America, or to go to service (though servants were abundant ten or fifteen years previously), as they were now profitably employed, 52306-7.—Witness was aware of the danger of teaching all the girls the same industry, especially if it were one dependent on fashion, and thought the industry should be varied, as at Gorumna Island and Carraroe, where there was carpet-making and curtain-making, 52307.—Mrs. Wanklyn, a lady living in the district, had suggested the teaching of fine sewing and making of underclothing in some districts instead of lace; this was not sufficiently fine as supplied in Ireland, and was got from Paris; witness suggested that the Board should, in some places, substitute this for lace-making, 52307-11, 52313.—Mr. Walker was quite competent to deal with these matters, 52312.

WEAVING.

Weaving was a very useful industry in the district, giving a good deal of employment; it was started by Lady Aberdeen, twenty years previously, and managed by Mr. M'Keown; this employed persons in spinning and carding, as well as weaving, 52347.—The Board had done a good deal in sending instructors to teach people how to weave, and improving the patterns, and they also sent an instructor in dyeing, 52348, 52360.—Mr. M'Keown gave a satisfactory price for the weft and warp brought in, 52349.—It would be useful to have a trade-mark for the tweed, 52351-2.—Since the Leenane tweed was of good quality and a good pattern, and a great deal was sold, 52352.—The demand and the price would be improved by the employment of a trade-mark, 52353.—The wool was chiefly spun in the cottages, but some of it in the hotel yard, 52350.—The weavers worked at present at looms in their own houses, 52354-5.—This worked very well, as the weavers were agriculturists also, and if the looms were all together, and away from their homes, they would have to spend the whole day weaving, 52363.—But in places like Glamagimlagh, it would be an advantage if the Board built a shed which would hold five or six looms; the looms now almost filled the houses, 52365-6.—There was no advantage in having one loom-shed for the whole parish, 52366.—The looms now used were an improvement on the looms used when witness was a boy, 52356, 52358.—Which was propelled directly by the hand, whereas in the present ones the shuttle was propelled by a string, 52357-8.—The improvement in looms was not due to the Board, 52360.—Lady Dudley had helped some men to get better looms, 52359.—An instructress had been sent down to teach dyeing, and witness wished to send the boys from the fifth and sixth classes at school every day for an hour's instruction; he applied to the National Board for permission, 52360.—Which came when the instructor had left the neighbourhood for three weeks, 52360-1.—Witness let the boys go without permission; he thought it reasonable to let the boys go for this purpose, or the girls for cooking and laundry classes, 52362.

COOKERY.

Mr. Walker sent down an instructress in cookery under the Board who was four months at Cornamona, and was now spending four months at Clonbur; she had a good class of girls when she was in the Leenane district; in Clonbur the priest was working hard to interest the girls in it, as Father Cullen had done at Cornamona, 52327.—The girls benefited by the instruction, 52327.—The girls attending the class could do well at the end of the course, 52339.—The instructress was a qualified instructress in domestic science, 52335.—She was in the district from December to April, 52327, 52337, 52344.—She lived in the neighbourhood and taught in the Board's house near the chapel, 52337, 52335.—She cooked vegetables in the presence of the girls, which they ate, 52342-3.—Witness had had only two or

FLATLEY, Rev. JOHN—*continued.*

three months to see the result of the instruction, and the vegetables had been growing since then, 52346.—But he had no doubt that now the produce was coming in, the lectures would no doubt show the girls how to cook the vegetables properly, 52328, 52340.—The girls had taken an interest in plain vegetable cookery, 52328.—The house used by the Board for classes was built by the help of Board for a lace school, and was very useful; it was arranged for by Mr. Long, who was in the district when he was Chief Secretary, and the Board had granted £200 for the house, 52347.

GARDENING.

Witness thought the people should be taught how to cultivate the common kinds of garden vegetables, with the object of varying their food, depending on something less precarious than the potato, and presenting their contracting debts to the shopkeeper; witness in this and other parishes had collected a small fund and had distributed parcels of vegetable seeds to 150 tenants out of the 240 householders in his district, 52326.—He had six kinds of vegetables, 52326, 52332.—Parsnips, carrots, onions, Swede turnips, and summer and winter cabbage; after Mass on Sundays he lectured with blackboard diagrams at the National school on the natural history of these seeds, and the mode of cultivating them, and on the advantages of variety in food; they took little interest the first year, but more the second and a great deal the third; witness also cultivated his own gardens in a way possible to any poor man, 53326.—This was as an exhibition plot, 52326, 52331.—And people took much interest in observing his gardens; this year he had obtained a teacher from the Department of Agriculture, who lectured at the National schools, and also went from village to village teaching; this lecturer went from holding to holding with the village boys, inspecting the vegetables as they went home; witness distributed the seeds, and the boys sowed them, 52326.—The instructor brought people to witness's garden, and to the farms of those who had had the seeds, 52333.—In this way witness tried to be a practical instructor in agriculture, 52334.—Witness thought that if this method were more general people would take an interest in vegetable culture, 52326.—And having once acquired the taste would continue to grow them, 52338-9.—Witness had distributed seeds for two years, 52331.—The advice of witness and the instructress in cookery had been taken as to attending to the seeds and vegetable plots, and witness thought that soon the people would sow vegetable seeds even if they were not obtained gratis, 52340.

IMPROVEMENTS BY THE BOARD.

The Board had done well in its engineering works as, for example, the pier at Arran, and the bridges leading to the islands of Gorumna and Lettermore, which were a great benefit to the people, 52313.—The Board had found Arran in an impoverished condition and had raised the islands to comparative wealth by the improvement of the fishing industry, 52304.—Witness used to help Mr. Micks and Mr. Green, 52305.—So far as his experience went, the Board had done well in Achill and Arran, and elsewhere, 52306.

PARISH COMMITTEES.

On Clare island witness intended to forward the work of the Parish Committees, but in Spiddal and the district he had not worked with them, thinking that their energies were misapplied to districts not yet ready for such work; the land was not yet striped, 52302.—It was in rundale, so that outhouses and stables if built would be placed too near the dwelling-houses, or close on land belonging to other tenants, 52302-3.—So, until the rundale was abolished, and the land re-striped, the work of providing holdings and removing manure heaps could not proceed; it was objectionable to build stables and outhouses as a continuation to dwelling-houses which was done by the Board in Clare Island when they had not much experience; this had been avoided by the Board in other localities; in Clare Island

FLATLEY, Rev. JOHN—*continued.*

also the houses were thatched, which was uneconomical, as the straw could have been put to more profitable use; elsewhere the Board had used slates or corrugated iron for roofs, 50234.

SANITARY MATTERS.

When witness was stationed at Spiddal, he attended within six months sixty cases of typhus fever, and himself superintended their removal to Galway hospital; the sanitary conditions round Spiddal were shocking; witness succeeded in getting the Board to send down a committee of inspectors to consider about buying some estates between Spiddal and Costello Bridge, 52366.—He had met with much opposition to this, and thought it well to inquire whence the opposition came; Father O'Hara had informed witness that neither he nor Lord Shaftesbury could go to Spiddal for some time, and that people there were anxious to defer the inspection, 52366.—The land had not been bought, and the fever remained rampant; it was impossible to improve the sanitation without purchasing the estates, as the people were huddled together on the land, 52368.—There was no place in Ireland where sanitation was worse than at Spiddal, 52637.

LADY DUDLEY'S NURSING SCHEME.

Lady Dudley's nursing scheme was one of the best charities in Ireland, and had done excellent work; witness had had experience of Nurse Cusack's work in Spiddal, 52391.—The nurses worked very hard, and the people everywhere spoke in the highest terms of their kindness, and the improvement they had effected in the condition of the people, 52392.

LOCAL SHOWS.

Local shows should be extended to congested districts, but had one drawback, they were not worked honestly, 52392.—They were started by one or two persons who wished to benefit by the funds, 52395.—And it took nine or ten honest men on the committee all their time to watch the rogues, 52392.—One rogue would spoil the whole of it, 52394.—Witness had had great opposition to his suggestion that cottage industries should be awarded a prize, 52395.—Because this prize was taken away from a subject in which dishonest committee men had taken £11 in prizes without paying their entrance fees at the previous show; one of these men had consequently reduced his subscription by half, and deferred the payment of it; he had made £7 that year; the show had been started as a swindle, and was suppressed with the goodwill of all honest men, 52397.

IMPROPER TURF-CUTTING.

In Clare Island a bad practice prevailed of cutting what was known as "scraw sods" instead of turf, and thereby destroying good pasture, as had been done in Gorumna and Carraroe, where acres of pasture had been cut away, leaving the bare rock; the practice had arisen in Clare Island on account of the peat-bog being difficult of access, as no road had been made to it; the practice could be stopped by the action of the Board, and no steps could be too rigorous, 52368.—The people would themselves help to make the road, 52369.—Rynvale was not in this parish, 52370.

BALLINAKILL.

The people here are very poor; witness had reported on their condition to Sir Horace Plunkett when the Board was first established, expressing a fear that fisheries and agriculture would not go well together; subsequent experience in Arran had shown witness that men could do a good deal of both, but fisheries there were in their initial stage, and would be developed till the men became fishermen solely, and would follow the fish instead of waiting for them; much of the land of Ballinakill was in the hands of graziers, and this should be bought as a whole by the Board or Commissioners, and distributed among the congests; under no circumstances should direct sales be made to the tenants; an attempt at this was made two years before, and witness had opposed it strongly, 52371.

FLATLEY, Rev. JOHN—*continued.*

THE LUCAN AND KING ESTATE—ILL-ADVISED ACTION OF THE BOARD.

Witness thought the Board had been unwise in their dealings with the Lucan and King Estate, on the north side of Killary inlet, 52313-4.—Though it was the fault not of the Board itself but of its officials; the Board had purchased 6,000 acres of land for the purpose of relieving congestion, 52313-4.—In the village of Glanaghgimlagh, where fifty or fifty-five tenants occupied land valued at £42 5*s.*, and where the congestion was so great that the King and Queen had been taken to see it; these 6,000 acres, if divided among the tenants, would have given them 100 to 120 acres each, 52313.—But the Board sold 580 acres of the best grazing land to a grazier, a Mr. Joyce, 52314-5.—Who already held fourteen large farms in Galway and Mayo, 52314, 52316.—This land should have been kept to relieve congestion, 52313-5.—Mr. Joyce (the grazier) had deceived the officials of the Board, and had also told the bishop that he had only two farms instead of fourteen; and it was said that he influenced the bishop by stating also that he was about to make his son a priest and his daughters nuns; the bishop had written asking witness to withdraw his opposition to Joyce, 52316.—Witness was told by Mr. Vereker, the land inspector of the Board, that counsel's opinion had been taken by the Board as to whether they could withdraw from their agreement with Joyce, which they had entered into in consequence of misrepresentation; the opinion of counsel was that the Board could not withdraw, and the inspector recommended witness to give up his opposition; witness then wrote to the Board offering to supply them with evidence which would warrant them in a withdrawal, but his offer was refused, 52317.—Witness thought it was an evidence of bad faith in some quarter, that the agent who arranged the sale had orders to maintain secrecy until the matter was carried through, 52315-6.—And this official begged witness to do his utmost to upset the arrangement; the official had also informed his superiors that he would not again act in this manner, 52316.—Mr. Joyce also held a narrow strip of land between the land in question and the sea, between Bundorrha and Letterass, 52319.—Bundorrha was not scheduled, being almost entirely uninhabited, but was as poor as any village in Connemara or Mayo; this was an instance of the curious working of the Congested Districts Act, 52320.—This strip of land should have been acquired and distributed in the same way as some of the land further up the harbour, 52319, 52324.—Since seaweed could be obtained on the shore, 52319, 52324.—Some of the houses of tenants who had left the upper reaches could have been built there, and some outside it, 52325.—Witness did not know whether the Board had made any attempt to purchase this strip, 52326.—It was an instance where compulsory purchase would have been useful, 52319, 52325.—With regard to the land actually distributed to congests from Glanaghgimlagh, too much was given to each tenant, the average being between 350 and 400 acres, which was so much that they were unable to stock the land, and had let some of it as grazing to Mr. Joyce; tenants had applied for a loan to enable them to stock the lands, but the first application for £30 was refused; then £10 each was granted to them, and now, witness believed, £30 was lent to one, if not to each of them; if each tenant had had 150 or 100 acres, 52317.—And there would have been 100 acres each for sheep grazing, which could have been held in commonage, 52317, 52319.—And would have made them independent, but instead of this the Board had only relieved six tenants from Glanaghgimlagh; Mr. Edmonds was of opinion that there was not sufficient tillage to supply all the congests from Glanaghgimlagh, but witness thought that there was sufficient land suitable for tilling, 52317.—The land given to Mr. Joyce was at an angle of 45 degrees, and was suited to grazing, though not for building land; it should have been given as common grazing to the tenants, 52317-8.

CAUSES OF POVERTY—IGNORANCE; RELIANCE ON AGRICULTURE; AND THE CREDIT SYSTEM.

Witness attributed poverty in this district to the reliance of the people on agriculture alone as a

FLATLEY, Rev. JOHN—*continued.*

means of support; and to agriculture being undertaken under unfavourable conditions; the people were not sufficiently well instructed in agricultural matters, and if they had land would also require the services of agricultural instructors; the poor had acquired a habit of living on credit and paying exorbitant prices for goods, 52371.—As an example of overcharge, witness was asked to use for the Mass in a certain district vegetable candles sold at 3*s.* 4*d.* a pound which he had been informed by Messrs. Hayes and Finch, of Dublin, could be sold at a good profit for 2*s.* per lb.; this illegitimate profit of 1*s.* 4*d.* per lb. was an indication of the exorbitant prices paid by the poor to gombeen men, 52372.—The credit system also led to the poor man becoming the slave of the shopkeeper in political and local government matters, which resulted in the shopkeepers' nominees being elected to all public positions to the grave injury of the public, 52371.

THE CREDIT SYSTEM AND SHOPKEEPER MAGISTRATES.

Witness thought the credit system led to the appointment of unsuitable magistrates, who favoured their customers when upon the bench, and coached witnesses as to their evidence, and allowed themselves to be treated with whiskey by litigants; and in some cases had put pressure upon medical witnesses; the advantage of being a magistrate was recognised by shopkeepers, who canvassed for the position; it was well known that the fact of being a magistrate gave a man an advantage over his trade rivals, 52371.

TRUCK.

Witness believed he was the means of having the Truck Act extended to Ireland in 1896; he believed it was not in operation previously, 52376.—And the origin of many shops in Connemara and Mayo was the payment of his workmen by a contractor entirely in truck, 52375.—No man in the building trade could take a contract at so low a price as the man who looked to making his profit not out of the work, but out of truck, 52376.

BARTER.

The shopkeeper often bartered sugar, soap, tea, and other commodities against agricultural produce of poor holders without any money price being mentioned, or any settled rate of exchange being maintained, 52375, 52377-9.—And sometimes in the same way got their cattle, pigs, and small holdings, 52374.—Witness handed in a paper giving instances of shopkeepers seizing lands for debt, 52374, 52388-91.—And was prepared to give specific cases if necessary.

REMEDY FOR CREDIT SYSTEM.

It was the struggling poor who suffered from the credit system, 52385.—And improving the position of the small holder would diminish the danger of inflated credit, 52382.—Men who were better off were more wary, and did not buy goods on credit to so large an extent, which tended to economy, 52387.—If they could have ready cash they would live more cheaply, 52387.—Shopkeepers did not actually lend money to customers, 52381.

DISTURBANCES.

Witness considered it surprising that the country was so peaceable, considering the injustice of many decisions of magistrates' courts, 52371.

EDMONDS, Mr. LESLIE.*

See pp. 18-9.

ALLOTMENT OF LAND ON THE LUCAN AND KING ESTATES—COMPLAINTS, &C.

Witness, acting under Mr. Doran, had been mainly responsible for reorganising the Lucan and King Estates, 52398-9.—He had been on the spot, and carried out the scheme, 52400.—Witness was aware of Father Flatley's statement that there had been dissatisfaction as to the distribution of the Lucan and King estates owing to the grant of a large slice of land to a grazier who was formerly a tenant, 52401-2.—Tobias Joyce and Thomas Francis Joyce were in possession of a tract of land of 3,500 acres as joint tenants, 52403.—The Congested Districts Board bought the land, and had power to terminate these tenancies, and served the tenants with notice to quit, 52403, 52407-8.—Tobias Joyce lived on the land, 52403.—He consented to take a farm in Tuam in exchange for his interest, 52403, 52414.—This he was glad to do, wishing to educate his children at Tuam, 52411.—He was given 180 to 200 statute acres, 52412.—On a large property the Board had bought, and on which it had enlarged all the small holdings; the house, which was too good to pull down, was left with a residue of land, 52413.—But Thomas Francis Joyce refused to move in any case, saying that he would hold out as long as the law permitted of him, and would compel the Board to evict both him and his brother, and witness had been informed by the Board's solicitor that he was to deal with the tenants jointly; witness reported to Mr. Doran, who would put all the facts before the Board, which was anxious to settle the matter at once, without legal expenses, 52403, 52409.—Thomas F. Joyce could have resisted the notice, and the Board, even if successful, would have had to pay three years' rent as compensation, and also compensation for improvements which might be of no advantage to the Board, 52409-10.—There was a good house on the estate for which some use had to be found, 52403, 52409.—Thomas F. Joyce paid £18 for the 581 acres of land and the house, 52417.—Out of the £80, which was the rent for the whole estate, 52403, 52417.—A larger rent, relatively, than any other portion of the estate, 52415.—Witness thought his arrangement a good way out of the difficulty, 52416.—And now, if it were to be done again, he knew of no better way, unless the land along the sea could be acquired compulsorily, 52424.—In which case he would have adopted Father Flatley's suggestion, 52425.—But as things were, he carried out his instructions and treated T. F. Joyce with fairness; he might have charged him more if he had known then that F. F. Joyce was willing to pay anything for the land, 52415.—Tobias Joyce's land would have been no use without the strip of land owned by T. F. Joyce, 52414.—Which was a narrow strip along the bog of about 150 acres, cutting off the rest of the estate on the mountain from the sea, 52403.—And if only Tobias Joyce's land had been taken there would have been too much grazing land in proportion to the tillage, which was very limited, 52403, 52414.—There was only about fifty acres of tillage out of the 3,000 acres; this was valued at 5*s.* an acre, 52404.—The fifty acres were the only tillage lands available for the migrants, and were situated along the shore, 52405.—This was only enough for seven or eight holdings, 52403.—Mr. Doran at first thought there was enough for eight tenants, and after going into the matter eight were put on; this number the tenants had agreed to when consulted, 52419.—The land was valued by a skilled valuer, constantly employed by the Board, and witness prepared a map of the estate; Mr. Doran went over the maps and valuations, 52420.—Each holder had some tillage in amounts varying from five to eleven acres, 52421, 52432.—Witness thought Father Flatley was right in saying that the tenants had holdings larger than they could stock; they would gradually get stock, and in the meantime it was a good thing they should take in grazing if they were paid for it; witness had advised them not to burden themselves with loans at the outset when they were paying annuities larger than those to which they had been accustomed, but loans had not been refused when they were asked for; he had advised them to stock the land gradually, 52422.—Migrants generally had a hard struggle for the first two years, and had to take in grazing, but soon did better, 52423.

EDMONDS, Mr. LESLIE—*continued.*

COMPULSORY POWERS.

If the Board had had compulsory powers, it could not have made a much better settlement in this case, as not more than four additional holdings could have been put on the land bought by Thomas F. Joyce, 52427.—If the land by the sea could have been acquired compulsorily, witness would have

* See also p. lxxii.

EDMONDS, Mr. LESLIE—*continued.*

waited and would not have sold the 500 or 600 acres to Mr. Joyce, 52429.—It could have been used as commonage for the holders on the lands bought compulsorily, 52427-8, 52430.—It would not have been too large a proportion of mountain land to arable land, the present holders having from 250 to 375 acres for their share, and from six to eleven statute acres of tillage, 52431-2.—This would have been less than the proportion obtaining now, 52434.—It would have gone to four extra tenants, giving them 150 acres each, or into the common lot, 52433.—The object of the Board had been to relieve congestion; there were fifty-one congests, 52435.—And if all conceivable powers had been available, the effect would have been to acquire hundreds of acres to relieve eight congests, 52436.—The land was very bad, 52437.—If they had compulsory powers they could still acquire the 500 acres sold to Mr. Joyce, 52427.—Glanagimlagh must wait now till the Board had more land, 52432.—Land not far away could be found easily if the Board had compulsory powers, 52439-40.—Witness could not say that compulsory powers were necessary, 52441.—He had nothing to do with buying land, 52442.—But if the Board owned the land it could make better arrangements however the land were acquired, 52444.

JOYCE, Mr. MICHAEL.

See pp. 20-1.

Acreage, Valuation, and Population of Coshkillery Division of Clifden Union.

Coshkillery Division had an area of 15,079 acres, the valuation of which was £469, with a population of 465. There were seventy-six tenants, thirty-seven of whom were valued under £2; seventeen under £4; sixteen under £10; two under £15; three under £25; one under £40. Nine tenants, occupying the principal parts of the land, were non-resident, 52448-9, 52452-53, 52460-1.

Land available for Enlargement of Holdings, &c.

Small holdings should be made economic and greatly enlarged by the acquisition of grass lands, *e.g.*, those on the road to the Coshkillery division; there ought to be enough land in the division available for this purpose; the chief landowners were Colonel Thompson and the Duke of Manchester, while Lord Ardilaun had some property; the land now carried sheep; at one time it had been let out on the eleven months' system; part of it, on the north-west side by the sea, to the back of Kylemore Castle, might be made suitable for tillage if money were expended; Letterfrack was not in that division, 52446-56, 52462-3.

Grants for Reclamation of Land from Parish Committees Advocated.

Granted the enlargement of their holdings by the acquisition of new land, tenants would probably need financial help for reclamation; a Parish Committee might be established which would recommend the people deserving of land and money; the present Parish Committee only existed to help in the building of out-houses, farm-buildings, and soforth, 52464-7.—The amount of money needed to start a tenant would depend on the size of his holding; probably £50 would mean a good deal to him, but for a large holding he would require £100, which should be made payable over several years. It was, however, chiefly the poorer man who ought to be helped, 52468-70.—There might be agricultural banks in Carna or Roundstone, but there were none convenient for Clifden, and though it might answer to get loans from such places, the Parish Committee would get very good security, 52478-9.

Land no longer Let in Con-acre owing to decrease of Population.

Though they made the most of what little they had, the people could scarcely till their own land, and con-acre was not needed, 52483.—Owing to the great decrease of population of the town the class of labourers who had once gone in for con-acre were no longer there, 52483.—Witness could not speak for the country, but no land was let in con-acre in the neighbourhood of the town, 52484.

JOYCE, Mr. MICHAEL—*continued.*

No Employment in the Town.

There were few—practically no—labourers in the town now, as nearly all the lands in the neighbourhood were grass, and there were no industries, 52485-7.

Accommodation Land held by Witness.

Witness was a shopkeeper (without a spirit license), but had a bit of accommodation land near the town of between 11 and 12 English acres, on part of which he kept a few cattle, while the rest he let for grazing; that seemed to pay better, for it was hard to get labour, and he had no time to look after the land himself, 52457-9, 52471-7.

KELLY, Rev. JAMES.

See pp. 21-7.

Congestion in Connaught in spite of Decreasing Population.

Connaught still suffered from Cromwellism and its after effects, viz., a bad system of land tenure. In spite of the appointment of this Commission two years ago, in spite of the sixteen years' work of the Congested Districts Board in Connemara and elsewhere, the fringe of the economic problem had not as yet been touched; about one-third of the 190,000 acres in Clifden Union were held by ninety graziers, while the valuation per head was only £1 0*s.* 1$\frac{3}{8}$*d.*; population was decreasing, the able-bodied emigrating, the weak and sickly remaining, but there was still congestion owing to this undue occupation of land by a few persons, 52489-93, 52497, 52499.

The Eleven Months' Grazing System the chief cause of Congestion.

The system of eleven months grazing, especially when non-residential, was the chief cause of congestion; throughout Connaught this system aggravated the problem socially and politically; there was expert evidence as to the relative value of grass and tillage, and everyone would agree that the graziers were an inveterate class, whose existence was ruining the country; they grazed cattle chiefly in the valleys and lowlands, and sheep on the mountains, 52493.

Every Holding should contain some Tillage Land.

A man should not be given a holding without some tillage land attached, so that holdings could not be established on certain mountain slopes unless they were connected with lowlands, 52495-6.

Land suitable for Reclamation.

All the land occupied by graziers was not suitable for small holdings, but the low-lying land, the arable part of it, with mountains run in, would be eminently suitable for the relief of congestion, as it would give the people the reproductive work of reclamation; there were many mountain bases already reclaimed, 52494-6.

The Western Sea-board must be considered in connection with Congestion.

There were vast tracts of reclaimable land in Connemara which was not even fit for game now, and if the whole of Connaught were divided up, except the residential parts which no one demanded, the people would not be economically relieved, but would still go to America or Scotland, few from that part migrating to England as harvesters; in order to settle the question on a sound economic basis, the western seaboard, as well as the land, must be taken into consideration; the remedy must be two-fold, 52489, 52498, 52598, 52639.

KELLY, Rev. JAMES—*continued.*

COMPULSORY POWERS FOR ACQUISITION OF LAND ADVOCATED.

Whatever body dealt with the problem of congestion must first get and use compulsory powers to deal with all graziers unless residential, and with landlords; these last should at least be threatened with the withdrawal of their bonus, 12 per cent. or whatever it was, and the threat carried out; if after due notice they were still unreasonable in their refusal to sell, compulsion within the law should be used after, say, five years, but it would probably be to their advantage to keep the bonus, 52500, 52525-30.—Compulsion should probably not be used in the case of a practical farmer if residential, as such men were useful as buyers of cattle from small holders, and had their place in the general scheme, 52531-4.—Compulsion should be used in the case of shopkeepers holding grazing land on which they did not live, and should be applied to all classes where it was necessary for the relief of congestion, even to tenant-purchasers, with due regard to title and recoupment, 52535-8.—Compulsory powers should be used in regard to all estates in Connaught, whether tenanted or not, because tenants on one property would need to be migrated to untenanted land elsewhere, *i.e.*, if there was to be a plain map; the need for compulsion was shown by the complaints of the Board's successors that they had no power to deal with congestion, 52501.

EVILS OF ACQUISITION OF LAND BY SHOPKEEPERS.

Witness regarded the shopkeeping landlord as one of the greatest evils in the country; he was not a fair factor in the land question, because he could fall back on the shop if the land were a failure, and *vice-versa*, and the people were ground between the two interests, 52536.—When there had been more people on the land shopkeepers had stayed in their shops, but now shops were starving; it was unfair to make an income at a shop out of the people and then take up patch after patch of land, sometimes certainly by fair means, till they had become landed proprietors; a shop-man should have a garden if he could, and a small meadow or place for a cow, 52540, 52543-5.—Witness did not know much about the case at Athenry, 52541.

FAIR PRICE.

The question as to what was a fair price in case of compulsory purchase was really one of principle and of general application, but the value of land in Connemara probably differed widely from that of the inland country; witness thought the Board had bought estates there, some at twelve years' purchase, and considered the prices then given by voluntary arrangement would be a fair basis for compensation; the refusing landlords wanted to get their own price, but should not be allowed more than they had claimed before the Act of 1903, 52503-7.—It would be unfair if a landlord were left in a worse position than before; he should get his net income as ascertained by his rental and an auditing of his books; he should be allowed a reasonable investment, not one that would rob the State, and he must take his chance in the money market as he had in the land market; landlords were usually "limited owners," who could not invest as they pleased, but there was a public trustee, and they would have to follow the law, taking advantage of the extension of securities allowed by the Act of 1903; owners of lands not settled might invest as they chose; it would be good for their friends and their own health if they had anxiety and laboured in the money-market, 52508-25.—In compulsory purchase value for value should be given, but in fixing this both experience and future competition must be considered, 52539.

ANY SMALL LOSS TO BE BORNE BY THE STATE.

It was, of course, possible that in order to give the landlord his net income, the number of years' purchase to be given by the Board might be higher than in some cases had been paid under the Ashbourne Act; in that case the Board should consult an advisory committee of the tenants, or at least

KELLY, Rev. JAMES—*continued.*

take these into its confidence, so that compulsion would be on their requisition, they clearly understanding its terms; it was a difficult question, and witness had not thought out the many possibilities to which it might give rise, 52583-8.—When the net income was really a ground for eighteen years' purchase, the tenants should not ask the Board to give it them for ten, but the State, too, should be dealt with fairly; such a net income would mean that the tenants had paid, and consideration should be shown such good people in the price demanded of them; the landlord, too, should have been able to make capital out of all he had got from them; certainly the Board should not be forced to buy at a price which would mean re-selling at enormous loss; the tenants would have to understand beforehand that they must repay the loan through the Board on the same terms as the land had been bought, their rents being fixed by the court upon the purchase price; this was on the hypothesis that someone had determined what was the net income, 52589-93.—In the event of an annuity agreed on by the tenants not being sufficient, the loss should be borne equally by themselves and the outgoing landlord; it would be an economic evil if loss were entailed on the Board; they should judge whether the price demanded were reasonable, and if it were the payment of it should be made compulsory; any inevitable loss, if small, should be borne by the State, which should also take care that the fixing of the price should minimise the amount of the compensation, 52594-8.

LIMITS WITHIN WHICH DUAL OWNERSHIP OF UNTENANTED LAND SHOULD BE RECOGNISED.

Witness believed that the recognition of actual interest, or rather ownership, being vested in the owner of untenanted land had been declared in the Land Court to be a legal absurdity by so high an authority as Judge Ross; obviously the principle was fraught with economical disaster to prospective tenants, for it would make the price of the land prohibitive; a man could not own a thing twice for the purpose of contract or sale; witness admitted that dual ownership existed in the case of tenanted land, because there were two parties; a landlord might create tenancies on untenanted land, though it was doubtful whether he could do so legally at present, as such land was regarded as "slobland," 52546-53, 52557-9, 52564.—A man should certainly receive more for land on which he had bought the tenants' interests than for tenanted land, but it did not follow that he should receive twice as much in one case as the other, and any public body should refuse to recognise such a claim. He had a bigger interest in untenanted land, but a tenancy created since the Act of 1903 would not be recognised by the purchase clause; as the law recognised dual interest, competent judicial land authorities should fix its value; this was in the case of land "legitimately possessed," but it was doubtful if there was any such in Connaught, 52569-75, 52581-2.—The question of dual interest might come up in relation to the proposed Act of compulsion, but witness admitted it was not of great importance if the landlord received his net income whether the land were tenanted or not, 52560-3.—No dual interest should be recognised in land from which the tenants had been evicted without compensation for tenant-right; any improvements on the Ffrench estates were the result of the labour of the tenants, afterwards evicted, 52554-5, 52565-8.—It was true that tenant-right had only received legal recognition in 1890; witness could not deal with the academic question as to whether the State should take into consideration the condition of affairs existing before that time, 52576-81.

ALL CONNAUGHT SHOULD BE SCHEDULED AS CONGESTED.

In order to carry out their scheme of purchase, the Board should demand that all Connaught should be scheduled as congested, as there were complaints in the published report of difficulty in regard to the State purchase and settlement of isolated estates, 52582.

KELLY, Rev. JAMES—*continued.*

AMENDMENT OF THE ACT DEALING WITH MINERAL RIGHTS ADVOCATED.

The Act dealing with the vesting of mineral rights should be thoroughly amended in favour of the tenants, 52598.—Apparently the landlords had a royalty at present and made a heavy charge for opening mines, 52600.—At any rate the landlord at Cleggan had put on a sliding scale; capitalists were kept away by this and prohibitive tariffs, but the Estates Commissioners should offer them inducements to come and open mines, 52601.—There was granite on the coast, exhibited on account of its high polish, which the landlord, Mr. Frere, refused to sell to would-be buyers in Chicago; this granite was also at the north of Clifden and round Roundstone, 52605.—On another estate a mine opened with great difficulty was now closed, though experts had pronounced the shaft to be very profitable, 52598-606.—At Maam Cross there was a lead and silver mine, and 2,000 tons of pure ore were ready for shipment to Galway, 52603.—The lead of another mine in Connemara was said by the Assistant County Surveyor for the Riding to be almost pure. In the exhibition recently was a rare specimen of fine black marble with white streaks, and there were copper and soapstone besides, 52606.—If ore were struck or a mine opened, the owner of the land should be given some sort of royalty while he was compelled to allow the development of this mineral wealth, 52603, 52605.—The fishing of the numerous inland lakes between Ballinamoy and Roundstone might be developed. Witness thought the sea flowed into the Doughole side of the property, where fisheries might be developed to the country's great profit, as it was otherwise a waste; experts should advise and experiment; the Ballinahinch fisheries were just opposite, 52606.—The perilous condition of piers and harbours in the union constituted a very grave question; the state of Cleggan Harbour made fishermen very slow to take boats from the Board on the purchase system; a man who had had his boat built at Boffin, and had been unable to pay for it, could not bring it into harbour and it had been wrecked. Sometimes men could neither lock nor unlock, and had to land away from the pier as the approach was ruinous; Cleggan, though not improved by the late addition, might be a first-class harbour for the All-Red Route were the pier extended further; it was a pity Cleggan was neglected, at any rate for direct sailing, 52625, 52640-2.—The people of Connemara had the sea with its fish, but they had waste lands, locked up harbours, and piers which were either dry land or ruinous; Boffin Harbour had been protected by Government in the time of Charles II. by twenty-four guns, and foreign fishermen had been precluded entering; owing to circumstances it was thought well to blow up the harbour, but the contractor, a foreigner, had stopped short at destroying the fort; the present Government should show at least as much interest in the islands along the coast as had been shown in the past, 52639, 52644.

INSTRUCTION, NEW MARKETS, AND IMPROVED TRANSIT FACILITIES NEEDED TO DEVELOP FISHERIES.

There was, too, need of a local school of fishing, and, better still, of a practical instructor who would take the fishermen out to sea and teach them sympathetically. Something had been done in this direction during the season, but very little. It was a waste for a man to buy a big nobby and fish for only six or seven weeks. A fisherman should be one thing or the other, and there ought to be a fleet of fishermen to take the riches lying at their doors; only teaching was needed, 52639, 52646.—The Department of Agriculture should find a market, both home and foreign, for fresh fish. They should send their many assistants now going about the country to find people ready to buy fish, and they should obtain railway facilities for tenantry and even get a steamer, as transport and a better system of transit were essential to the development of fisheries along the western coast, 52644-6.

VESTING OF SPORTING RIGHTS IN THE TENANTS "IN GLOBO" ADVOCATED.

Witness believed that the Irish Game Protection Association had intimated to the Congested Districts Board that it would be well if in the transfer of property, the sporting rights were vested in the tenants for the better protection of game in Ireland. The tenants were the best gamekeepers, and would be unpaid except by the productiveness of the business; this recommendation in the prelude to the report had great weight considering the quarter whence it had come; the arrangement by which a tenant-purchaser would be paid so much bird-money for every bird shot on his farm was a good one, and witness believed the Game Association had suggested that tenants should have the right for sale, and let it to the highest bidder, 52606-10.—On the Dillon Estate of 12,000 acres at Aughmore, sporting rights were vested in the tenants, and witness thought they had a Game Protection Committee which was considered an improvement, 52611.—This should be done legislatively in all cases of purchase, at the wish of two-thirds or even one-third of the tenants. Whether the sporting rights had previously been in the tenant's or the landlord's hands, they should in the act of sale or transfer go first to the public body and then with the property *in globo* to the tenants, being vested in a local committee which should have the power to lease them, and also the right, through trustees, to prosecute for poaching, 52612-7.—Game and fish were by no means the least important national asset. What was desired was to secure the goodwill of the tenants, who would benefit both by the preservation of game and by the presence in the district of sportsmen, whether landlords or not, 52617-9.—It would be equally good, no doubt, if the sporting rights were vested in the Board for the benefit of the tenants who doubtless would recognise this as having been instituted in their interest; but whether the rights were vested in a committee or were in trust the tenants would be the beneficiary owners. Tenants should not have the power to reserve rights thus conveyed; only possible "cranks" amongst them could wish to do so, 52620-5.

STATE AID FOR RE-AFFORESTATION ADVOCATED.

The County Councils should be State-aided for the purpose of re-afforesting the country, especially picturesque Connemara, improving the waste lands, and for providing shelter belts, which would protect the game, *e.g.*, woodcock, in the western highlands and in places at present lying useless, 52625.

NEED FOR A LOCAL SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE—TRAINING OF PRIESTS IN AGRICULTURE.

Mr. Lyle, the ex-landlord of the island where witness lived, was a good agriculturist, but it was certainly very important that someone who was to some extent an expert should live amongst the people and advise them; at present they followed their own agricultural methods, 52627-31.—Witness admitted he would be able to keep his people in this direction had he gone through an agricultural course; it was difficult to say whether time could have been found for this at Maynooth, where the course—seven years—was long and very full; this might perhaps be lengthened, or in some way altered, to allow time for the study of agriculture to students with a bent in that direction; it would certainly be a great advantage in many out of the way or congested districts if the parish priest were a trained agriculturist, and it would be good for the priest himself, 52632-9.—Experts would have to come from other districts to Connemara to study the local needs of the place, *e.g.*, the nature of the soil, and the effect of the salt on the land; it was said that sea-weed was more beneficial to the soil inland than on the coast where it was all waste land; there were many places suitable for an agricultural school which was a necessity for Connemara and the seaboard generally; at present sick people were actually able to till the ground, 52626, 52639.

LYDEN, Mr. JOHN M.

See pp. 27-8.

THE COUNTY COMMITTEES WERE TOO MUCH CONTROLLED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

Witness was representative on the County Committee for the area including Roundstone, the south part

LYDEN, Mr. JOHN M.—*continued.*

of Clifden Union, down towards Kilkerrin, and up to Recess; as a shopkeeper, and one who travelled a little, he knew fairly well the needs of Connemara, in which one place was much like another, 52651-5.—He did not think the agricultural schemes worked very well owing to the Department exercising too much control over the local committees; witness thought the County Committee had twice elected a poultry instructress, and the Department had refused to sanction the scheme on the ground that it was unnecessary, 52647A, 52681-3.

COUNTY COMMITTEE PLACES INCONVENIENT.

Witness, living at Clifden, was unable to attend many County Committee meetings because they were held at such inconvenient places; there was to be a second meeting in Galway for the present year, but every previous meeting had been held in Athenry; apparently there had been no attempt to work by sub-committees, 52648-51, 52659.

UNEQUAL REPRESENTATION OF RICH AND POOR AREAS ON THE COUNTY COMMITTEES.

Witness thought the richer parts of the country received more consideration than the poorer areas, and that the representatives, though equally good, had less power, because they were very much in a minority on the committee, 52656-8.—The election of County Committee members should not be entirely in the hands of the County Council; the District Council should be able to nominate some, and that would give a larger representation. ; witness believed Clifden to be one of the largest unions, and it should have at least eight or nine representatives instead of, as now, two or three; there was no hard-and-fast rule as to representation; the County Council settled the matter and usually made no changes, except in the filling up of vacancies, 52660-71.

DISCUSSION OF PLANS BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE POOR AREAS SUGGESTED.

Witness was not certain, but believed that schemes were initiated by the County Committees and sent to the Department for approval, 52672-8.—It was a good suggestion that when the new Department were sketching out a plan they should summon to Dublin (paying travelling expenses) the representatives of the district concerned, now inadequately represented, and confer with them, 52679-80.

AGRICULTURAL NEEDS—LOANS FOR SEEDS AND PLANTS.

Agricultural work had been decidedly better done since the adoption of the County Committee scheme, but there was still room for improvement; much could be done by local committees, which would know something of the needs of their own districts; loans for seeds in the spring were required, also plants, 52684-6.—The Department had certainly done something for the district, but no more than had been previously done by the Congested Districts Board; the bulls on the list read out belonged to three unions, a large area, and witness did not think the supply had been increased this year, 52687-90.

M'ALPINE, Very Rev. CANON.

See pp. 29-34.

GOVERNMENT NEGLECT OF THE CONGESTION PROBLEM.

Witness did not wish in any way to impugn the *bona fides* of the Commission, but feared its work would be as fruitless as that of the other remedies put forward during the last thirty years; everything connected with the problem had been brought, scores of times, to the notice of a neglectful and faithless Government, 52691.

UNEQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF LAND IN CLIFDEN UNION.—COMPULSORY PURCHASE ADVOCATED.

In Clifden Union alone 1,770 families were rated under £2, and 1,300 more from £2 to £4, *i.e.*, 3,000 families living on bogs and marshes were valued under £4, while 88 non-resident graziers held between them

M'ALPINE, Very Rev. CANON—*continued.*

68,830 acres of the best land in the district; the results were destitution, discontent and emigration, 52691.—The landlord's exorbitant demands had made the Act of 1903 inoperative, and land purchase almost impossible; there were landlords in Connemara who asked from 25 to 30 years' purchase, and when the Clifden District Council had sent a respectful request to local landlords to make an amicable arrangement with their tenants under the Act of 1903, only a few had deigned even a bare acknowledgment of the resolution; compulsory sale was absolutely necessary; this, too, was placed beyond doubt by the prevalence in many places of the rundale system, by which little holdings were split up into sixty or eighty patches, 52691.

ABOLITION OF THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS IN CERTAIN CASES ADVOCATED.

People would for peace and for reasons of sentiment give more than was fair for grass lands, but landlords should not unduly press claims for compensation considering that these lands had been made fertile by the tenants, and that these men or their fathers had been evicted without compensation; justice and common sense demanded that in such cases there ought not to be a Statute of Limitations, 52691.

UNREPRESENTATIVE CHARACTER OF THE BOARD.—ITS DILATORINESS.

The Congested Districts Board had done much good along the western seaboard, but more representation, greater activity and despatch were needed; the worst and most congested districts from Blacksod to Galway, comprising such places as Achill, Westport, Cleggan, Clifden, Carna, Roundstone and Arran were unrepresented on the Board; in the few sales which had taken place in this wide area, there had been great delay in bringing matters to completion; for this, however, others had most probably been more to blame than the Board, 52691.

LACK OF PROPER PIERS AT CLIFDEN AND CLEGGAN.

The need of proper piers in Clifden and Cleggan had often been admitted by Government, and had formed the chief recommendation of the Piers and Harbours Commission in 1885, Colonel Nolan being chairman; last April a promise had come from Dublin Castle of £3,500 for Clifden pier, and £7,000 for Cleggan pier, with £750 from the Board if a small local contribution were given in accordance with section 2 of the Marine Act; this the Galway County Council had generously promised, but Government had done nothing; the Board should have urged upon Government the duty of fulfilling its pledges, those of Mr. Wyndham and many others, 52691, 52746.—The want of proper piers resulted in large fishing boats, built at public expense, lying idle for eight months, and made the spring work hard and not always profitable, 52691-6.—Herring-fishing might be developed if the fishermen were helped; many of the crews lived eight or twelve miles from Clifden, and it was not easy to get them all at once to come and risk a storm for a few hours' fishing; herring-fishing needed capital for its development, 52741-5.—When not at sea the men worked on their wretched holdings, but given the chance they would be good fishermen; it was a pity the fishing was mainly mackerel; the spring herring-fishing only lasted a few months, and the autumn fishing was made difficult by the sudden storms of the west coast, though men had risked these and sometimes lost their lives, 52747-53.

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR REPAYMENT OF LOANS FOR BOATS ADVOCATED.

The Board should extend the time allowed for payment for boats so as to greatly reduce the half-yearly instalments, 52691.—A boat generally lasted from 20 to 25 years, but payment was required at the end of 7 years in continuance generally, 6 or even 4 years; the desired extension referred to boats bought on the security system, *i.e.*, when a man got three or four people to go security for him, 52699-703.

M'ALPINE, Very Rev. CANON—*continued.*

IMPROVEMENTS IN FACILITIES FOR FISHING.

A share in the profits instead of, as now, a weekly wage would be an inducement to fishing instructors to go out on many evenings when they would otherwise not go, 52691, 52697-8, 52722.—To make the fisheries a success a fishery school should be established and facilities given for the curing at Cleggan and other places, *e.g.*, covered sheds for bad weather, 52691.

SALE OF BOATS TAKEN UNDER THE SHARE SYSTEM WITHOUT NOTIFICATION TO THEIR CREWS.—CASES OF THE "HERMON" AND "TOPAZ."

The Board kept a part of the gross earnings of boats taken on the share system in the hope that the outlay would be made good in time, and Clifden and Cleggan crews who had worked 5, 6, or 7 years complained, and naturally, that these boats were sometimes sold to other people or sent elsewhere without notification, though there were no arrears, 52691, 52703-5, 52732.—The Board's attention had been called to this anomaly by a resolution passed unanimously at a meeting of Clifden Union priests, presided over by the Archbishop of Tuam, and though no particulars, *e.g.*, names or dates, had been given, the fact of sale had been made quite clear, 52706-11.—This was not a matter of recent growth, and had not come up with reference to the Commission, 52737-8.—On page 76 of the Board's report for 1906 were particulars of the boat "Hermon," on which the total outlay had till then been £328 12*s.* 11*d.*; page 77 stated that the Board had already received £217 3*s.* 6*d.* of the boat's earnings, yet the "Hermon" had been sold without the crew being consulted or even notified, 52712.—The crew had worked for seven years under James Sweeney, the nominal owner, through whom the weekly payments had been made to the Board; an agreement was made between the crews of share-boats and the Board, and the catch made known to the Board's officer, 52713-21, 52724.—Witness did not know if the Board gave "grub-money" when there was no catch, something was given towards the crews' maintenance, and afterwards deducted; the amount could not have been large, and in any case would be included in the total accounts, the "etc." after "boat and gear" being significant, 52725-30, 52736.—This was one of many cases and should be inquired into; the "Topaz," according to the statement of its crew, had not been sold, but sent into Boffin, 5273-4.—Neither crew had ever refused to go out with the instructor, complaints being the other way, 52721-3, 52735.

DEVELOPMENT OF MARBLE QUARRIES BY THE STATE AND CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD ADVOCATED.—SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS IN REGARD TO EXTRACTION, ETC.

Hundreds now emigrating might be employed in the splendid marble and granite quarries of the district; these were close to a railway station, and there was an abundant water supply, but neither the Board nor the Department had done anything towards their proper working except place a few specimens in the Cork, Limerick, and St. Louis Exhibitions, 52691.—Every month large blocks of the finest marble were sent from Clifden and Recess to America and the Continent, and the fact that the chief market was in America and that an American worked the quarries was proof of their commercial value, 52755-8.—The development of the quarries, left to one individual, was hindered, as other Irish industries had been killed, by lack of capital, the supply of which could not have been prevented, as stated, by anything so trifling as those with grazing rights objecting to the dumping of material on their land, 52759-65, 52768-9.—If people proved so obstinate—which witness did not believe— they should be compelled to surrender their rights, due compensation being given, 52771, 52776-7.—The State should contribute money, and some public body, *e.g.*, the Department or the Board, should spend capital and see at any rate that the quarries were properly worked; this matter, like the fisheries, would be quite within the Board's province, 52754, 52766-7, 52775, 52778-9.—Scores of experts had said publicly that the Recess, Streamstown, and Creggs quarries were of commercial value, but with little result; it would be well if the Board would send experts, not, as hitherto, connected with companies, to investigate the mineral resources of the congested districts; the reports being favourable, it would be most excellent if the Board could give a capitation grant in a remote district to apprentices, 52774, 52780.-8.—Methods of extracting the marble could be much improved; at Streamstown quarry this was done by powder or by crowbar and pick, but the Recess methods were less primitive; at the former quarry was a splendid water supply, and if a mill, now disused, were turned to account, the stone could be chiselled before being sent away, 52772-3.—A landlord owning quarries might leave them undeveloped for a time in the hope of making more money later, 52791-2.

M'ALPINE, Very Rev. CANON—*continued.*

STATE AID FOR COPPER MINING ADVOCATED.

Copper-mining in so poor a district needed protection and support in its initial stage to convince the people of its commercial value, and it was a pity something was not given from public funds for the mines at Kilcoon or Derrylea, 52789-90.

UNFAIR CREATION OF FUTURE TENANCIES.

A landlord or agent often took advantage of the ignorance of tenants by offering a reduction of rent conditional on their signing a paper making them future tenants; the reduction was given for the time agreed on, but afterwards the people found they could not get judicial rents, as they had no status in the court; witness could give particulars in one case, but did not know if the people had been judicial tenants when signing the agreement; Mr. Litton Falkiner, presiding chairman of the Land Commission, had expressed surprised at such a thing having occurred, the rent of the tenant had been raised, 52691, 52793, 52797-803, 52806-9.—In another case a man had held under a middleman, who was evicted, and the tenant, poor, and ignorant of Land Commission procedure, had been made a future tenant by the incoming landlord; the middleman's tenants could have got their rents fixed in court, but had not done so; they were almost certainly present tenants; the rent of some had been raised, and that of the others left as it was, 52793-5, 52803-6.—These transactions had taken place within the last six years, 52796.

SULLIVAN, Mr. PATRICK.

See p. 34.

TERMS ON WHICH THE "TOPAZ" WAS LET BY THE BOARD.

For eight years witness had worked with four others and an instructor on the "Topaz," taken on the share-system, 52810, 52812, 52817-19.—The Board kept four-ninths of the value of the catch and had received about £400 in the eight years; the spring fishing had been constant and there were no long periods of failure, except one year, when there had been no catch, but then there had been little loss to the boat, save for the instructor's wages; witness did not know if the boat had been going to the bad, 52820-6.—When there was no fishing grub-money, sometimes 30*s.* a week, had been advanced, amounting the first year to about £25; this was stopped as soon as there was a catch and was deducted from the earnings, 52827-33.

THE "TOPAZ" GIVEN UP BY THE CREW.

Last spring, when fishing at Boffin, the crew had had a letter from the Board stating that the "Topaz" was in arrears of debt, but witness had not been notified to stop working; finding they could not buy the boat and so clear her, no matter what they gave, the crew unanimously decided to give her up, 52813-16, 52834-41.

GREEN, Rev. W. S.

See pp. 34-6.

REFUTATION OF THE CHARGE *in re* THE "TOPAZ" AND OTHERS.

The "Topaz" had been worked some years, but witness could not remember the exact terms of her surrender; the Board never resumed ownership of a boat except by request of the owner or men, but year after year had kept the crews going, buying nets, etc., and

GREEN, Rev. W. S.—*continued.*

giving them every chance they could, 52842-3.—The Board always sold either on the share, the instalment, or the cash system; in this case the first had failed, and if the securities had not been forthcoming for the second the third must have been the only alternative; witness did not know if the second would have satisfied the crew, 52868-72.—The boats in question were two out of many worked on the share system, by which a boat paid automatically, so that though the Board might be out of pocket it would never be in arrears, and there was no inducement to take up a boat without consulting the men; the Board might have to re-sell a boat taken on the instalment system if instalments were not paid, so the first system would be less apt to come hard on the crews than the second, 52844-9

Working of the Share-System in Connaught.

The share-system here was different from that in Donegal; the men insisted on the Board giving grub-money when fishing was bad, and thus if the earnings were insufficient a debt often accumulated; the crews were practically, as well as legally, co-equal, and though one man was supposed to be skipper he could not, with the Board's recognition, enrich himself at his colleagues' expense; the crews were always changing, and discontent might arise through one man regarding himself as skipper because he had been longest on the boat, 52849-53.

Reason for Boats lying Idle at Clifden Eight Months of the Year.

The boats lying at Clifden for eight months were mostly instruction-boats, which were not idle for want of proper piers, but because the Board could not well afford to give instruction except in spring, when the fishing was sometimes very good; it would be hard or impossible to get crews on any system at other seasons if they could not make money; the autumn fishing was poor, but two large boats had just been fitted out and sent to Boffin and Cleggan for the second season, and if they succeeded the Board hoped other boats might stay out the two seasons, 52854, 52862-3.

Question of Pier Accommodation at Clifden and Cleggan.—Improvement of Cleggan Harbour advocated.

Clifden harbour was very dangerous for big boats at night, practically the only time for fishing, but a pier could only be built if all the reefs between Slyne Head and High Island were abolished—a big undertaking; row-boats from Turbot Island, etc., could land their fish here, 52855-7.—Cleggan was the most likely place in the district to become an important fishing station, and anything done there to protect boats, improve accommodation, enable men to land fish at low water, allow a steamer to come and take away the fish and land barrels and salt, would tend to develop the fishing; the boats were owned by people in Clifden, Ballinakill and all about, 52858, 52866.—Cleggan was a bad place for anchorage in rough weather, and it was possible boats had been lost there; if, as was inevitable, they went aground in the harbour they lost the next night's sitting, and they had a bad time now, kept off the bar trying to land fish at low water for transport from Clifden; Cleggan could be made a reasonably good harbour if its pier were extended, 52859-60.—Granted a safe harbour and pier behind which boats could lie afloat, more fishermen would probably go out in October and November, when the weather was doubtful, 52865.—There had been an estimate for Cleggan, and plans had been made out at various times; the letter from Dublin Castle read by the Chairman seemed to be an inquiry regarding expenditure, not a definite promise of help, 52861, 52867.

Refusal of Instructors to come unless given a Fixed Wage.

Cases of refusal by instructors to go to sea had been reported, but complaints had also reached the Board of crews declining to go out, and this probably happened oftenest; the Board had been most anxious to get expert fishermen as instructors on a share of the profits, but these men preferred a berth in one of their own boats in the height of the fishing season unless

GREEN, Rev. W. S.—*continued.*

given a fixed wage; if a man with, say, a boat on loan, wanted to send out a crew, the Board gave him instruction free for one set of fishing seasons, after which he had to pay a proportion; for £2 a week he had to pay 10*s.* a week for the first year, and £1 the next, and if he wanted to keep on an instructor he might make any arrangement he liked as long as the Board did not have to pay the whole of the salary, 52864.

BLAKE, Mrs.

See pp. 36-9.

Overstatement of Amount of Grass Land held by People on Renvyle Estate.

The list made out by the Clerk of Clifden Union of grass lands and holdings in Renvyle Division was incorrect as to names, and overstated the amount of grazing land held by many people, *e.g.*, in regard to Peter Nee, Henry Robinson, Peter Lyden, James Cawley, and witness's son; there were not so many absentees as stated, all witness's grazing tenants being resident, except one holding, a very small part of the home farm, 52874, 52882, 52957.

Fertility of Grass Lands not due to Evicted Tenants.

It was not true that the fertility of grass lands was always due to the labour of evicted tenants, the expenditure, etc., on witness's home farm having been incurred by her predecessors; no one had been evicted from this land, and the one tenant who was removed had three other holdings; people had died off because of the failure of the potato crop, and said they must either go into the workhouse or emigrate, 52883-5.—There was no rundale, the land having been carefully striped by the Blakes years before, sometimes they had not succeeded in their frequent attempts to induce a tenant to take perhaps two stripes instead of one, and both tenants and estate-managers had said it was hard to get people to take land because of the depressing effect of the Famine; the landlord wanted tenants, and people needing work were given it on the land; £2,000 had been spent cropping the land, and as it did not pay to till it all, it was put down in grass, now the best for the country, 52892, 52956-7.—Witness had borrowed £1,300 from the Board of Works and had probably spent £900 on the land—£130 on another part of the estate; she did not have to pay interest on the money not used, 52953-6.

Cultivation of Witness's Home Farm.

Witness's home farm, bought solely for business reasons in 1896 with the help of the Land Commission, was 247 acres, and adjoined a very small demesne; they had oats or potatoes, or the land was grazed, sometimes it was let to respectable graziers, often local jobbers, her son's tenants, who had nothing else, except perhaps a six-acre holding, *e.g.*, Peter Nee, whose father and grandfather had been cattle dealers, and witness strongly objected to sell even for a sum giving her her income, both in her own interest and in that of these respectable people dependent upon grass and mountain lands; she did not at all approve of compulsory powers in any case, 52875, 52881, 52886-92, 52899A-911.

Size, etc., of Holdings on Renvyle Estate.

The distribution of land on the Renvyle Estate was very good, it was all tenanted and mostly worked by spade; some holdings were thirteen, some fifteen; one was 100 acres, 52893, 52893A.—There were a great many small holders with four or five acres who were able to rear families, sometimes of fourteen or fifteen; before the Famine a great herring fishery at Renvyle had employed 300 boats, but since then a great many people had emigrated; they did not do as much as they might with their land, being sometimes unwilling to put down a full crop; they were very happy, and some would not at all like to move, but if any cared to migrate and there was land elsewhere, well and good, there was no land for distribution here, 52894-91A.

BLAKE, Mrs.—*continued.*

MOUNTAIN LAND UNFIT FOR DIVIDING.

Some mountain land in the return was quite unfit for dividing; people paid for grazing sheep on it, as it would not do to make it commonage; witness was tenant-proprietor of a mountain and had bought certain bogs, owning considerably over 600 acres, 52893A-8A.—Witness had only three tenants who had been on the lot she bought; she sometimes took in grazing from the tenants about, and had vainly urged them all to join in taking the land, where they should have the sole right of grazing, 52952-3.

KELP INDUSTRY.

The small holders round witness's farm made money by fishing and kelp; the latter had not done well this year, because, though repeatedly warned and lately threatened by the agent, the people put sand into it, and consequently received less for it, 52898, 52912-3.—The price per ton varied according to quality; for a time witness had had a royalty of one-third, then at the agent's request had settled on a fixed sum; he, as kelp-agent, had proposed 10*s.*, but had approved of witness's insistence on 12*s.* 6*d.*, because of the high price she had paid, 52914-18, 52924-5, 52943-9.—The question of getting a royalty depended on what terms the land was owned; the weed belonged to the land; Colonel Nolan had fought that out in the Land Courts; he and witness believed certain other included seaweed in the value of the land, but others, *e.g.*, Lord Sligo and witness, kept the two values distinct; Renvyle weed was particularly good and very valuable, 52938-42.—If the price of kelp went down people would not make it, but witness thought she could sell it for manure elsewhere, 52951.—Witness supplied spread-ground for the kelp, both on land in her own hands and on that let to graziers; it was a loss, especially to the graziers, but they took the land on those terms and she had the royalty; the kelpers paid no rent for the spread-ground, 52918-23.—They did not pay for the weed, except 1*s.* a year for that on certain rocks owned by witness, 1*s.* for weed for manure, of which they might have any amount, and a little for black weed, 52926-35.—They only burned weed washed in by the sea, but might have made a fortune had they troubled to use the boats witness had made them for cutting the best weed, when kelp had been up to £7 a ton, 52936-7.

Document put in by Mrs. Blake.

Page
Notes on Conditions or Life in Renvyle, . . 275

CLOHERTY, Mr. JOSEPH.

See p. 39

THE CREDIT SYSTEM AND POVERTY IN ROUNDSTONE.

The people of Roundstone were gradually falling into debt; their poverty made the credit system a necessity; witness might refuse to increase a man's credit, but might yield to some extent to tide him over a hard time; there was no fixed limit to the credit given, for the people paid when they could, 52962-8.—Some years they were more in debt than others; this year had been bad, the fishing had failed, and there was no employment; apparently more money had been in circulation ten years ago; the Congested Districts Board and the fishing seemed to have had rather a paralysing effect, because the latter had been disappointing, 52968-3.—There was a lace class at Roundstone, but the factory children were very young, and the skilful ones went to America; emigration was increasing, 52974-7.—Witness's turnover was about £2,000; he did not think there was as much owed to him in the district; there were five or six other provision merchants in more or less the same position, mostly less well-off, 52978-83.—People did not pay debts in kind, witness had always paid them cash for oats, eggs, etc., 52984-9.—Witness received £200 annually from emigrants to pay debts of parents at home, and the sum scarcely varied, 52960-1, 52990-2.—The waterworks scheme was fairly successful, 52993.—Witness had got a big boat built under the Board's direction, and another one to employ local fishermen; he had not been wholly successful, but had always paid instalments when due, 52994-7.

CULLINANE, Mr. MICHAEL.

See pp. 39-41.

COMPULSORY PURCHASE OF BERRIDGE ESTATE ADVOCATED.

In witness's locality four very small estates bordered on Mr. Berridge's big estate, and the Congested Districts Board should acquire this last by compulsory purchase, as there was no room on the smaller properties to improve the tenants' condition, while much might be done on all five treated as one; three or four other estates were privileged to share commonage on the Berridge Estate, but this should be theirs by right, 52998-300A, 53045.—It would be better if all Roundstone, better still if all Connemara were bought and treated as one estate, royalties, game and fishing rights to be vested on behalf of the tenants in their elected trustees, or these might be partly nominated; there were valuable salmon fisheries in the hands of landlords, 53001, 53044.

ENLARGEMENT OF HOLDINGS PRACTICALLY USELESS OWING TO POVERTY OF THE LAND.—MIGRATION ONLY ADVOCATED TO A LIMITED EXTENT.

In Murvey, on the Hallam Estate, the smallest holdings were a little less than four acres, rent, £2 odd; witness held 29 acres, of which the second judicial rent was £1 12*s.*, of a wild kind of bog, and it would not greatly improve a tenant's condition to give him more land of the same sort; to some extent he would be worse off, for a plough was useless, and the scarcity of labour would prevent a large tract being tilled by spade, 53002-8.—Much might be done perhaps in the way of migration to other parts of the coast, but people should not be taken from the sea altogether on account of the fisheries, 53009-11.

POSSIBILITIES OF DEVELOPING FISHERIES.—A COMBINATION OF SHARE AND LOAN SYSTEMS ADVOCATED.

There were great possibilities in South Connemara, and the deep-sea fishing was the most important asset, 53011-2.—All the Roundstone boats had been taken on the loan system; witness had agreed to pay half-yearly instalments of £30 for one, just to start the enterprise, but though he had paid the boat's entire earnings for four years, there was still a balance owing, which the Board had kindly forgiven when he had to give up the boat; he had been responsible for keeping the boat manned, while the Board had supplied an instructor for two or three years; seeing boats were unable to earn enough to pay instalments on the eight years loan system, men were afraid to go security, although the Board dealt leniently when there were bad seasons, 53012-9.—The individual members of the crew had generally been well paid, but the owner was not, yet boat and gear were better looked after if one man were directly responsible; witness's failure had not been due to his inability to go out with his boat, because he had had an excellent instructor, and he had seen boats worked as conscientiously in the absence, as in the presence, of their owner; the transfer of the security for the loan to an actual fisherman would, however, help matters to some extent, as the Board could not supply instructors for an indefinite period, and the actual fisherman would be free to take his boat to places where the most trustworthy skipper would not like to send her, 53020-7.—Witness, unlike Father Gleeson, approved of the loan system, a boat being "leased" by one man from the Board, but he thought instalments should be paid as far as possible on the share system, much like that prevailing at Cleggan, *i.e.*, the payments not being fixed by the year, but varying with the catch; then the owner, if he were doing his best, would be relieved of anxiety in bad years; Roundstone boats were larger than Cleggan ones, and cost from about £500, with gear, 53028-37.—There was any amount of coarse fishing off the land, but that had not paid so well; they had got long lines for deep-sea fishing, which was hard on the sails; with care sails might last five years, but could not last more than three with deep-sea fishing; the intructor had failed, though doing his best for an individual boat, but the fishermen themselves were now learning to manage better; past failure had been due to their absolute ignorance, but with their eight or ten years' experience they could now fish anywhere off Connemara without an instructor, 53038-43.

CULLINANE, Mr. MICHAEL—*continued.*

Technical School for Cooperage, etc., needed.

They had not succeeded in getting a technical school for cooperage, etc., in Roundstone, and there were no industries; there were many little things which, if combined, would keep the people materially, 53044.

M'ANDREW, Rev. B.

See pp. 41-3.

Depopulation due to Famine and Evictions—Compulsory Purchase Advocated.

Letterfrack, formerly densely populated, was now, owing to the Famine and evictions, in a state of desolation; valuation of holdings varied from 15*s.* to 18*s.* and 30*s.*, so that people could not live by the land; there had once been seventy tenants on the Prior Estate, now there were two; the Congested Districts Board had sent someone to value it, but Mrs. Tulloch, though rich and owning 400 or 500 acres, discovered what the Board had offered, and outbid them, and obtained the property without their knowledge; there were about 1,030 acres, all arable, adjoining the Twining Estate, between Cleggan and Ballinakill, and it was a wilderness with signs of previous cultivation everywhere, 53046-52.—This should be acquired and re-divided; also the Thompson Estate of 1,400 acres towards Leenane, all arable; the eighty tenants who had once lived there had died of starvation; they had been evicted, having no fixity of tenure; the Cleggan property too was unoccupied, 53053-5.

Re-tilling of Land Advocated.

There were 5,000 acres of fine arable land, from the road near Leenane (about Bunowen on the Thompson Estate) sloping down to the rivers; this land had been under cultivation, as could be seen by the hillsides along Killery Bay, and should be re-tilled, especially now, when there was competition with foreign cattle; there would not be any difficulty in getting the people to till their own land; their industry had made the grass lands what they were, 53092-7.

Migration only necessary to a very Limited Extent.

Witness was sure people would migrate, for in the time of Mr. Micks some had been removed to a small property from a remote part of the parish, and there had been great eagerness to obtain holdings; there was no need to migrate any distance, as there was plenty of room to give everyone economic holdings in the parish if the untenanted lands were acquired, 53092.

Roads needed—Refusal of Congested Districts Board to do the work required.

Witness had asked the Congested Districts Board to join the two important roads running towards Loughnahilian in his parish, and so connect North and South Connemara; the roads were probably relief works originally, and had been extended in that way by two miles during the last twelve years, but the Board would not finish the remaining mile and a half; witness had been asked if the Grand Jury would pay half the cost and keep the road in repair, and they had ridiculed the idea; it was equally hard now to induce the County Council to contribute to public works; the probable cost would be about £500, 53056-63, 53068-70.—There were no tenants to complain that the district was not scheduled, but though untenanted, its poverty and wretchedness should be sufficient reason for the Board to work there; witness had asked the Board to make another most necessary road on the Renvyle Estate, which the people had to reach by sea in canoes to bring in their meal, &c.; these were divided on the rocks and carried up the cliffs; the Board's engineer, Mr. Oliver, had reported there were no engineering difficulties, but the Board had written they would not make more roads unless a few of the members came to see what was to be done; they were to have come in a few days, but about twelve years had passed; the Local Government Board had supplied the funds through Sir Henry Robinson, who knew the place well, 53069.

M'ANDREW, Rev. B.—*continued.*

Unrepresentative Character of the Congested Districts Board.

All Connemara, including witness's parish, should be represented on the Congested Districts Board, and by more than one person, because members were needed with a practical knowledge of the country, class of land, means of living, and the people's wants generally; it would be very advantageous if sittings were sometimes held in the district, 53071-5.

Suggested Improvement in the Working of Parish Committees.

The Parish Committee, with £100 grant, *i.e.*, £50 for each district, alone worked satisfactorily; there were no practical difficulties; but the houses were very bad, and they were trying to get out-houses built; the people who most needed grants were too poor to use them; the £7 valuation limit should be altered to £10, as some houses over £7 were worse than those below the limit; the rule of not giving money before completion of work kept those from working who most needed the improvements; mason's labour, &c., iron for roofs, should be paid for as it was required, 53076-87.

The Revival of Basket-making Advocated.

A basket industry, the private speculation of an English lady, had worked for some years till she had gone away for reasons of health; the Board, thanks to her, had subsidised it for two years, and then left it entirely in the hands of a Birmingham basket-maker; he had put his son-in-law in charge and allowed him £150 a year, whereas £1 a week would have been enough, and the thing had failed under his management; witness thought the place most suitable for basket-making, but the Board, thinking otherwise, had withdrawn support; osiers grew luxuriantly but were uncared for; witness thought the industry a possible one for the West of Ireland, as Miss Sturge had made it pay, though importing osiers from England, 53088-91.

M'HUGH, Rev. MICHAEL.

See pp. 44-52.

Some Particulars of Carna Parish.

Witness was parish priest of Carna, and had been nominated by the District Council and by the Archbishop, 53099-100.—Carna was in three electoral divisions, namely, Scarriff, Knockboy, and Owengowla; the union was Clifden, 53320-21. Carna parish contained about 300 families, the heads of which were all tenant farmers; only about 10 per cent. of the holdings were economic, 53100-1.—Congested Districts Board had purchased an estate in this district, 53102-3.—The tenants had purchased the holdings and lived by fishing and kelp-making, depending partly also on American cheques; about £2,500 had reached the parish from America within twelve months, 53104.—The land in Carna should be bought, because though the holdings were inadequate, Board could make improvements by building new houses and making roads to the sea and to the hills where stock were kept, 53319.—Unless employment were provided migration must take place, 53328-31.—A certain number of the people would be willing to migrate immediately, and others would follow if satisfied that doing so would improve their condition, 53332.—The better-off parishioners should be migrated first and their lands given to the poorer ones, 53333-4.—The fact that 86 per cent. of the holdings in the three divisions were under £4 was partly the result of sub-division, 53361-2.—The tendency to sub-divide was decreasing, as the people were alive to its evils, 53363-6.—When the Board purchased property in the neighbourhood they had enlarged some holdings, 53484-5.—There was no more land available for enlargement except some mountain farms; there was a cattle tract along the shore on which cattle could live part of the year, but they would die if not given a month or two on the hills, 53486.—If any mountain land were available it should be given to the tenants as commonage, but land of fair quality would be best utilised to enlarge holdings and grow crops, 53487-8.—Even if it were used as commonage there would not be enough

M'HUGH, Rev. MICHAEL—*continued.*

land to provide all tenants with grazing, 53489-92.—The mountain land should be divided into stripes, one for each village, everybody in a townland having a certain right as far as the land would go, and those to whom the land was most convenient having the first claim, 53493-8.—Board would not give a new house to a tenant unless the tenant had moved to a new holding; some of the dwelling-houses were in a wretched condition, 53498-501.—Board offered a grant of £10 for improving the old houses, but the people were too poor to make use of it, 53502-3.—A loan of £10 could be obtained in addition, 53504-5.—When lands in Carna parish had been sold to tenants the latter's condition had somewhat improved partly as a result of the reduction, partly owing to the sense of ownership, 53506-8, 53518.—The amalgamation of three holdings into one would be a great advantage; one tenant could work three holdings of the size usual in Carna, 53509-14.—Spraying was done generally on the estate Board had dealt with and most successfully by machine, 53519-22.

Parish Committee of Carna.

Carna Parish Committee was working well, and had a grant of £100 a year; many parishioners were too poor to avail themselves of the grant, 53322-4.—Committee was empowered to make grants for iron roofs which only amounted to half the price of the roofs; it would be well if they could grant the full price of the iron; stone and everything else the people could supply themselves, 53325, 53327.—Board had offered to supply the iron at a cheaper rate than Committee could obtain, but this system needed development, 53326.—Committee gave grants up to £5 for building new dwelling-houses, and the old ones were utilised for cattle, 53355-6.—These grants were only allowed to actual tenants and did not encourage sub-division of land, 53337-9.—Committee gave assistance to construct windows, &c., 53340.—Another five years would probably suffice to effect all necessary improvements of this kind, but all that time there would be some tenants unable to avail themselves of the grant, 53342.—Committee had received their £100 grant during the past four or five years, 53341.—It was as large a grant as Committee could utilise, 53359-60.—Committee did not always adhere to the rule that grants could not be given till work was completed, 53343.—Grants could not be given where valuation was over £7, but almost all valuations in Carna were under £7, 53344-5.—Committee had done a little road-making, 53346.—Improvements carried out with Committee's assistance should be maintained by tenants, 53471-2.—Board's inspectors should visit the holdings, and should have power to prosecute if improvements were not kept up, 53473-5, 53478-80, 53482.—In most cases tenants would be able to pay cost of repairs, 53477.—If after a manure heap had been removed by Committee, and an outhouse built, the practice of keeping cattle in the house were reverted to, the sanitary law should be put in operation, 53481.—Distribution of vegetable seed by Committee would be useful in Carna parish, 53347, 53353-4.—Agricultural Board had lately done something of the sort, and had sent an instructor who lived at Carna, 53347-50.—The seed should be distributed at a reduced price, the reduction being regarded as an educational contribution, 53355-7.

Emigration.

Within the twelve months preceding September, 1907, eighty young people had emigrated from Carna parish, 53366.—In the same period thirty-eight emigrants had returned, and fourteen of those who returned went back again, 53367.—Those who returned intended to settle down and marry, but some, failing to do so, went back, 53368, 53370.—The returning emigrants brought money, 53369.—Some of the returned were girls, who married, and some were men who bought holdings, 53371.—The girls brought £50 to £200 with them, and when they married put this additional capital into the holding which was generally a purchased one; improvements would be made about the house, and stock bought, 53399, 53404-7.—If all the money could not usefully be so employed the balance was placed in the bank, 53408.—There were no agricultural banks at Carna, 53409-10.

M'HUGH, Rev. MICHAEL—*continued.*

Lace-making, and its Relation to Emigration.

The lace-making industry was hampered by all the girls going to America, 53373-5.—There was always a fresh supply of learners for the lace class, 53375-6.—The class had been established about seven years, 53377.—By hard work lace workers could earn 10*s.* a week, 53378.—Girls would not stay at home, because while they did so their parents got all their earnings in accordance with Irish custom, 53379-80, 53387.—Girls showed a greater tendency to go than men, because girls did better in America than boys, and saved more, 53380.—To avoid the parents taking the earnings, the money might be stopped, and a savings bank established; witness thought this plan had been tried by the nuns without much success, 53383.—It was a method that might be resented, 53386.—At present the money earned was paid through the agency of the instructress, 53384.—Lace-making tended rather to check than encourage emigration, 53430.—At present girls generally waited to emigrate till they could get their passages paid, 53388.—If the money they earned were accumulated in a bank it might not necessarily be employed to buy a passage, but might serve as a dowry, 53390.—The eighty emigrants referred to included several families, and of the remainder two-thirds were girls, 53396-7.—The remittances sent home probably came mostly from girls, 53398.

School Attendance.

There were ten schools in the parish of Carna, the attendance of which was 60 per cent., or less, of the number on the rolls, 53411-7.—Bad attendance was attributable to the illiteracy of parents who could not appreciate education, and to the need for the children on the holdings, many of which were in rundale, so that the cattle needed watching; Board had effected improvement by dividing the holdings into squares, and school attendance had since increased, 53418-9.—None of the children had far to go to school, 53420-1.

Food of School Children.

The provision of food for the school children would be a good thing, as they had nothing to eat from their arrival in the morning till their return home at five o'clock, 53422.—There was little milk in the district, and many of the children had none during winter, 53457-62.—Potatoes and fish, as well as bread and tea, were their food, 53463-5.—They never had oatmeal porridge, but sometimes ate Indian meal porridge, 53466.—The oats grown were sold to shopkeepers, 53467.—Long ago porridge was given, and then there were mills to grind oats, 53468.—Instruction in agriculture and other industries would be better than instruction in the higher standards at the National schools, 53423-5.—Such instruction in practical matters had formerly been given, but never efficiently, 53426-7.—Emigration was not more common among illiterate than other boys and girls; all wished to emigrate, 53428.

Domestic Economy Instruction.

Domestic economy classes had been held in Carna with good results, 53432-3.—Instruction in domestic economy did not stimulate emigration by enabling girls to earn better wages, 53434.—Instruction in cooking the vegetables to be raised from the seed distributed had not yet been given; distribution was only begun in the spring of 1907, 53435-41.—The prevailing diet was potatoes, bread, and fish; a few cabbages were used, 53442, 53445.—Girls had been taught to cook potatoes and plain dishes such as herring or lobster, 53444, 53446.—Since the instruction in domestic economy better bread was to be seen in the houses, and the houses were better kept, 53447-50.—Housekeeping and keeping a house in order, as well as washing and ironing, were taught at domestic economy classes, 53451-3.

Nurses.

There was a nurse in this district, 53515.—The influence of nurses was elevating and humanising, and the appointment of nurses was an important element in improvement of the people, 53516-7.

M'HUGH, Rev. MICHAEL—*continued.*

FISHING IN CARNA PARISH.

Fishing was not a success, though the people were anxious to do that or anything else to make money; mackerel and lobster were the only fish caught, and the mackerel season only lasted two or three months in spring, 53104-5, 53115, 53121-3, 53142.—The want of a curing station alone prevented fishing in autumn and winter, or rather in September and October, 53106, 53116, 53237-80, 53247-51.—Such a station would create a market for fish caught in autumn, 53252.—Autumn fishing could only be carried on from small boats as the mackerel came inshore in autumn, 53107-8, 53236.—If Carna fishermen exploited the same grounds as Arran fishermen, the bad weather would often prevent their going to fish, and would keep them imprisoned in their large boats, 53114.—During spring it would be possible to exploit these Arran fishing grounds, 53116.—In Boffin, where there was a very successful fishing, only small boats were used, but there the fishing was almost entirely the inshore autumn fishing, 53118-20, 53133.—The establishment of a curing station had been the starting point of fishery development in Arran and Boffin, 53123-4, 53126.—Witness thought the curing stations were established by Congested Districts Board, 53125-6.—Witness had lived seven years in Boffin, and had heard no complaints from Boffin fishermen that lack of competition kept prices of fish down, 53126-8.—The rocks and islands about Carna would not militate against fishery development; during the autumn fishing the fishermen would go out in the small boats in the evening to set their nets, return home at night, and in the morning go back to take the catch, 53109, 53130-2.—In the spring fishing the men did not come ashore after the nets were cast, 53118.—The aggregate catch of these small boats would be sufficient to make a curing station at Carna profitable; the bulk of the fishing in Carna parish was carried on from the small boats, 53129, 53133, 53150.—The people using small boats used them exclusively for sea fishing, 53225.—Most of the Carna boats were small boats, 53233.—No steps had been taken to supply instructors or nets for small boats, 53242-6.—Most of the small boats were built on the loan system not for fishing but for collecting seaweed and similar purposes, 53253-7.—The late Mr. Duthie was in favour of establishing a curing station at Carna, 53134-7.—Mr. Shimmin had dealt with the fishing question on this part of the coast, 53138.—He had not been very successful in developing the fishery there because of the lack of facilities for inshore autumn fishing, 53139-48.—Curing stations should be established at Masson and Carna, and at Kilkerrin, 53151, 53234.—The market for cured mackerel had been less good than usual during 1907, but the market was getting steady, 53152-5.—An autumn herring fishing would go hand in hand with the mackerel, 53156.—There was a small local demand for herrings, 53246.—Autumn herring fishing was done from canoes in Arran, 53157-8.—Arran fishing was mainly mackerel, 53159-62.—There were large boats in Carna which regularly fished outside, 53202-3.—They were acquired with assistance of Congested Districts Board, 53205.—The men earned some money with these boats, but not enough to pay more than half the instalments on the loans, 53204, 53206.—Large boats could not touch the inshore fishing, 53206, 53219.—Both small and large boats should be used, and the small ones should be supplied with nets, 53220, 53234.—Both large and small boats were built very well at Mweenish, 53228-31.—Instructors had at first been placed in the large boats, but their services had since been dispensed with without any consequent diminution of the catch, 53239-41.—There was still a demand for the larger boats, 53258.—In Galway Bay steam trawlers competed with the boats, 53261.—The big boats at Carna were not used for trawling, but for mackerel and herring, 53262-5.—Long line fishing would have to be done from small boats, 53266.—There was not much turf transit at Carna; hookers probably came with meal and flour from Galway, 53224-7.—It would be an advantage to have a resident officer to superintend the fishing of Carna; after a time it would not be necessary for him to devote his whole time to the parish, 53163-4.—The coast line he would have charge of extended from Kilkerrin almost to Cashel, 53165-6.

M'HUGH, Rev. MICHAEL—*continued.*

TRANSIT FOR FRESH FISH.

Fishing for ling, cod, skate, conger, plaice, and sole could be made a success if quick transit for the fresh fish were provided, 53169-71.—There were no railways but fairly good roads, 53167-8.—Recess was the nearest point of railway communication, 53172.—The steamer from Arran formerly touched at Kilkerrin, but was of little use as she came very irregularly, 53173-6, 53189-90.—The steamer to be of use for the fresh fish would have to call regularly at least three times a week, 53187, 53196-9.—A motor service would be preferable, and would overcome the difficulties in disposing of lobsters, which suffered much in being transported in carts to Recess, 53174, 53177-9, 53182, 53183-4.—Witness thought the County Council had refused to give the roads the repairs necessary before starting a motor service, 53192-5.—The fishermen only made £10 to £15 per season by lobsters, 53180-1.—Lobsters were caught along the rough coast just outside, 53182.

KELP.

Kelp sold in Kilkerrin amounted to about 1,000 tons per year; about the same quantity was sold in Cashel, 53267.—The price in 1907 was not so good as at one time, but as good as it had been within the last ten years, 53268.—£4 per ton was the highest price, but about £3 was the average, 53269.—Taking not only Carna parish, but the whole district, about £3,000 a year was made out of kelp, 53270.—More could be made if the people abandoned the present wasteful method of burning, in which 50 per cent. of the ingredients was lost; local works should be started for treating the weed and extracting the products; this would both utilise the large quantities of raw material on the spot and supply the need for employment, 53271, 53274.—The condition of the iodine market was precarious, but the kelp contained other things and was used in soap manufacture, and witness thought also in manufacturing paper in America; kelp contained potash and algin; the latter was said to be very valuable and was used in the cotton trade, 53278-9.—Kilkerrin would be a suitable site for a kelp factory, with appliances for burning kelp economically, 53282-4.—Congested Districts Board should endeavour to induce a private firm to open works at Kilkerrin, 53285.—This firm should purchase seaweed, and give employment in extracting the products, 53286.—The quantity of seaweed available was sufficient to enable the works to be carried on at a profit, 53287.—Witness had been in communication with a company who were willing to open works at Kilkerrin, 53288.—If the kelp manufacture were done on a co-operative system more of the profits would go to the workers, but the latter had no experience, and could not be got to adopt such a system, 53290.—But there were no co-operative societies in Carna, 53469.—Under the existing system the kelp was bought by the ton after burning, 53292-3.—As a rule all that was bought was purchased, 53294-314.—Buyers applied a chemical test to the kelp; they rejected what was below a certain standard and gave a reduced price for what was of inferior quality, 53295-6.—The people were not satisfied with the test, 53298.—The price of weed sometimes fell from £4 to £2 10*s.* at the end of the season; it was sometimes lowered by the buyer on the grounds that kelp was not up to standard, 53311-2.—An official inspector to test kelp would be no use as the buyer would insist on his own test, 53313.—It was difficult to test kelp, 53317.—An official test might give the public more confidence regarding prices, 53318.—There was only one buyer in the district; witness believed the buyers had formed a sort of ring or syndicate so that there was a monopoly, 53299, 53315-6.—Witness would be surprised to hear there was only one purchasing firm, 53301.—The kelp was sent to Glasgow; ten years ago a Sheffield company purchased kelp which they used in the manufacture of glass; at the end of the third year the syndicate offered to supply this company with kelp at a cheaper rate than they could buy it, 53302.—This offer concerned glue, 53303.—The principal firm of the syndicate was an iodine company, but other companies were connected with it such as the Sheffield Glue Company, which had nothing to do with iodine, 53304.—The kelp-burning season lasted from the middle of April to beginning of

M'HUGH, Rev. MICHAEL—*continued.*

October; kelp-burning was dependent on the weather and varied with the season, 53305-8.—No royalty was charged on the weed, but witness thought the Land Commission added something to the rent in view of the facilities for getting the weed, 53309-10.

WALKER, Mr. W. J. D.

See pp. 52-4.

Lady Dudley's Nursing Scheme.

Lady Dudley's Nursing Fund was affiliated with the Queen Victoria Jubilee Nurses' Institute, 53523.—The institute provided trained nurses for district nursing, but no funds for their support; Lady Dudley organised a scheme to provide district nurses and collected money to maintain them in these poor parts of Ireland; in 1907 there were fifteen of these nurses all maintained from funds raised under Lady Dudley's scheme; the future development of the scheme depended on funds and for lack of them many applications for nurses had been refused, 53524.—Nurses intended for district nursing received an additional special training, 53525.—All Congested Districts Board had done for this scheme was in a few cases to give grants for furniture and to build houses at Annagry and Aranmore in County Donegal as well as at Glengariff in County Cork, and at Caherdaniel and Dooks in County Kerry; a house was being built at Spiddal, and another projected for Belladangan; rents for these houses were paid from Lady Dudley's Fund, 53526, 53542.—Witness thought assistance for the nursing scheme would be well within powers of Congested Districts Board; the nurses saved many valuable lives, were efficient in inducing the people to adopt better sanitary methods, and had a humanising effect on the people; they were always well spoken of by those among whom they worked; £1,500 a year was expended by Lady Dudley's Fund on the nurses, and was raised by outside subscriptions collected by Lady Dudley, 53527.—In dealing with congestion the greatest importance should be attached to this scheme, which should, therefore, receive great attention from Board, 53529-30.—In districts like that about Carna nurses' expenses were greater than in a town owing to the distance traversed, involving cost of conveyances, 53543.—In towns local subscriptions could be got, but Board might reasonably help where these were unobtainable; in towns of 5,000 inhabitants five doctors might generally be found, while in country districts one dispensary doctor might have to attend to 8,000 people, 53544-5.—The nurse at Carna, Nurse M'Coy, from her experience of typhus, concluded that disease in the West of Ireland originated from the time the manure heaps near the cottages were cleared away; at Dooks, County Kerry, there were twenty-five or twenty-six cases of typhus in 1906, and eighteen or nineteen in 1907; the 1907 cases had been traced to a single case originating in a house where the manure was cleared out from close to the door, 53530.—The fact that in the vine districts in Switzerland typhus also occurred when the manure was put out should be better known, 53531.

Cottage Hospitals.

Cottage hospitals would benefit such districts as Carna; they had been advocated by the Poor Law Commission; at present Carna fever patients had to be driven a long distance over the hills to Clifden; the people would have more confidence in an hospital on the spot, 53548.—The chief objection to expressing a strong opinion as to desirability of Board's contributing to an extension of the nursing system and the establishment of cottage hospitals was the insufficiency of Board's funds, and the expense that would be involved; the cottage hospital question concerned Local Government Board, which had considered it, 53549.—A poundage rate for medical charities would have to be very high to be effective in Carna as poor law valuation was low; a penny in the pound would produce about £10, 53534.

Lace-making, and its Relation to Emigration.

The lace class-room at Carna was erected by a Manchester Relief Committee; the success of the

WALKER, Mr. W. J. D.—*continued.*

class was checked by emigration; one year the turnover was £900, but the next year emigration reduced it to £400; since the class-room was opened no applicants had been refused work; new girls were constantly coming forward; attendance might be better; girls could easily make 8*s.* or 10*s.* a week, 53532-6.—This industry might give permanent employment; at Clones the married women did a lot of work at home, 53536-8.—Attendance at lace classes was purely voluntary; classes had no connection with the educational system under National Board, 53539-40.—Thorough instruction in drawing and plain sewing at the National schools would prepare for lace work; the Factory Act prevented girls attending under fourteen years of age unless they had passed the second stage of fifth standard, and were over thirteen years old; teachers were instructed not to take girls whose absence from home would prevent the younger children there from going to school, 53541.—In many districts emigration had been reduced in consequence of establishment of lace classes; Banada and Derrypark were instances, 53550.—In a few cases girls who went to America worked there at lace, but generally they entered domestic service, 53551-3.—The advantage to emigrants of having attended lace classes were generally confined to the results of a good influence, 53552.

Kelp.

Witness had forwarded to Commission a letter from a gentleman in London suggesting the possible development of a process for the treatment of kelp, 53546-7.

HAZELL, Mr. THOMAS.

See pp. 54-7.

Alleged Carelessness and Adulteration in Preparation of Kelp.

Witness lived at Cashel, and was kelp agent there, 53555.—The outlook for kelp was very bad owing to severe foreign competition in iodine, which was obtained elsewhere as a bye-product; in South America and Germany it was got out of the ground, 53556-8, 53560.—In Japan iodine was made from seaweed, as in Ireland, but more cheaply and honestly, 53558-9, 53641.—Japanese were more industrious, and burned kelp more carefully, 53643.—Witness had heard the Japanese could place kelp on the English market at the same price as the Irish kelp in spite of the cost of transit, 53643-5.—Kelp could be made equally well in Ireland, and 25 per cent. better than at present, 53642, 53645.—Much of the kelp was very carelessly burned, but an alteration in the system of burning would effect no great saving, 53584-6, 53650.—The bye-products were less valuable than ten or fifteen years ago, some of them being obtainable cheaper elsewhere; the iodine was the main product, 53588, 53662-3.—By working honestly and keeping out sand and stones, and giving better weed, burners could make 25 per cent. better; if this were done witness's firm would probably raise the price 15*s.* or £1 per ton, 53589-91, 53595, 53682, 53685-6.—Sand and stones were put in on purpose to make weight; witness had seen 30 per cent. of gravel in kelp; on two shores in Ireland the company had stopped buying on account of the adulteration, 53592-4, 53609-13, 53651.—The worst adulteration was that with inferior weed; the gravel and stone adulteration was more easily checked, 53677-80, 53682.—The kelp-burners knew well how to burn kelp, and what weed to look for, 53646-7, 53683-4.—The May weed was the best at its own time of year, but useless at other seasons; each kind was good at its season, 53596-7.—There was less danger of adulteration when the kelp was run into the solid than when it was run into dry ash, 53598-9.—An inspector for testing kelp would be no use, as buyers would insist on their own test, 53600.—Witness had tested kelp thirty years, and had no doubt of the accuracy of his method, 53601-4.—The test was a scientific one based on chemistry, 53606-7, 53608.—The kelp was not tested in the factory; witness tested on the spot and fixed prices, 53607A.—The test was private, and was checked

HAZELL, Mr. THOMAS—*continued.*

at the works by a private method, 53664-6.—There was no check of the test on the sellers' behalf, 53667.—About five tons of dry weed went to a ton of kelp, 53615.—Witness could tell pretty well the value of five tons perfect weed brought to him, 53616.—Though the foreign iodine was undercutting the home manufacture, the company witness worked for could just keep the industry in Ireland alive and make a small profit, 53561-2.—Three or four companies were engaged in making iodine, 53563.—Witness represented the Glasgow company, 53564.—There were no other agents buying kelp in the immediate neighbourhood of Carna, but others bought it in Clare and Mayo, and Donegal, 53568.—Every agent had his own district, 53569.—The Glasgow people bought all the kelp in Clare, 53570.—A company was buying kelp at Aran; witness bought kelp out of the Aran district at Kilkiernan, 53571.—Witness's company bought kelp in Norway, and the north islands of Scotland, 53670.—Sandford's firm was one of the two which bought in Uist, 53671-3.—There had been complaints of adulteration in kelp from the Hebrides, 53675-6.—Within the last ten years witness had not had to raise the price of kelp in consequence of competition from other firms, but in September of 1907 he was paying more in Carna than anyone else in Ireland, 53572-81.—Buyers preferred high prices, as they meant the stuff supplied was better, 53582-3.—Witness had instructions to buy for the company all the good kelp he could get in 1907 at £4 a ton, 53619-20, 53623-4, 53634-7.—The company would not buy inferior kelp, as it was worth nothing, 53623-6.—Witness wanted only the best, but bought down to £3 per ton, 53638-9.—The company manufactured the kelp when bought, 53621.—Any interference in the industry with Government money would in view of foreign competition compel witness's company to cease buying kelp, 53617-8, 53631.—Witness spoke for his company in saying this, 53655-8.—If there were anything to be made from kelp more companies would be buying, 53631.—If kelp were burned by Congested Districts Board in the proper way, and a lot burned in the usual way, witness would take the best and give the highest price whoever burned it, 53654, 53660-1.—Witness did not think it was competition for the Board to supply the best quality of kelp, 53659.—Witness thought no iodine was imported, 53627-8.—He thought his firm held enough iodine to supply the world for years, and so did the South Americans; the supply of iodine exceeded the demand, 53628.—Kelp alone would probably supply the iodine market, 53629.

O'CONNOR, Mr. CHRISTOPHER.

See pp. 57-63.

Carna Parish—Land Question.

Witness resided at Letterard, near Carna, in the Clifden rural district, and was familiar with the condition of small landholders in Carna parish, and on Berridge and Nolan estates; he gave evidence on behalf of Carna branch of United Irish League, 53687.—Carna parish was comprised within electoral divisions of Knockboy and Owengowla, and Skannive, and comprised 32,769 acres, with a population of 4,180; it contained thirty-five townlands, of which twenty-six were inhabited; the uninhabited townlands were mountainous and the tenants graziers, 53687-8.—Richard Berridge, Esq., and Colonel Nolan and Mrs. Newtown were the landlords of the uninhabited townlands; fourteen islands off the coast varying from two to sixty-one acres in extent were owned by graziers, and had a total area of 268 acres, with valuation of £115 15*s.*; total area of grazing lands in the parish was 7,894 acres, with valuation of £110 15*s.*, but only 200 of the 7,894 acres were fit for tillage, 53689, 53721.—The inhabited townlands bordered the sea, and six of them had been purchased by Congested Districts Board; in the other twenty the holdings were small and uneconomic, especially on the Berridge and Nolan estates, and principally because sub-division was permitted on those estates; few Nolan estate tenants had more than five or six acres each; in other parts of Clifden rural district there was plenty of grazing land; Congested Districts Board should have power and money to buy out the landlords, purchase the grazing lands from the

O'CONNOR, Mr. CHRISTOPHER—*continued.*

graziers throughout Clifden rural district, and migrate families from congested areas to such grazing lands as were suitable for tillage; holdings on congested townlands should be enlarged by striping the grazing farms suitable for tillage, and changing some of the tenants to these new farms; grazing farms to which seaweed rights were attached should be purchased for migration purposes; one such farm was the townland of Roscoe, containing 1,000 acres, which could supply land and seaweed to twenty-five or thirty tenants, 53690, 53692, 53898-9.—This farm was on the Berridge estate, which Board had refused to buy on the grounds that the land was already striped, and contained no grazing farms for distribution; the Roscoe farm was all arable land from which tenants had been cleared out during the Famine, 53691-2, 53721.—Boundaries between the holdings and improvements in housing would be needed on Berridge and Nolan estates, 53721.

Question of Migration.

Holders who had only four to six acres lived chiefly by kelp-making and fishing, and on money received from children in America; they should not be moved inland, but to some other maritime townland where their knowledge of kelp-making and fishing could be utilised, 53692-4.—Other landholders who made no use of the sea except by collecting seaweed for manure could be moved inland, 53695.—One-third of the Mweenish people should be migrated to a maritime townland, 53695.—In Mweenish and elsewhere constant cropping had worn out the land, and this was a chief cause of potato failure, 53696.—One man could work about forty or fifty acres; two or three of the holdings amalgamated could be worked by one man; a holding should be large enough to allow of rotation of crops and of portions being left fallow for several years, 53698-702.

Provision of Grazing for Cattle and of Turbary.

Owing to the nature of the land, cattle on maritime townlands suffered from the disease called "Pine," which could be remedied by grazing them on the mountain several months in the year, or feeding them with bran and Indian meal; the latter was expensive, but the only resource while graziers held the mountains, 53702-4.—Cattle on the mountains became stunted from a disease called cripple, which was cured by sending them to the shore; it was also cured by better feeding, 53704-5.—Consequently access for cattle to both shore and mountains was desirable, 53706, 53710.—The turf supply was becoming exhausted in maritime townlands, though formerly part of each holding was bog; many townlands would soon have no supply so near as the mountain bogs the graziers held; these mountains, at present utilised only for cattle and sheep, might advantageously be purchased and given back to the people in common, 53706-10.—Neither improvement nor boundaries had ever been made on the mountains; the mountain assigned a townland should be fenced, but the stripes assigned to particular holdings need not be, 53710, 53902, 53906.—The striping would be for the purpose of devoting to each man his portion of turf, but the townland's cattle could run all over the mountain, 53711-3.—The long stretch of mountain to the south of Recess was not too distant to be used by Carna people; Mweenish people sent their cattle there; the mountains were hitherto unfenced, and owners visited them every day and fed the animals in a certain place to persuade them to stay near it, 53900-1.—A herd would not be needed, as each man attended to his own cattle, 53903, 53909-10.

Roads and Seaweed Manure.

Short roads from the shore to the public road were needed that horses and asses might be employed to convey the seaweed used as manure, which the people had hitherto carried upon their backs; such roads would facilitate the manuring and tilling of lands further from the shore and relieve the shore lands from the constant cropping, 53713.—If there were roads, the larger holders would keep horses and hire them out to smaller men for dragging seaweed, 53714-7.—With roads bogs could be reclaimed by draining and liming, and bringing sand from the seashore; short roads should be constructed to any

O'CONNOR, Mr. CHRISTOPHER—*continued.*

grass lands striped up, 53717, 53721.—Lime could be brought from Arran, where there was plenty, and carried in the boats which took turf to Arran, 53718-21.—In some townlands there was scarcity of seaweed for manure, and it was purchased from owners of adjacent islands; it would be better if the seaweed rights of the islands were purchased; the seaweed should be divided into stripes, and the boundaries of the stripes defined, 53721.

Agricultural Model Farm suggested.

The Knockboy farm should be converted into an agricultural model school; it was already drained; tillage could be taught there, and the people shown how liming could prevent the ravages of an insect which injured the potato stalk, 53721.—This farm could be used to teach rotation of crops, and the method of reclaiming the mountain, 53724.—There were a number of trees on the farm; there was only a caretaker in charge, 53723.—Seaweed could be brought to Knockboy farm, as it was only two or three miles from the shore, 53726.

Corn Mill needed.

A corn mill for grinding oats would enable the Carna people to use oatmeal instead of Indian meal; a small corn mill formerly existed, but was far from a road, and stopped from lack of custom, 53727-9.—If a corn mill were now set up it would be used; there had been changes, and the use of Indian meal was being abandoned, 53730-3.—Oats were sold to shopkeepers for 4*s.* to 5*s.* per cwt.; if ground at a corn mill they would be turned to better use, and the people would be encouraged to grow better grain, 53734.

Woollen Industry in Carna and Grazing for Sheep.

Carding and spinning wool was an old native industry in Carna parish, and still carried on in every house, 53737-40, 53744-5.—Most of the clothes and bedclothes used were carded, spun, and warped at home, and sent to the hand-loom weavers, of which there were about twenty in the parish, 53741-3, 53772-4, 53777-8.—The same looms had been in use for 100 years, 53763-6.—Weaving was hereditary in families; the weavers worked as farmers in summer, and at the looms in winter, 53775-6.—The hand-loom business should be retained, but carding the wool was laborious, and a carding mill would be a great benefit, 53734-6, 53768-70.—There was a carding machine at Clifden, which the people preferred to use rather than do the work by hand, 53779.—Some hand-carding was still done, as it made work smoother, 53779-84.—The industry was a thriving one, and had never had any outside help, 53746-7.—Every farmer had twenty or thirty sheep, which were sent to graze on the mountains, 53743, 53749.—Some of the townlands had commonage rights, and grazing was hired by people in other townlands, 53750-1.—Some people with no right to commonage sent their sheep to graze on the mountains and were undisturbed, 53753-62, 53797-8.—This was the case even with the mountains witness wished Board to buy, 53760.—More sheep would be kept if the mountains were taken from the graziers and given to the people, 53755.—Some of the graziers and landlords were willing to surrender the mountains, but some demanded an unreasonable price, and compulsory powers should be granted to deal with them, 53784, 53789-93.—The graziers were mostly yearly tenants, 53785-6, 53794-5.—Cattle and sheep were kept on the mountains part of the year, but practically the land was going to waste, 53787.—The yearly tenants did not put on the sheep, 53796.

Piers and Fishing.

Piers with short approach roads as landing stages for seaweed, and as harbours for fishing vessels, were needed, especially at Letterard, where there were four fishing boats, and about fifty-six landholders; in 1879 two quays were built there in unsuitable places, 53798-9.—Letterard was five miles from Carna, in Knockboy electoral division; fishing for mackerel and herring was carried on in large boats, and

O'CONNOR, Mr. CHRISTOPHER—*continued.*

lobster and general hand-line fishing in two or three-ton boats; many people were employed in mackerel and herring fishing, but the season had been late in recent years, and though it went on longer, was less successful than formerly, as the late mackerel were less plentiful, 53800-6.—A good deal of money was still made out of herrings; fishing boats costing £400 and £500 had been obtained by loans from Congested Districts Board, repayable in sixteen half-yearly instalments, but arrears were now so large that the prospect of paying them was remote; Board had lately appointed a receiver over the boat-earnings and allowed the owner one-fifth of the net earnings for up-keep; the loans should be divided, one loan being used to purchase the body of the boat with mast and sails, and the other to purchase gear; sixteen years should be allowed for paying off the first loan, and eight for paying off the second; thus the amount of the instalments could be reduced, and the boat-owners encouraged to make greater efforts to pay off loans, 53807, 53813.—The receiver system was a good one, and should have been adopted sooner, 53808-14.—It should not be employed unless instalments were a year in arrear, 53815.—The boats were generally well kept, and should last thirty years, 53816-7.—None of the fish were landed in Carna parish, but at Roundstone and Arran, 53818-9.—Herring and mackerel were caught together, some buyers taking both, 53820-1.—An attempt should be made to extend the fishing season, which so far was only from mid-April to mid-October, 53807.—Mackerel and herring could be caught about Carna during a much longer period if Board would give loans to provide nets for small fishing boats which could be used for inshore fishing, 53821-3.—Such nets cost £3 10*s.* apiece; about six would be needed, and a few nights' catches would pay for them, 53824-7, 53831.—The nets of the large boats were too deep, and were lost if employed in shallow water, 53823, 53829-30.—Lobster and general hand-line fishing were the favourite forms of the industry, as lobster-fishing could be carried on side by side with farming; until 1907 only one company bought lobsters in Carna, and the prices were so low that some of the fishermen sent their lobsters by rail to salesmen in London, &c.; but many lobsters died en route, and as the salesmen sold them on commission, the loss fell on the fishermen, 53832-5, 53850.—The railway was sixteen miles away at Recess, and the lobsters were sent in common carts, 53850.—A motor omnibus service from Carna and Kilkerrin to Rosmuck and Maam Cross Railway station would place the neighbourhood within easy reach of Galway, Dublin, and London markets; market tickets from Maam Cross to Galway at low prices were issued twice a week, 53852.—Witness was a Rural District Councillor, and was sure the Council would allow a penny in the pound rate towards improving roads and bridges for a motor service, 53853-6.—The rural district had a valuation of £18,000; the expense would be considerable, but all Connemara would benefit, 53857-61.—The Oughterard district could also contribute; omnibuses could carry both passengers and goods, 53852, 53861.—The company which purchased lobsters in Carna took them away in tanks to keep them alive; they were carried in large boats like small schooners, 53839.—Want of money and inability to combine would prevent the fishermen doing the same; tanks of lobsters could not be taken to Galway in hookers, because bad weather would cause delays, 53837-42.—Lobsters were formerly sent by boat to Galway, but often died en route when weather delayed the boats, 53843, 53851.—Lobsters would survive delays if kept in a tank, but it was less trouble to send them to a station, 53444-9.

Competition Needed.

Better prices could be obtained for lobsters and kelp, and dried seaweed if competition were greater; for the fish curing stations should be established, and would attract more buyers, 53861, 53862-3.

Kelp.

Kelp was burned in kilns 7 feet by 3 and burned all day and all night till it ran into liquid, on which there was loss; if three or four kilns were used instead of one the kelp would be in small lumps, and there would be less loss, 53866-7.—In the smaller

O'CONNOR, Mr. CHRISTOPHER—*continued.*

kilns most of the kelp would be a fine dust; the people preferred the larger kilns, because in them the kelp ran into a liquid mass into which all the dust was taken up, 53868.—Price of kelp varied from year to year; a few people got £4 a ton, but £5 15*s.*, £3 10*s.*, and £3 were ordinary prices; in 1907 the price was good because the wet weather made drying weed difficult, and less kelp was made, 53869-71.—Variation in price was supposed to depend on the quality of the kelp, but did not, 53872.—Agents wanted kelp containing only red weed and courlagh; black kelp, that is kelp made with black weed, was not required; in judging kelp buyers went not only by the test, but by information received from their spies as to what kind of weed was used by each kelp-burner; sometimes the same kelp had been refused when brought in by one man, and when he gave it to a neighbour to bring in it was bought, 53873-7.—Adulteration consisted in putting less valuable weed in with the more valuable, and putting in black instead of tangled weed; witness had no sympathy with people who put in stones, 53878.—Witness had seen the agent test kelp by putting it in a glass and pouring a liquid over it; witness had heard of the test failing, 53879-81.—Mr. Hazell was the only agent for kelp in Carna and Roundstone; he had sub-agents who bought for him; a few years ago a company began buying dried seaweed at 1*s.* 6*d.* a cwt., and continued doing so for a few years, but had since stopped; whilst they were buying Mr. Hazell also bought the dried weed at 1*s.* 7½*d.* a cwt., but ceased when they did, 53882-3.—Five cwt. of dried seaweed went to a cwt. of kelp, 53884-5.—At that time Mr. Hazell was giving £4 10*s.* for kelp, and paid well both for good and bad kelp, 53888-9.—Price of kelp varied with supply; before the mackerel and herring fishing began, seven years ago, all the people made kelp, and prices were low; two or three would get £4 at the beginning of the season, but at the end only £2 or £1 10*s.* were given; when fishing was successful there was less kelp and prices were better, 53889-91.—The people would prefer selling the weed at 1*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. to making kelp; this was equivalent to £7 10*s.* per ton of kelp, 53894-5, 53897.—Purchase of dried seaweed by Government would compel its purchase by the company, 53896.

KELLY, Mr. JOSEPH.

See pp. 64-5.

Congestion in Connemara.

Witness lived in Cashel, and was a schoolmaster there; he had been deputed to give evidence by a committee of men at Roundstone selected to deal with congestion; he had lived twenty-five years in the "congested" districts of Connemara; these districts contained vast wastes of bog and swamp interspersed with small patches which could with great difficulty be made to produce poor crops, chiefly potatoes, which throve best; amongst the wastes were some tracts of better quality, none of which were in the possession of the smaller tenants, thought it was the latter and their ancestors who originally made these tracts fertile, only to be expelled from them; these better tracts were now usually farmed by professional men or local merchants; witness remembered cases of such transfers occurring in a district similar to Connemara, and in which he had lived almost twenty-five years before coming to Connemara; at present holders paid rents with money sent by relatives in America; the small holdings called "stripes" were usually occupied by two or more tenants, and if one co-tenant failed to pay his rent all on the holding were evicted; the landlords had cared little for the miseries of their tenantry, and should be bought out, and such land as was of value should be distributed to the tenants, 53911.

Compulsory Purchase.

Purchase should be compulsory, as there was little prospect of voluntary sales, 53911.

Congested Districts Board.

Congested Districts Board should be the purchasing body, as their work had hitherto had good results;

KELLY, Mr. JOSEPH—*continued.*

Ireland had an excessive number of Boards and Departments, many of them very inefficient; if Congested Districts Board were disolved or merged in another Department, the result would probably be the transfer of their duties to less experienced hands, in which the people would have less confidence; Department of Agriculture had scarcely touched the district about Cashel, though one of their instructresses had lectured there a few years before, but for too short a time to effect much good, 53911.

Shopkeepers.

The local shopkeepers took advantage of the general poverty, and it was they who filled the Bench and the public boards, and they were able to compel their debtors to vot efor them, 53911.

Industrial Resources of Connemara.

Valuable and extensive tracts of marble existed in the neighbourhood, and had so far been little worked; there was valuable granite which had been entirely neglected; the manufacture of peat might be tried, and the frequent wet years would render it remunerative; kelp-making was but little practised in the Cashel district; lace-making or needle-work and a woollen factory might retard emigration, 53911-2.—Irish was spoken about Cashel, and was taught in witness's school, 53913-4.—Witness conducted a carpentry school, 53915-6.

Agricultural Education in National Schools.

Agricultural education should be given to boys in National schools through the medium of a plot for the production of vegetables attached to the school; the old method of teaching agriculture theoretically in schools was of little use, 53917-8.

Cooking Instruction.

Instruction in cooking the vegetables grown might profitably be given to girls by the schoolmistress; space was not available in the schools, but it would be advisable to have a galvanised kitchen erected for the purpose, and the vegetables cooked could be converted into a meal for the scholars; qualifications for teaching cooking might be lacking in teachers, 53919-22.—An instructress in cooking sent by Department had given lessons in Cashel, but in too theoretical a manner; an instructress sent by Congested Districts Board had done better, 53922-3.

Feeding of School Children.

Feeding of children at school would enable them to learn better, but touched their pride; it had been necessitated on six occasions since witness came to Cashel; it could be avoided if the general condition of the people were improved, 53924-5.

School Attendance.

The percentage of attendance at school in Clifden Union had risen to 62 per cent. of those on the rolls since the enforcement of the compulsory clause; previously it was 50 to 55 per cent., 53296-9.—School fees had been seldom paid in Connemara, but were often entered as received in order to secure instalments on the results system, 53931-2.

Illiteracy.

The percentage of illiteracy was small among the rising generation, but considerable among their elders, 53933.—The present educational system, so far as it related to technical instruction, was unsatisfactory; it was called Bevisism after the inventor, Mr. Bevis, and consisted of paper-folding and similar work; something leading up to the practical occupations of life would be more useful, 53934-5.

MONGAN, Mr. MARTIN.

See pp. 65-7.

Kelp.

Witness lived at Carna, and was a small farmer who kept a small hotel and shop, 53936-7.—Witness had formerly acted as kelp agent, and now employed

MONGAN, Mr. MARTIN—*continued.*

men making kelp, which he sold to Mr. Hazell, 53939-43.—He was tenant of some islands where the best kelp weed in Connemara was obtained; he supplied boats and weed to kelp-makers, gave them some assistance, and received one-third of the earnings; the kelp was sold in his name, 53943-4, 53946.—The seaweed was burned on witness's land; it grew on the foreshore, 53945-6.—Witness superintended the preparation of kelp when he could, 53947-8.—His kelp received the best price, namely, £4; when he himself was agent he gave £4 10*s.*, and Mr. Hazell at that time gave £5 per ton, 53949-50, 53962-5.—In the summer of 1907, when the weather was wet and unfavourable to kelp-making, the price was good; one employé, with the help of his two boys, made £30 in two or three months, of which £10 was witness's share; these workers also had a farm to look after, 53952-5.—No one but Mr. Hazell had bought kelp in Carna parish within the last five years; there was one buyer in Arran, but no others in Connemara or Connaught except the North British Company, 53956-8, 53994-5.—It was reported that the company employing Mr. Hazell had bought out the smaller companies, 53960.—Witness was formerly agent for a Mr. Belt of Guernsey, who had given up the business on account of his health, but who might resume it; witness had no reason to suppose that Mr. Belt had an arrangement with Mr. Hazell's company, 53942, 53961-2.—A company had bought dried seaweed at Roundstone, giving £7 for an amount of seaweed which, converted into kelp, would fetch £4, 53966.—Witness had employed no scientific test when he purchased kelp, 53968, 53983-4.—In Mr. Hazell's test the kelp was ground into powder, and vitriol was poured on it, the quality being known by the way the kelp boiled, 53969.—Witness had had no reason to complain buyers had acted dishonestly in paying him for kelp; he had known instances of black weed being put into kelp; it was seldom put in now, 53970-1.—The full price was always given for properly made kelp, 53975-6.—Witness did not think that 25 per cent. more could be obtained by putting better work into the kelp, 53977-9.—When witness purchased kelp he sent trustworthy men round to see if black weed was being put into it, 53985-8.—The price fell immediately after witness gave up buying, 53989.—Carna parish produced about 1,500 tons of kelp per annum, 53990-2.—It would be no advantage if Congested Districts Board gave information to kelp-burners respecting price of kelp in other districts, as burners were already aware of them, 53993-6.—Two men could collect twenty-four tons of wet seaweed, which was enough to make a ton of kelp in eight days; it took at least a week of favourable weather to dry and cock the weed, 53997-54001.—A day was occupied in burning the ton, and a day or two in taking it to the store, 54001.—Deducting witness's third, this would work out at 2*s.* 6*d.* a day for the men, which would pay well, but the weather never allowed the work to be done so quickly; in bad weather it would take a month, 54002-4.—The wind never affected the work, but rain did, 54005.—The price of kelp was not affected by the increase of fishing; there were only a few little boats near Carna, 54007.

Debts to Shops.

The population in Carna had not grown poorer in recent years, 54008-9.—Debts to shops sometimes remained unpaid for years, 54012.—On a turnover of £1,000 per annum a shop might have £300 of outstaning debt, but the people were honest, and paid when they could, 54013.—Witness had £300 or £400 of bad debts, due from emigrants to America, 54014-7.—When some members of a family did not emigrate the people took a pride in paying their debts, 54017.

Land in Carna.

There was little real land in the neighbourhood; witness had thousands of acres which would not support a cat, 54013.—He would be willing to sell any land he had that would be useful to the parish; he had given Congested Districts Board land at Knockboy on which they had expended £9,000 or £10,000; Knockboy was an evicted farm obtained by witness

MONGAN, Mr. MARTIN—*continued.*

from a friend, 54019-21.—Witness would buy it back at a poor rate; an Englishman bought it for £1,100 and was evicted by Board within twelve months; this was the only eviction witness had seen in Carna during twenty years, 54022.

Fishing and Transit.

Fishing had good prospects for Carna, 54022.—A curing station should be established at Crumpaun, where there was a natural pond below the pier, 54023.—If a motor service from Carna to Rosmuck and Kilkerrin were established fishing boats would resort to Carna, 54022-3.—There was great loss on lobsters and herrings for lack of transit, and it would pay to have a motor service for them throughout the year, 54025-6.—The District Council would contribute to the necessary improvement of roads; Oughterard and Clifden districts would be concerned; the one was valued at £150,000, the other at £170,000, which at 1*d.* in the pound would produce £135; no more would be wanted, 54027.

CONROY, Rev. MARK.

See pp. 68-73.

Compulsory Powers for Acquisition of Land and Fixing of Price Advocated.

Where congested districts were surrounded by fertile grass lands, as in East Galway, the congestion problem was fairly simple, but on the West Galway coast the population—despite emigration, equalling probably that of pre-Famine days—was confined between the sea and mountains on small and wretched holdings, and grass lands were almost non-existent; neither the Congested Districts Board nor the Estates Commissioners had done much for this district, where congestion was at its worst, and to ensure better results in future compulsory powers should be conferred, 54031, 54183-6.—Some landlords had been unwilling to sell for a fair price, *e.g.*, the Blake Minors Estate had been offered for direct sale, but the parties had not been able to come to terms, and witness believed the matter was now closed; rents were being paid—low rents—for the place was the poorest in the district; the estate was now in the Lord Chancellor's hands, and its management by a committee made a difficulty, 54127-37.—Compulsion should be applied generally in Galway, and prices should be compulsorily fixed for buyers and sellers; any possible loss involved by the transaction should certainly not be borne by a particular class, 54126, 54153-6.—The acquisition of mountain land in the district would be of some use as commonage, but witness thought it better that each person should have a separate holding, 54186-7.

Suggested Means for Abolition of Rundale.

An estate without much rundale had been sold direct, but rundale prevailed generally in the district; rundale on property might not, but should prevent a direct sale; no such case had occurred, but if one should an effort should certainly be made to rearrange the rundale, a bar to all progress, 54074-83.—One remedy would be that the Board or Estates Commissioners should stripe the land before the sale took place; many tenants would doubtless consent, being alive to the inconvenience and loss entailed by rundale; striping after purchase would depend on themselves, 54084-7, 54140-3.—The tenants could without the agency of a third party exchange plots with one another, and so consolidate their holdings; there would be difficulties, as friction would probably arise, but it had been done amicably; much might be done if the Board offered facilities; when property in rundale was to be sold it was usual to apply to the Estates Commissioners, who bought under Section 6 at the landlord's price, and then re-arranged holdings, 54087-96, 54139.—An agent might represent the Board on a large area, and if he found the tenancy on a big holding was about to be wound up he might give a loan to facilitate the purchase of the plot by the neighbours; the people themselves had bought little holdings that way; witness did not know if the Board's interference would create local grievances, but the public weal should be the first consideration, 54096-9.—Abolition of rundale would make holdings far more productive; fences would be maintained,

CONROY, Rev. MARK.—*continued.*

mountain land reclaimed, while exclusive ownership of self-contained holdings would also lead to improved houses, etc., 54034.

MIGRATION.

Witness believed people would be willing to migrate if offered fair holdings at a distance, though few had migrated lately; people were almost equally poor, but as a rule the poorest would be most inclined to move, 54144-6, 54188.—The extent to which migration would be necesary depended on the development of fisheries, kelp-making, Carrigeen moss, jelly-making, etc., 54031.

POSSIBILITIES OF FISHERY DEVELOPMENT.

The Fisheries Commissioners' Report showed that fishing in local waters from small boats of the "nobby" class was difficult owing to the strong winds and ground swells of the west coast, and the migratory habits of the fish; this, like other now decadent industries, had flourished under native rule, not perhaps in Spiddal, but certainly at Costello Bay, 54031-3, 54042.—Spiddal Harbour was filling up with sand, and was now chiefly used as a refuge for boats from Rosmuck, Carna, etc., taking turf to Galway; about twenty fishing boats had lately put in from Claddagh; they came, too, from Galway; the coast seemed suitable for fishery development, but fishing was only carried on in a small way with lines, 54043-8.—The Board had made an unsuccessful effort to develop fishing at Costello Bay, but there had been many complaints from boatmen, and apparently a general misunderstanding; the boats were nobbies, the Greencastle yawl not being used at all; there had been no attempt to use local canoes and provide them with nets, though the men thought small boats as good as nobbies, 54049-54.—There was a general idea that fishing communities should be established, and the men allowed to follow the migratory fish round the British coast, as did Scotch, French, Manx, and other fishermen; Costello Bay, all clear water, was a fine harbour—one of the few benefits due to the Board of Works, and there was a large population in the immediate neighbourhood; a steamer stocked with fish could enter, and granted a railway, it ought to be the landing place for the Aran steamer, being much nearer than Galway, 54031, 54034, 54055-64, 54169.—If people gave up their miserable holdings they would be dependent on the fishing, from which many might get profit, if they were given reasonable facilities, as Costello Bay men were used to seafaring, 54058, 54162-6.—Curing stations should be established, that at Costello Bay being very important, as the cured fish trade alone was independent of railways, 54034, 54170-1.

NECESSITY OF TRANSIT FACILITIES—IVEAGH-PIRRIE SCHEME ADVOCATED.

There could be no development of fishing or any industry on the coast without cheap and fast railway facilities; the line from Galway to Clifden was practically useless to the bulk of Connemara people on the coast between Galway and Roundstone, as Mr. Balfour had declared; a line from Newcastle, near Galway, to Costello, some twenty miles, at a cost of about £100,000, would serve not only the 20,000 people between Galway and Carraroe and adjacent islands, but also those on the Aran Islands, and, according to competent authorities, it would pay well, 54034.—It would pretty well follow the telegraph line going from Galway to Costello, then out to Aran; witness thought that Costello, which would be the terminus, was nine miles from Aran, whereas Galway was 30 or 35, 54167-9.—The people of Costello, Carraroe, and adjacent islands were cut off from markets and the outer world; women walked fifteen miles from Inverin to Galway with eggs, poultry, etc., on Fridays, returning next day, sometimes taking germs of fever from a poor lodginghouse, 54034, 54108.—Failing a railway, a road motor train service would probably meet the district's needs; it was claimed that the distribution of traction power over the whole length of the train prevented damage by the engine to roads and bridges; and that the propulsion of

CONROY, Rev. MARK.—*continued.*

wagons made it possible to surmount gradients impossible for a traction-engine, 54034.—The need of transit facilities had been recognised by the Galway County Council; witness thought three years ago, when they had voted £1,000 to prepare the road for the Iveagh-Pirrie motor scheme, but this should be paid for by the Treasury to atone for past neglect, and not by the over-burdened ratepayers; the rate of 1*s.* 10*d.* on land was excessive for some unions, 54034-8, 54112-18, 54152.—The length of road was about twenty miles, and witness thought the cost would be five times the estimate of the County Surveyor, 54038A-9.—Lord Iveagh and Mr. Pirrie had wished to apply their scheme to the whole country, and certain County Councils having rejected it in favour of railways, it had not been thought worth while to adopt it for the sake of three or four places in Galway, 54119-25.—The proposed expenditure by Galway County Council was a well-known fact, and Mr. Wyndham had said in the House that he had considered the scheme, 54151.—It had been brought before the Council in regard to the carrying of fish and goods generally in the district, Costello Bay being specially mentioned, also its importance to Aran; witness did not know of any place where carriage of fish by motor had been tried, and was not aware that it had been proved unsuccessful, 54200-04.—The Irish could become prosperous and progressive only when allowed to manage their own affairs, 54034.

FOSTERING OF HOME INDUSTRIES, &C., BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ADVOCATED.

National schools and technical instruction classes should teach domestic economy suited to local needs, and instruct in regard to the potato blight, common diseases of animals—pigs especially; Irish industries had been killed by Acts of Parliament, and witness agreed with Mr. Micks' report that the work of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction should not be purely educational, but it should encourage by advice and money the starting of industries; the egg and poultry business might be better, and the famous Connemara ponies should not be improved out of existence; the success of crochet classes at Spiddal and Costello showed the importance of promoting other suitable home industries; young people should not be educated at Ireland's expense to benefit countries to which they must emigrate; those who had set up the woollen factory and the granite and marble works in Galway had done something to stop emigration and help the people, 54031, 54034.

GRANITE AND MARBLE QUARRIES IN GALWAY.

There were quarries being worked in Spiddal; and beautifully-coloured granite came from Bevan, Ferrybank, Shantalla, and Spiddal; any increase in the work would mean more employment for the people, but witness had no idea whether a big extension of quarries would be feasible, nor how many people were now employed; granite was polished at the quarries; specimens of red, green, white, and black Galway marble were exhibited in the Church; there was plenty of stone in the country, 54172-82.

KELP INDUSTRY.

There was no kelp-burning in Costello, nor, so far as witness knew, on any part of that coast; the special weed needed was not plentiful, and what weed there was was almost necessary for manuring; people might, as in other places, go out to sea for deep-water seaweed; in other parts of Connemara the weed was taken regularly off the rocks, 54031, 54066-72.

MORE FUNDS NEEDED FOR WORK OF PARISH COMMITTEE.

The Parish Committee system had been a great success here, as everywhere, but the grants had been inadequate; the two parishes together, containing about 10,000 families, were most congested; an outhouse was begun first, then the dwelling-house improved, but though much had been done, at least £300 a year was needed—for how long witness could not say—to improve land and get houses into good condition; he thought the last grant, like the preceding one, had been £150, 53034, 54099-106.—The Parish Committee would be a good instrument for the distribution of

CONROY, Rev. MARK—*continued.*

seeds, *e.g.*, parsnip, turnip, carrot, and onion; they could sow certain patches, and the people would grow more used to the cultivation of vegetable seeds, 54198-9.

ALLEGED INSANITARY CONDITION OF SPIDDAL.

Witness did not think Spiddal exceptionally unhealthy as regarded manure heaps, but perhaps it was in so far as the houses were huddled together, making sanitation and cleanliness difficult; the district had had rather a bad name, but typhus had always come from Galway; once the school inspector had brought it from there; it might sometimes be due to the turning of manure heaps in spring, and there were none in Galway; but witness thought the overcrowding of rooms far more dangerous; typhus was well known to be in the numerous Galway lanes, 54107-11, 54195.—The sub-sanitary officer in Spiddal sometimes brought people into court to compel them to remove their manure heaps, the good work in this respect of Parish Committees having partially succeeded, 54147-50.—Witness hoped typhus would be eliminated by the Parish Committees and Congested Districts Board, 54193-5.

OBJECTIONS TO COTTAGE HOSPITALS—WORK OF DISTRICT NURSES.

Witness was strongly opposed to the establishment of cottage hospitals recommended by the recent Viceregal Poor Law Commission as entailing great expense on the county without adequate return; serious accidents seldom occurred in a purely agricultural country; in the rare case in which a patient could not be taken to the union or county hospital he could be treated as well at home with help of a district nurse; the district nurses sent by Lady Dudley's Committee had saved many lives, relieved much suffering, instilled ideas of sanitary science, and exercised a humanising influence; the Board should help them, as a sufficient number would go far to obviate the need for cottage hospitals, 54034, 54189-92.—Cottage hospitals would not always be well managed, and would not always inspire confidence, 54034, 54073.—Provision should be made for fever cases; there might be movable sheds at the union hospital, which could be wired for by the sub-sanitary officer, and put up at almost twenty-four hours' notice; fever patients, however, would not often want to go there, far preferring the union hospital, 54193-7.

M'DONAGH, MR. PATRICK.

See pp. 73-7.

TRANSIT FACILITIES NEEDED TO DEVELOP FISHING, &C.

Transit facilities were the foremost necessity of the county; the district between Galway and Costello, containing such places as Carraroe, Carrowmore, and Lettermullen, was densely populated; this last should be the terminus of a railway, and a steamer could run from there to Arran, eight or nine miles, instead of going thirty miles to Galway; some other places, *e.g.*, Costello, would doubtless serve the purpose, too, but Lettermullen was nearest Arran, 54212-14, 54276-9.—The steamer would be useless without the railway; it was all very well the Congested Districts Board offering luggers and cars; witness had seen a catch of 12,000 herrings which had to be rowed the whole way to Galway, instead of going straight to market by train from Lettermullen, 54219.—The voyage from Arran could be made oftener, because more quickly and easily, and the railway would be fed by larger traffic both of goods and passengers; even now hundreds of carts went to Galway with oats, barley, Carrigeen moss, etc., returning with other goods, and hundreds of women walked barefoot, carrying poultry, eggs, butter, lobsters, etc., and a railway would greatly increase this marketing; transit facilities would also develop the fishing at Costello and along the shore, and would probably open up the district to tourists and fishermen, as the country abounded in free fishing lakes; visitors would bring life into the district, 54214-5.—Mr. Balfour had effected a change in the West by means of railways, but unfortunately the line had been to Clifden, through a barren mountain, passing no populated places but Moycullen and

M'DONAGH, Mr. PATRICK—*continued.*

Oughterard, whereas a coast railway would be near the fish, people, etc., 54218.—Transit facilities would allow the starting of factories which would employ many people; premises could be got in Spiddal, and perhaps a peat factory might be tried; witness believed the industry of compressed peat had been tried in Ireland unsuccessfully, but there might be a better way of making it, 54215.—Transit and fishery development would do away with relief works, which only gave labour and a little food; if Government gave something substantial the people might become law-abiding, 54288.—The granite quarries might be developed, 54215.

WORK OF PARISH COMMITTEE.

Of late years the people had shown a desire for better houses and sanitation, thanks to Lord Killanin and the local priest of the Parish Committee; in winter, when people had most time, the Committee improved houses and holdings, and gave free grants when necessary for materials, *e.g.*, timber, etc.; they gave £5 for a new thatched and £7 10*s.* for a slated house; 30*s.* for an out-house, 6*s.* for a window, £1 for a concrete floor, etc.; at first people were slow to respond, but now double the grant could be distributed; the Committees worked over an area 18 miles long, and it was most desirable to increase the small grant of £150, a part of which went to pay the supervisor, 54215, 54240-1.—Given £300 a year for the two parishes, which probably contained between 7,000 and 8,000 people, draining the land and road-making might be encouraged; holdings could not be enlarged, but the needed improvements were many times the value of the present grant; new houses, for which there were many applications, encouraged tenants to make improvements, and did not increase congestion, because people moved from small villages to the boreen, 54215, 54240-2, 54262-5, 54291-7.—The work was excellent; new houses were built near a public road or good bohereen, the old ones often causing fever or the spread of infection, being invariably, but not compulsorily, pulled down; the Committee was gradually destroying the once all-prevalent custom of keeping horses, pigs, and cattle in dwellinghouses, and more windows were being made; the work might be finished in five or six years with the present grant, 54215, 54262-4.—Usually the Committee paid half the cost of a house; this, well thatched, contained three rooms, and was 32 or 34 feet by 16 or 18 feet measured inside, about 500 superficial feet; a family of twelve would live in it; the grant encouraged the people to provide the rest of the money, and to give their labour; the wretchedness of their houses, without plaster of gable-ends, made them eager to do this; the houses bought by the Board for £70, £80, or £100 were probably built under contract, 54248-59.

FACILITIES FOR POTATO-SPRAYING, &C., ADVOCATED—NEGLECT OF DISTRICT BY THE BOARD.

People, at first doubtful about potato-spraying, were now anxious for it, and should be helped in so important a matter; the Board should supply the stuff cheaper, too, than now, and the Parish Committee would sell it at cost price, allowing time for payment; except for the small grant and a couple of crochet classes, the Board had done little for the district; but with more attention and a continuance of the present results of peasant-proprietorship, witness took a hopeful view of the people's condition, 54215, 54237-40.

DRAINAGE.

A man should only be compelled to keep his house-drains and so forth in order; the drainage of the entire holding would be undertaken by the Parish Committee if granted sufficient funds; witness agreed, however, that the upkeep of his holding by each individual would mean the up-keep of the district, and so be beneficial, and he did not object to enforcement of this by a friendly, sympathetic inspector, 54302-09.

AMALGAMATION OF HOLDINGS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED—SUB-DIVISION PROHIBITED BY LAW.

Amalgamation of holdings was, happily, often taking place now, and should be encouraged; in particular cases, *e.g.*, when the owners of a holding were

M'DONAGH, Mr. PATRICK—*continued.*

dead, or childless, or if, as would occasionally happen, they wished to migrate, the Board might advance money for the purchase of the holding by neighbours, 54215, 54222, 54271-5.—Sub-division should always be stopped; this might perhaps be done by Act of Parliament enforced by the constabulary or the medical or sub-officers; sub-division was not recognised by Government, the Land Commission being able to sell out any tenant-purchaser who sub-divided during the annuity period, 54215, 54222-6, 54300-1.—It seldom happened that people wished to enlarge a house for a son wishing to marry, and it should be possible to prevent the building of a new one for him on the same holding, though, of course, people might let holdings amongst themselves; it might not be necessary to take strong measures now, as the people themselves, owning on an average ten or fifteen acres, were beginning to see clearly the evils of sub-division; especially was this the case with purchasers through the Board; they might, however, return to old habits, 54224-36, 54269-70.—Witness did not believe sub-division had been connived at by landlords or their agents to obtain more rent, but it was the custom for a father to divide his holding; hence its miserable condition, 54285, 54283.—Sub-division had to some extent prevented emigration in the past, but emigration would be far better than people halving eight or ten acres, and then cursing Government because they were starving, the unfortunate ratepayers being made to help them, 54319-22.—The clause forbidding sub-division during the annuity period should be made a perpetual restriction; witness knew nothing about the Irish Parliamentary Party, but disagreed with it if it was opposed to legislation forbidding sub-division; he would approve of State interference, even in cases where there was no annuity, 54267, 54283-4, 54310-18.—He had never heard of the proposal to stop subdivision by the retention by Government of a small interest, a sort of quit-rent in holdings now sold outright, and could not discuss the matter; he would not himself like to pay more, or be interfered with by Governmeent, but he was totally against sub-division of ten or twelve acres of land; the method of prevention must be left to lawyers, 54323-40.

Improved Condition of Tenant Purchasers.

The economic condition of tenants who had bought their holdings was better than that of others; the holding was cheaper, the rent could not be raised, and they took more interest in a property that belonged to them; except where there was a family the people were in debt to the shopkeepers of the district; witness believed a man who had not bought his holding was in greater danger of debt than others, having more money to spend, 54286-90.

Potatoes.

The people relied on potatoes for their maintenance, and these were grown more than oats, and quite as much as formerly, 54280-2.

M'HUGH, Rev. REDMOND.

See pp. 77-81.

Congestion in Rosmuck Parish.

The entire parish of Rosmuck, composed of wild mountain and reclaimed bog, was congested; the people's condition was most miserable, and their prospects gloomy in the absence of any measure to enlarge or improve their holdings; there were 650 families, 160 of whom had holdings valued under £1; about 220 were valued under £2; about 100 under £3, and the rest over £3, but under £5; none of these holdings were economic, 54342.

Migration should be Encouraged by Loans from the Congested Districts Board.

Migration, at least to some extent, was a necessity; there were no grass lands, but there were large mountain tracts, *e.g.*, between Costello and Spiddal on the south, and from Maam to Oughterard on the north, chiefly held by outside graziers; to these, people could be moved who had families able to work; this land

M'HUGH, Rev. REDMOND —*continued.*

would be much better for tillage than the rocky soil by the shore, and State aid should be given for its reclamation; the present holdings of those migrating could be used to enlarge other holdings, 54342.—Witness knew a great many people who were most anxious to migrate if given the chance, and the success of a few would be an inducement to others; the assertion that Rosmuck people were not industrious was a slander; otherwise bare existence on their poor land would be impossible, 54344-55.—A Rosmuck man would certainly be able to till in East Galway; he would grow the same crops—potatoes, cereals, and green crops, but on better land and under better conditions than at home, 54356-60.—A little capital would be needed, and the Congested Districts Board might give a cheap loan; the people were most anxious to repay loans, their promptness in this respect being proved by the regularity of their annuity payments, 54361-6.—Very many Rosmuck people had friends and relatives in America who sent home £3 and £4 and more to meet Christmas shop bills; many would give money from their savings to help those at home to migrate; these last should not be worse off than their neighbours, but should be given every chance, lest they should be unjustly blamed for failure to till properly, 54367-77.—A rumour that people living at Rosmuck, Carna, and Carraroe were to be migrated inland had brought witness a letter from a man in America who wanted a farm at home, though he was earning £1 a day; he had a holding to give up in witness's parish, in the Joyce country, near the congested district, 54368, 54430-2.

Peat Industry Hampered by Lack of Roads and Piers.

The congestion on small, rocky patches on the shore was chiefly due to the lack of roads and even by-roads, by which seaweed and sand for manuring unreclaimed land might be brought from the shore to the mountain land; people depended a good deal on peat—their only industry in many cases—and this was much handicapped by lack of roads and piers; in the townland of Upper Thomas people had to carry turf on their backs, put it into boats, row three miles, again carry it, and re-load hookers or small boats with it; in Lower Thomas turf was often rowed out to hookers, and in Lettermacrag, north of Kinvara, people paid 6*s.* or 8*s.* for carting a boat-load of turf four miles to the pier, where they waited till a boat was free to take it; all this could be remedied by building a few piers and making roads from the bogs to the existing public roads, 54342, 54454.—Piers were chiefly needed for weed, and for the turf exported to Arran, Kinvara, New Quay, etc.; they should be at Upper and Lower Thomas; the first would not need a road, but half a mile of road would be needed for the second; piers and roads, costing about the same, would not be expensive; there was a pier in the district, and the bohereen leading to it should be made into a road, and so save three miles to people carrying turf, 54451-65.—The County Council could give a grant of one-third for a road, but experience made witness certain they would not help now, 54466-7.—The Board's neglect in building piers at which boats could anchor safely had resulted in wrecks; these boats had been bought by small loans given by the Board, and the people, always grateful, had done their best to pay the instalments punctually, 54342.

The Re-transference of Certain Work from the Department to the Board Advocated.

The Board should buy poor estates, and before giving them to tenants should stripe the mountain and make roads and boundaries; the Board should have a model farm, etc., as they had attempted at the time of the inception of the Agricultural Department; the giving of agricultural instruction and the making of necessary improvements in congested areas should be transferred from the Department to the Board, to which the work had first been given, 54342, 54474-5.—At present but little agricultural teaching was given; a man was occasionally sent to teach spraying, and to supply a certain class of potatoes and seeds to a very few people; the instructor should be resident, at any rate for certain seasons, to teach people how to plant seeds; conditions were about the same now as when the Board gave the teaching; a few, in places

M'HUGH, Rev. REDMOND—*continued.*

where the instructor went, had profited, and witness's crop had been better then, and he knew more about the quality of the manure to be used; the instructor had not been resident, but had come at certain times, and had reached the people far better than the present man did; there was not a member of the County Committee in the district, 54423-9, 54470-3.

Establishment of a Woollen Factory Advocated.

There should be a woollen factory at Screeb or Maam Cross; either place would be central for the Joyce country people, who generally had a good deal of wool to sell, 54342.—The Board would have to support the scheme, at any rate at first; the people's complete ignorance of industrial life, and the question of competition would create some difficulty, but the factory should be on a small scale, to supply the local people with clothing material; this was sometimes made at home, and there were three or four local weavers; witness did not think the Shane woollen factory was working now, 54413-22.—The return of girls from America had changed the fashion of dress in West Ireland, but the establishment of a woollen factory would probably re-create a demand for homespun, 54437-8.

The Acquisition of a Sheep-run Advocated.

The cloth used in Rosmuck generally came from a distance, and it would greatly improve their condition if householders could clothe their families off their farms, but scarcely anyone had sheep; near Rosmuck were about 4,000 acres which could easily be acquired, for a sheep run, from the four graziers who now held it; people would do well if they had sheep on this land; there would be room for domestic industries; it would be a very good thing if in time there were a little exhibition in the district to show what people were doing in their own houses, and that they were able to clothe their households from wool grown on their land, 54439-50.

Motor Car Services Advocated.

Motor car services from Maam Cross, on by Screeb, up to Kilkerrin, and by Carna on to Recess would greatly benefit people in the lower district, who would have a market for fowls, eggs, butter, etc., 54342-3.—There was the strongest necessity for quicker and better means of communication, but a train to Costello would in no way supply the want of a motor service, and was a separate question, 54433, 54468-9.

Kelp Burning.

Kelp burning was a very precarious industry, but better than none, people got from £2 to £5 a ton, Mr. Hazell, a Glasgow agent, giving what he chose; the entire absence of competition was seemingly due to a certain ring; for years witness had seen that agents gave certain people a high price to keep up a fictitious price, while others got less for the same quality of kelp; it would be very beneficial if the Board established a central kiln, to which people could bring the weed, which the Board would burn, and sell, 54378-88.

Condition of Tenant-purchasers.

About half the people of Rosmuck had bought their holdings, and under the Ashbourne Act; those whose holdings were quite near, and those with six or seven acres of arable land were much better off than formerly; instalments sometimes differed, but were from 6 to 7 per cent. less than the old rent; where the holding was very bad it seemed ot make no difference if the rent were lower or not, for the man could never make a living by the land; he had not the same incentive to work as the other man, 54389-95, 54476.

Direct Sale.

Witness was opposed to the direct sale of poor holdings, which should be bought through the Board, 54396-7.

Accumulation of Holdings by Shopkeepers Possible, but not Probable.

It was possible that a small holder might be squeezed out of his holding by a shopkeeper to whom he was much in debt, though witness knew of no such case; perhaps the State should bear in mind the possibility of a man pressed for payment by his creditor, giving what money he had towards the debt, and so getting behindhand with his annuity; if the State then sold the land the shopkeeper might buy the holding, and in time become the landlord of an estate; this was unlikely as the force of public opinion would boycott the shop; such cases were rare, and indebtedness to shops was common in congested districts, 54398-412.—Witness admitted that a shopkeeper might prevent a debtor influencing public opinion against him by threatening to sue him for debt, 54434.

LYONS, Mr. MICHAEL A.

See pp. 81-5.

Occupation of Witness.

Witness, a farmer, owned about 50 acres of land, practically all of which was under grass; he was organiser of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society, 54478-87.

Fishery Instruction Advocated.

Education in fishing was a necessity; the Congested Districts Board made mistakes; witness their failure as to horse-breeding; but they had done a remarkable amount of lasting good, and had certainly acted rightly in regard to fishing, 54488-93.—Fishermen should be concentrated in a fishing village near a useful port and means of transit; a fisherman should have a little land for potatoes, but should look to the sea for his living; in other places men might remain half farmers, but these should follow long-shore fishing, 54494-500.—Instead of resident instructors there might be a school to teach sons of fishermen about modern fishing appliances, or fishing might be taught in the technical school; in the Piscatorial School, Baltimore, Cork, the only one witness knew of, everything connected with fishing was taught—boat-building, net-making, net-mending, and long-shore fishing, and the pupils were taken out to sea; witness thought only boys convicted of begging could be sent to this school built by Lady Burdett-Coutts, 54501-06.—The size of the area supervised by the Board's inspector prevented his giving the personal encouragement necessary to induce near-shore fishermen to fish; for these and for other fishermen, too, there should be men bound to live at certain places on the coast who would only be responsible for their own district, 54507-11.

Agricultural Instruction a Necessary Adjunct to Migration.

Migration, a necessity, would involve the training of young men to use the plough and harrow, and to choose seeds; there were patches here and there suitable for ploughing, and a resident instructor could develop a taste for advanced farming; if a farmer's son did well in his ordinary school course he should be trained by an agricultural instructor to teach, as people would learn readily from a fellow-countryman; only a certain number should teach; some could superintend in the National schools, which would be equally good, 54488, 54513-22.—A migrant could learn what was necessary at an agricultural college between leaving his old holding and taking up his new one, or his wife and children could look after his farm during his two months' course; he would have to learn ploughing on land attached to the college, 54523-29.—The National schools should do something on agricultural lines, as it was better and easier to instil a taste for agriculture in youth than in mature age, 54589-91.

Compulsory Purchase Advocated—Any Loss Involved should be borne by the Public.

Compulsory purchase was a necessity; witness lived on the Comyn's property, in the parish of Spiddal, Tuam, the most congested in Ireland, and the worst as to rundale, 54513, 54532-3, 54573-4.—The tenants had wished the Board to buy it long ago, so that some of them could have been migrated, but the Board had refused, as there were no grass lands for division, and no means of enlarging holdings, 54534, 54557-8,

LYONS, Mr. MICHAEL A.—*continued.*

54561-3, 54576-7.—Most of the tenants had negotiated for the estate at between eleven and twelve years' purchase, but unfortunately the parish priest had advised an offer of 18½ years' purchase, so as to avoid inspection and so forth, and the tenants had withdrawn; the average rent of the holdings was £3, and the difference, six or seven years' purchase, to the annuitant's pocket might not have equalled a dog tax, but 1s. meant a good deal to a poor man; the Estates Commissioners had been applied to, but had left naturally disgusted that so much had been offered for so poor an estate, 54534, 54553-60.—The property had been in the Encumbered Estates Court for thirty years, and last year had been sold for six years' purchase to (witness thought) a Mr. Dally; the poor tenants had never seen the advertisements of the sale in the Dublin papers, and would have been frightened by the idea of paying cash; they could never be made to do anything for themselves; they were illiterate and ignorant, and needed to be reasoned with in Irish; their willingness to give more than six years' purchase had been put before the Court; the Estates Commissioners might not have known about the sale, 54534-5, 54544-9, 54563A-6, 54584-6.—Witness did not know the details of the transaction, but thought the estate had gone to the first of several mortgagees, all of whom had been served with notices of the sale; perhaps the second mortgagee had not appeared in the Land Court, because he and the others had lost patience after thirty years' fruitless waiting, and so had let the sale go by default, 54579-88.—This was the worst of hundreds of cases witness knew of, showing the necessity for compulsory purchase, 54543, 54571, 54576.—Some of the tenants had had fair rents; witness had had a first-term rent sixteen years' ago, and meant to go in for a second-term one, unless the place were soon bought; the price asked was 18½ years' purchase, 54536-42.—There should be compulsion for buyers as well as sellers, but the price fixed should be a fair one; any possible loss involved by the transaction should be borne by the general public, 54568-72.

Work of Agricultural Banks.

Numbers of people in the county and along the West coast generally were oppressed by gombeen men, but the fact that gombeenism was not as prevalent as twenty-five years ago was entirely due to the creation of agricultural banks; gombeenism had not disappeared in districts where these had not been established; their capital was comparatively small, but was increasing, 54592-604, 54614-15.—The co-operative or agricultural credit societies, a different phase of the movement, were meant to buy manure and so forth; the movement was young, and there were very few people to deposit money in the districts where the banks worked, but £36 was not, as stated, the highest deposit made, £50 having been deposited in Sellern Bank last year by Spidall, 54605-13.—It would be better to give work such as building, etc., to these societies than to parish committees; the bank members, who only had to pay an entrance fee, elected to the Bank Committee at the annual meeting representatives of the different districts of the area where the bank worked—men who knew poor men's needs—while anything suggested for the benefit of one member had to be sanctioned by the whole Committee; Parish Committees were not like this, 54616-30.—Witness admitted that seed distribution by the co-operative society was confined to its members, but other people in the parish would not be forced to join, 54631-7.

Parish Committees.

Witness knew nothing about the election of Parish Committees; it would not be strange if the members knew and took an interest in the locality; the parish priest and local doctor and others were *ex-officio* members, and no disparagement of anyone had been intended, 54639-42. The Parish Committee scheme was of the nature of relief, and though people might well be helped, it should be to do substantial work—not small jobs, which would become useless if migration were adopted; no doubt life was made easier, and some cleanliness taught, and witness did not think the help given lessened self-reliance, 54617-22

ROBINSON, Mr. HENRY.

See pp. 85-7.

Land Purchase by the Board Advocated as the Remedy for Rundale.

The townland, Parke, on the Blake Minors Estate, was a bad property in rundale, a £3 holding sometimes being in fourteen bits; the Board had bought part of the estate near Roundstone, the Island Innisnee, which they had greatly improved in a very short time; it was doubtful if they would buy the rest, though it was most desirable they should do so, as they were the only body with power to consolidate the holdings, and so increase the value of the land; it was probably the duty of the receiver, in conjunction with the committee of the estate, to move the Lord Chancellor to make an offer to the Board of property in Chancery, 54643-52.—It was most undesireable that rundale should be perpetuated by direct sale to tenants; there was no objection to purchase by the Estates Commissioners, but the Board seemed the body most likely to work in this congested district; the great point was to improve the tenants' condition, 54653-5.—Only a body armed with the necessary statutory powers could alter the rundale into a striping system; a landlord could not make a tenant move from one plot to another, and only before 1881 had he had power to stripe and to serve notice to quit; rundale had existed during the whole time of witness's receivership, and had mostly arisen before 1881; most landlords had then prevented it, but others had disliked the trouble and expense involved; even prior to 1871 it had been very difficult, one obstacle being the people's conservatism, 54656-68.

Purchase of Estates by the Board *in globo* Advocated.

Land purchase was the chief remedy for congestion; there were numbers of estates between Spiddal and Lettermullen in a very bad way; some had turf and no seaweed, others only seaweed; the Estates Commissioners or the Board should buy these properties *in globo*, so that there could be mutual interchange of benefits; there was not a sod of turf on the St. George Estate, and people were scrawing the ground, and taking the small amount of commonage grass meant for cattle; they burned the sods, leaving only bare rocks, and this could not be stopped, for fire was a necessity; there was plenty of turf on part of the Berridge and Miller Estates; such properties should be handled together, so as to provide all the tenant-purchasers with turbary, 54669-74.

Migration in Groups.

There were vast tracts of commonage attached to some of the estates; it might not be particularly good land, but with roads into it, and seaweed brought there, some of the people might be moved a certain distance, and would probably prefer not to go too far if possible; congestion was chiefly round the shore because of the seaweed; the condition of many small tenants would be greatly improved if commonage were acquired for them; in a sheep district men might be able to clothe their families with the wool, which would be advantageous; but sheep could not be kept everywhere, and it was hard to prevent their getting over fences into gardens, 54675-7.—Only a body like the Board or the Estates Commissioners could improve the condition of Lettermore, Gorumna, and Lettermullen people; some might be migrated, the objection to leaving their birth-place being overcome by moving groups of friends from the same neighbourhood, 54748-9.

Fisheries.

The fishing might be improved; the spring mackerel fishing, lasting through April, May, and June, had, on the whole, been successful at Roundstone; the bay there was very good, and the conveniences adequate to any reasonable developments which might take place; they were not badly off as regarded transit, though a railway would be an improvement, as fish had to be carted five miles from Roundstone to Ballynahinch station; fish were mostly exported fresh; for the last few years a buyer, Mr. Ruane, had come from Galway; a hulk provided by the Congested Districts Board lay in the harbour, and he had sent in

ROBINSON, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

one day 600 boxes of fresh mackerel in Norwegian ice to the English market, where they sold in good condition; if ice ran out, or there was a great glut of fish, they salted them in barrels for America; there were very few mackerel in autumn; but in April, when they were not plentiful, they went up to 15*s* to £1 a box, dropping later to 6*s*., 54678 89, 54695-6.—The people were not skilled fishermen, but the Board had supplied instructors, and many were taking it up for the first time; some boats had failed, others were doing well; there seemed to be some difficulty in getting the instalments for some boats; people went twenty or thirty miles to sea, outside Aran; the increase in the take of fish was due to the Board; no mackerel had been taken before the establishment of that body; young men were glad to fish, and it was not likely the industry would be dropped by those newly engaged in it, 54689-701.—The fishing off Lettermore and Gorumna might be improved; a pier might be built at Kugella, as the fishermen there, when they had tried the mackerel fishing before, had generally had to run into Aran, and wait for a favourable opportunity; witness believed the lack of harbour had made owners give up their boats; he did not think the people there would give up the land for the sea, which they only regarded as a help to a livelihood, 54747, 54750.

Prospects of Developing an Oyster Fishery.

There was a good lobster trade at Roundstone, but the only oyster beds belonged to Mr. Berridge, who collected and sold the oysters himself; they were dredged off a breeding-bed at Rossmuck on to the fattening bed at Cashel Bay; now and then, if the supply ran short, they got foreign, *e.g.*, French oysters; oysters had deteriorated for some reason; the spatting was much less, and the oysters far less numerous; the spat was collected in the natural way; the artificial means used by Mr. Corless at Clifden did not seem to answer any better, 54702-9, 54713, 54732, 54743-6.—When witness had managed these beds oysters had been sent by the thousand to Clare men, who had sold them all wholesale, 54710-12.—The banks were dredged to keep mud and weed away; small oysters were taken up; the oysters over the whole area were disturbed every time any were caught, but if left they were inclined to sink and die; dredging did them good, but was not done often, a lot being dredged together, put down on the bed, and taken off; oysters were only collected from Mr. Berridge's own foreshore, 54714, 54727-30, 54739.—Apparently there was no way of developing the oyster fishery around the coast of Galway, as oysters could not be planted anywhere; the old beds at Lettermore had disappeared; part of the inlet by Gorumna would be very suitable for oysters, and what was done in one place might perhaps be done in twenty, and certainly the central fishery authority might well try the experiment; the fishing was valuable and remunerative; there was always a market for oysters, and they could be carried long distances; the fishermen, too, would not have to go to sea; witness knew nothing of the system followed in France or of the people's eagerness there to get muddy patches of foreshore; the experiment should first be tried on a small scale, as the experience gained in working Mr. Berridge's beds was not encouraging, 54715-26, 54732-4.—The chief expense of watching might be lessened if everyone were interested in the fishery, but it was a question whether oysters would do well in certain places; Mr. Berridge's were indigenous, but they were not numerous elsewhere, though a few rock-oysters might be found here and there; witness did not really believe the business would pay, for though the price of oysters had gone up, the return was far less than thirty years ago, 54735-44.—In some parts when the spring tides were low, crabs and multitudinous other things should be taken off the beds, as they sucked out the oysters, and caused great loss, 54747.—Agricultural instruction was a very good thing, and might do much for the people, 54751.

CURRAN, Mr. PATRICK.

See pp. 87-8.

Means of Livelihood at Loughmore.

Witness was a small farmer at Loughmore, Costello Bay, and fished a little; he had a holding of

CURRAN, Mr. PATRICK—*continued.*

forty acres, including a piece of commonage attached, and he had some grazing lands outside; one-fourth of his holding was waste, and the remainder, though rather bad, might be cultivated; he had a horse, but no one used a plough in his county; he paid a second-term rent of £7 2*s*. 6*d*., but had formerly paid £11 5*s*.; he had not been able to sell his holding a year or two ago; he would not care to give up his fishing, but he did not sell fish, as did some of his poorer neighbours who fished all the time; the larger the holdings the less the men fished, 54753, 54759, 54764-8, 54772-7.

Migration.

There was no chance of making a living in the district, as the holdings were so small, and the land exhausted; land that had once yielded oats would not now grow even the poorest rye; migration was the only remedy, and small loans would be needed to help people till the new holdings yielded a return; people would prefer to migrate all together, 54755, 54770-1.—Witness would go as far as Loughrea, and farther, to get a large holding he could divide with his family, for whose sake he wished to migrate, as otherwise they would always be poor, 54756-60, 54769, 54778-80.—Witness had a married son living on a separate holding with two or three others, who would also like to migrate, 54761-3.

COSTELLO, Mr. PETER.

See pp. 88-9.

The Darby Estate.

Witness lived at Loughanbeg, Inver, Spiddal, Mr. Darby's property, on which there was a head-rent of £350, which explained the small number of years' purchase; a wrong statement had been made about this, 54784-8, 54811-12.—Witness was not sure if Mr. Darby would sell the estate for what he had paid for it; there had been a lot of arrears, some people owing £150 and £200, which he had wiped off, 54822.—The estate should be bought, and roads made up to the mountains; roads, piers, and fishing boats were needed, and a lot of mountain land could be reclaimed, 54783, 54788.

Increase of Poverty in Loughanbeg.

Some people, small owners, would migrate, but the majority would not; poverty had greatly increased; witness did not know why lands were small and poorer than formerly, while families were larger; many went away; people paid less rent, and were not content with what they had once had, 54788-97.—The crops, too, were bad, and a grant should be given for spraying potatoes, 54798.

Indebtedness to Shopkeepers, &c.

Witness was a shopkeeper and farmed land left him by his father, and people owed him about £400 or £500—far more than formerly; the farm would pay pretty well if it had his whole attention; growing competition, due to an increasing number of shops, had necessitated giving more credit than formerly; too much credit increased poverty, but witness saw no remedy; he had never sued anyone for debt in his twenty years of business, 54799-810, 54813-7.—Debtors sometimes came saying they had fasted three days, and he gave them goods; he had never charged interest, and charged no more for goods bought on credit; a man always asked the price of what he wished to buy, and did not bargain harder when not in debt; the credit lasted from three to six years, but few were in debt over four or five years, 54839-45, 54859-60.—Witness and other shopkeepers had licences, and witness would not be able to sell his groceries without his; of course he made some profit on drink; Connemara people came on and off to Galway, and the one business brought in the other, 54857-8, 54861-66.—Witness sold cloth; the people were not extravagant as to dress, 54801-2.—He got tea from Dublin, and sold it from 2*s*. 2*d*. to 2*s*. 8*d*. per lb., 54835-7.

Gombeenism—Agricultural Banks.

About thirty years ago there had been a gombeen man in the district, but there were none now, and

COSTELLO, Mr. PETER—*continued.*

witness, having no expérience of such people, could not say whether they had been replaced by the shopkeepers; agricultural banks had not long been started, and he knew nothing about them, 54846-56.

Migratory Labour.

People seldom went to Scotland, but many went to America, and numbers, as many as sixty in one morning, migrated to Loughrea, Woodlawn, and other places in East Galway, to work on the big farms; they cut turf, moulded potatoes, broke stones, saved hay, ploughed, and worked small threshing machines for oats; they started in March or April, and worked on to Christmas; they might come home for a week or two, then go back; some stayed in East Galway till Christmas; the breaking up of the big tillage farms would diminish the demand for labour, which would not be good for this district, 54818-21, 54823-34.

CONROY, Mr. JOHN C.

See pp. 89-90.

Certain Districts in Galway not Represented on the County Committee.

The County Committee appointed by the County Council, could formulate agricultural schemes subject to the approval of the Department; the County Council levied a tax of 1*d.* in the £ over the whole county, and the Committees distributed the money; the County Councils delegated all their powers to the Committees, agricultural instruction being dealt with by the Agricultural Committee, and technical instruction by the Technical Committee; the needs of a district could only be brought before the Committee by the representatives, and though they tried to allocate the money evenly, a district with no representatives might get nothing, 54869-75.—Part of Galway had been overlooked, neither Carna nor Rossmuck sending representatives; there was no local representative west of Spiddal till Roundstone was reached, for though witness was on the Committee he lived in Galway; though proposed, the name of Father M'Hugh, of Rossmuck, had, for some reason, been left out of the list, and he was only on the Technical Committee at Carna, 54876-80.

Suggested Improvements in Regard to the Kelp Industry.

Since the discovery of the deposit of chloride of potash in certain fields in South America iodine could be made for about 2*d.* an ounce; witness had been in the sub-marine case in Dublin, and the question of kelp and seaweed had been much discussed, both before the Sub-Commission in the Land Commission Court and in the High Court; the above figures had then been quoted, and also, witness thought, published in a pamphlet issued by the Congested Districts Board; the Americans could, if they chose, send 300 or 400 tons of iodine to Europe, and ruin the home industry, but a ring controlling the fields kept up the price to 7*d.* an ounce, and this was not likely to go down for some time; meanwhile the industry, though somewhat unstable, might be improved, 54880-2, 54889-91.—Iodine, being volatile, the kelp should not be burned in open kilns; perhaps retorts might be used, and it would help the kelp industry if the Board could do something along the coast in regard to burning and drying the weed; then 10*s.* a ton now paid for freightage, and the 10*s.* or 12*s.* more paid for commission might be saved if iodine were made in Ireland; there was enough material on the coast of Mayo, Galway, and Clare, to support the industry, 54882.—An agent had stated that red weed (from deep water) and courlagh were equally good for kelp, but iodine could not be extracted from black weed; a little of this last was, however, used, in spite of Mr. Hazell's disapproval; it added to the weight, and the burners said it mixed better, and fetched a higher price; if a kelp factory were established the black weed could probably be used for manure and soap manufacture, and bromide could be extracted from it; millions of tons were yearly going to waste between Costello Bay and Kilkerrin; once it had been sold as manure at 18*s.* a boat-load, whereas now a hooker load could be got for 3*s.* or 4*s.*, and it had not been used at all since the introduction of artificial manures, 54882-9.

CONROY, Mr. JOHN C.—*continued.*

Remedial Measures which should be Adopted in Galway.

Witness thought much might be done to encourage people to reclaim mountain land, especially between Spiddal and Kilkerrin; agricultural education had already brought about a change in many places—notably in Father M'Hugh's parish—in the last nine or ten years, but it could still be greatly improved; the making of roads and piers should be encouraged, and something done for the fishing at Lettermullen; a good pier was needed there, as the boats now had to go to Aran for shelter, 54891.

Refusal of the Board to Buy the Lettermullen Estate.

The Lettermullen tenants had offered in the Landed Estates Court to buy the property for ten years' purchase, but the Board would not touch it; a second offer of twelve years' purchase having been refused by the Land Judge, the incumbrancers, the Scottish Insurance Company, had bought the estate for a large sum; there was no chance of improvements if the Board shirked buying such properties, 54891.

HOSTY, Rev. THOMAS.

See pp. 90-2.

Sale of the Comyns Estate.

Witness agreed with most of what had been said concerning the wants of Spiddal. First it was necessary that the Congested Districts Board should buy the Comyns and Blake Minors estates, which comprised the whole district. The first of these had been bought by Mr. Darby in court a few months ago; about nine or ten years previously the tenants had signed papers agreeing to buy at fourteen years' purchase, but the Land Commission had refused their sanction; after four or five years the tenants had on their own initiative asked witness to negotiate on their behalf for eighteen or twenty-one years' purchase under the zones; Judge Ross, the vendor, having refused this, the solicitor, Mr. Sainsbury, had asked leave to apply to the Estates Commissioners to buy out of court; Messrs. Finucane, Bailey, and Stuart had come to see the place, but had not been favourably impressed, and on returning to Dublin had offered a price which no owner could have accepted; witness had reason to think they had only offered nine years' purchase, and believed they had done this* so that they need have nothing more to do with the estate; he admitted they had known of the refusal of the Land Commission to sanction the sale on the terms first proposed, 54892-6, 54905-09, 54917-19.—It was a pity the Board had not been concerned; there had been a head rent of £265 which had to be redeemed; Mr. Darby, who had the first and heaviest mortgage on the estate, had bought it, but without any idea of making money, and witness believed he was prepared to sell to the Board at whatever price he had given; there were no legal obstacles to a direct sale now from landlord to tenants, but these last were too poor to buy unless the Land Commission advanced the money, and the Estates Commissioners could not sanction a public advance of which they did not approve; the transaction might be effected if congestion were relieved by means of migration, 54916-29.

Migration Possibilities.

There were in the district many thousand acres of reclaimable mountain and bog on which numbers of people from congested estates could be made very comfortable; they would be happier near their old homesteads than if migrated to Westmeath or Roscommon, 54930-2.

Alleged Illiteracy of Connemara Tenants.

Connemara tenants were well versed in the zones, and they were not all illiterate; some were very well informed; newspapers found their way into the district, and witness thought that many of these were not Nationalist; since the Act of 1903 the papers had been full of expressions about the zones, and

* See note on page 91.

HOSTY, Rev. THOMAS—*continued.*

in each village there was a man who could read to the others and explain every phrase; at one time certain people and some Nationalist people had been very fond of the zones, though they now found it convenient to think differently, 54897-904, 54910-15.

Transit Facilities.

Transit facilities were very much needed for the fishing.

LAWLESS, Mr. WILLIAM.

See p. 92.

Acquisition of Grazing Lands advocated.

At Upper Dargan, which was partly in the urban district of Galway, where witness lived, there were six farmers with only four or five acres of land, valued at £5, £4, and £2. Some people might be migrated, but there was enough land in the district for enlargement of holdings, as close to these poor people were 300 or 400 acres of grazing land on the River Corrib which should be divided instead of being in the hands of shopkeepers. With a little more land the farmers could live pretty well on their farms, but now they had to work outside, and labour was slack in Galway, excepting that at the granite quarries, 54935-7, 54940-1.

Urban District Rates.

Witness did not object to living in the urban district, but his grievance partly lay in the fact that rates were high, and farmers had to pay most of them; those who had bought and those who had gone on for a second term had to pay all rates within the urban district, 54939.

O'HALLORAN, Mr. PATRICK.

See pp. 92-3.

Holdings not Self-supporting in Upper Dangan.

Witness could not support his large family on his farm, so he, with others in like case, lived in the town of Galway, as labourers, 54946.—The rent of his five acres was £10 16*s.*, and the rate over £5, 54954.—It was not fit for conacre, but for the last four or five years he had sublet it for grazing, except one acre he tilled for his family; he wanted more land, instead of doing work which ought to be given to the men of the town, 54946-50, 54954-7.

Shopkeeper Graziers.

The lands surrounding witness's farm were held by shopkeepers and graziers from the town of Galway; some of the tenants were entitled to this land, and it should be offered to them before the shopkeepers, who took up little patches of land when they had the chance, leaving nothing to the labouring farmers by whose hard-won earnings they lived, 54943-5.—There were six or seven properties with grass lands in the district; Barna had been offered for sale some time ago to the Estates Commissioners, but they would not take less than twenty-six years' purchase; on the Berridge estate at Bushey Park, about 200 acres of land, instead of being utilised, were sublet, while some of the tenants on the estate had only four or five acres, 54958.

Rise in Price of Land in Upper Dangan.

The price of land was much higher now than thirty years ago, and it was going up, what had once been £4 being now £6 an acre, 54951-3.—It was strange that on one side of the mearing they paid the landlord £1 an acre more on the eleven months system than they paid witness, 54958.

WALSH, Mr. PATRICK.

See p. 93.

Necessity for completion of Road between Ross-a-Veel Pier and Oughterard.

It was essential that the road from Ross-a-Veel Pier to Oughterard, about fifteen miles, should be finished; the road had been begun about sixty years ago, and both ends made, leaving a gap of about four miles; the road had been under contract for twenty years; in 1891 a large part had been made, including a bridge over Bonrahaun River, with money from Mr. Balfour's Relief Fund, but the works had been left derelict since then; the completion of the road would be of the greatest use to the districts of Fermoyle, Muckannagh, Glenniemurrin, Costello, Lettermore, Carraroe and Corumna Islands, and the adjoining townlands, parts of which were very congested; they could use Oughterard, ten to fifteen miles distant, for their market town instead of Galway, distant twenty-two to twenty-five miles and more; the gentlemen occupying the four fishing and shooting lodges between Oughterard and Costello, viz., Lettercaffroo, Fermoyle, Glenniemurrin and Costello Lodges gave considerable employment to the poor and struggling population; at present these lodges could only be reached from Maam Cross Station, round by Screeb and Costello, twenty to twenty-two miles, or direct from Galway, which was much further, whereas Oughterard Station, if connected by the completion of the road, would be only from nine to ten miles; if the amount spent on this work since 1891 had been spent under contract people thought there would have been enough to finish it, 54959.—It was also necessary to make about 400 perches of boreen from the main road at Bonrahaun through the townland of Glenniemurrin; at present the tenants had no carway, and had to carry seeds, manure, &c., either on their own or their horses' backs; they had already made a good part of the road, but were too poor to finish it, because a bridge had to be built over Bonrahaun River, which the school children had to cross, and which was dangerous in floods; the tenants had promised to give both money and labour if they were helped to do the work, 54960.

NAUGHTON, Mr. PATRICK.

See pp. 94-8.

Congestion in Oughterard.

The first necessity of Oughterard Rural District was compulsory land purchase; the second was migration from uneconomic holdings, 54962.—Practically all the tenants would be willing to go, as they could not live where they were, 54964-5.—More than half the tenants should be migrated if anything were to be achieved with the land, especially in Carraroe and Lettermullen, and Gorumna, 54967-9.

Fishing in Oughterard Rural District.

Fishing along the coast could not be successful unless boats and gear were supplied; the system of repaying loan for boats and gear within eight years discouraged the people, who wanted to make money out of the fishing in the first few years; sixteen years should be allowed for repayment; harbourage accommodation should be supplied at such places as Shruffaun so that fishing boats might not lose the ebb of the tide, 54971.—Costello Bay was the centre of the fishing along the coast between Galway and Clifden, and it was the only safe anchorage on the south coast; a harbour should be formed there and a light railway from Costello Bay to Maam Cross or Galway would encourage not only the mackerel, but also the lobster and gurnet fishing, 54971, 54980, 54986-7.—Lobsters kept over a day might not be marketable, 54972.—A railway would save a day and a night in transit, 54976.—A light railway to Maam Cross would be better than one to Galway, as though it meant a longer route to the market, the new construction required would be shorter and therefore cheaper, 54981-3.—The railway would save the boats the necessity of going to Galway, which they could not do on a rough day or in a calm, 54984-6.

NAUGHTON, Mr. PATRICK—*continued.*

Representation of West Galway on Congested Districts Board.

Home industries were backward in Oughterard Rural District, because that neighbourhood had no representation on Congested Districts Board, 54987, 55048.—A member for West Galway should be appointed to Congested Districts Board at the instance of the County Council or the people in general; applications had been made to Local Government Board for the appointment to Congested Districts Board of Bishop M'Cormick of Galway, or Archbishop Healy, of Tuam, 55049.—If there could not be a member for Galway on Congested Districts Board a Committee of the Rural District Council, with statutory powers, and created to make representations to Congested Districts Board concerning the needs of the union, while Congested Districts Board was bound to consider those representations, would be a useful alternative, 55113-21.

Lace Instructresses imported into Galway.

Lace instructresses in West Galway were imported from Donegal and Mayo; Donegal and Mayo girls were brought into West Galway and trained there for lace-work, and then appointed as instructresses, though there were local workers who were their superiors, 54987-90, 54992, 55030-9.—Mr. Walker arranged this, 54993-4.—It had been done at Carraroe lace school, and at Lettermullen, 54994-6, 55046.—Witness was not able to give the names of the teachers he complained of, 54991, 55040-4, 55047.—Local girls should be trained, and where a vacancy for an instructress occurred it should be given to the local girl, 54997-9.—The Carraroe school had been working about six years, 55031.—The original teachers came from Germany, 55032.—Carraroe school was not an especially good one, 55045-6.—Lace-workers complained there was nothing to insure their receiving payment for all the work they did, 55001-3.

Need for Audit of Lace Instructresses' Accounts.

The parish priest or district councillor should have access to the books and see all the money that should be paid out was paid out, 54999-55000, 55004.—Lace-workers were practically sure that some of the money due to them was retained by instructresses, 55005-9.—Witness was aware that there was an exact account of every transaction in the books laid down by the Congested Districts Board, 55011.—The parish priest of Carraroe had not taken much interest in the lace school during the past twelve months, 55012.—Witness had made no inquiry regarding these statements, but was merely repeating what the people said, 55017-26.

Kelp.

Kelp-making was a laborious industry which would never be profitable to Connemara people unless a syndicate were formed to develop it or the purchase and utilisation of kelp were controlled by Congested Districts Board, 55060.—Only one small company bought the kelp and gave what price they chose for it, 55061.—There was always a market for kelp, though it might not be a large one, 55064.

Indebtedness to Shops—Increase in number of Shops.

Witness had inherited a farm and shop from his father, 55067-71.—The indebtedness to the shopkeepers of the people in his neighbourhood had increased in his time, 55072.—Emigrants to America who had returned home with £40 to £60 became shopkeepers, as the latter were the most prosperous class in the neighbourhood; increase in the number of shops meant increase in the credit system, but some shopkeepers were extinguished by giving a little credit, 55073-9.—If there were land to be bought they would rather farm than keep shops, but there was no land obtainable in the neighbourhood, 55080-4.

Compulsory Purchase of Seaweed Rights.

Intermacerra Island, containing 119 acres, was the only grazing land in this district; its chief value consisted in the seaweed which neighbouring holders purchased from the grazier for manure; it would be well if Congested Districts Board were to acquire the island and divide the seaweed into shares as turbary was divided, 55085-8, 55001.—There was sufficient seaweed for all who required it; 5*s.* a ton was usually paid for it, 55089-90.—The people would be content if Board purchased the island, charging a sum for the seaweed equivalent to the interest on the money expended, 55091.—The seaweed could be cut every second year, and thus half could be cut each year, 55092-4.—Witness advocated the compulsory purchase of the seaweed, and the island, 55095-7.—Tenants would thus get their seaweed cheaper, 55100-1.—The sale of the seaweed produced a sum equal to the rent of the island, 55108.—The people who had the weed before the grazier were surely entitled to it, 55110.—If witness held the island he would relinquish it for the public benefit, and accept the Estates Commissioners' price, 55111.

JOYCE, Mr. JOHN H.

See pp. 98-102.

Position of Witness.

Witness was a member of Galway County Council and Galway Committee of Agriculture, by which bodies he had been nominated to give evidence, 55122-3.—He resided at Oughterard, and was a farmer on a small scale and a shopkeeper; he had a licence, 55124-6.

Land Question in Oughterard.

No landlords in Oughterard had sold their property; tenants on O'Fflahertie estate had offered twenty-two years' purchase, and those on Hodgson estate nineteen years; land on Hodgson estate was chiefly mountain and bog similar to that sold on Berridge estate under the Ashbourne Act for ten and eleven years' purchase; land on the Martin and Guilfoyle estates was sold at sixteen years' purchase; the recent Land Act had inflated the price of land 40 per cent.; prices paid under Ashbourne Act were nearer the value than those now demanded by landlords; compulsory powers of sale and purchase were necessary; there was little untenanted land available for distribution about Oughterard, but there were untenanted farms in the Gann and Joyce country and near Cloonbur and in Lettermore; tenants of large residential farms should be offered inducements to sell to Board; they might be offered for their interests a price in excess of the market value; thousands of acres of untenanted land existed around Tuam, Dunmore, Athenry, Loughrea, Ballinasloe, Mountbellew, Portumna, &c.; a solution of the land difficulty could only be arrived at through extensive migrations; migrants should be provided with capital to work their new farms, and would soon learn new methods; a sufficient number would probably be willing to migrate, 55127.

Mineral Resources of Oughterard.

Mines had been worked near Oughterard for over 100 years, but not extensively; enough money to make a real test had not been expended; Congested Districts Board should have power to prospect and clear away old debris and open old shafts so that capitalists could see the resources; witness had been a miner in the Rocky Mountains thirty-five years ago, 55128, 55131, 55137, 55153, 55164-9.—There were indications that copper, lead, silver, barytes, green and black marble, and unlimited supplies of granite and limestone existed about Oughterard, 55127-30, 55149-51.—The value of a mine could not be told from mere surface indications; it was necessary to sink shafts, 55151-2, 55154, 55169.—Mechanical powers had not been used to work these mines, 55131.—An English gentleman was at present prospecting at Oughterard and putting up crushers to crush the ore; he had a lot of men working; witness thought the mine in question was a lead mine, with a small admixture of silver, 55135-6.—There were copper and lead mines at Cloosh and Clegg, and a copper and silver mine at Glann, but the works had been discontinued, 55138-42.—Some of these mines might be taken up again, 55145.—Witness had worked at

JOYCE, Mr. JOHN H.—*continued.*

Montana in a mine which, after being allowed to lie fallow a number of years, was profitably worked, the grain being again struck, 55146-8.—A geological survey of the Oughterard district had been made by Mr. Lyburn; his preliminary report did not show any confidence in the mines, 55155-9.—This survey did not amount to a thorough test of the mineral resources, 55155-63.—If Board started mines and found minerals in large quantities they should not cease operations, but should continue the work or sell to a company, 55170.

Turf Supply for Carraroe and Gorumna.

A vast tract of country between Oughterard and Costello was lying waste, but was capable of cultivation, as it was composed of a light surface cover of peat one or more feet deep with a gravelly subsoil; it should be drained and divided into allotments, to which tenants from Carraroe could be conveniently migrated; applications of coral sand and seaweed would convert it into good tillage and grazing land, but before this was done the unfinished road from Oughterard to Costello should be completed and so bring the people of Carraroe and Lettermore and Gorumna into connection with bogs from which they could obtain turf; otherwise the reclamation of this land would leave them without a fuel supply, 55171-4.—At present they were cutting the soil away for fuel, 55175.—If the bogs were made accessible by the completion of the road the cutting of the surface from the land would probably cease of itself, 55182.—If it did not it should be summarily checked, 55180-1.—The distance to the bog supply this road would open up varied from three to five miles in the three districts, 55183.—There would be a difficulty of transport; some of the people owned horses which could be hired for from 4*s.* to 5*s.* a day, 55184-9.

Knock Ferry.

A causeway or bridge should be constructed across Knock Ferry, and would open up trade between Headford and Tuam and the congested district about Oughterard; turf was plentiful on the Oughterard side of the ferry, and there was none the other side, 55190.—The water was only 700 feet wide at a place between Carrickmuck and Clidy, near the road from Spiddal, and near the Lough Corrib ferry, 55191-4, 55197.—Father Conway had estimated the cost at £10,000 or £12,000, 55195.—The bridge would be used for traffic between Galway and Mayo counties; a good bridge would allow of Knock Ferry being crossed in stormy weather, which at present was impossible, 55199.—Galway County Council had voted £400 towards the construction of a floating bridge which was to cost £1,000 and supersede the present small boat; the latter carried only passengers, not cattle; Congested Districts Board offered £325 for the ferry, but the Local Government Board stopped the scheme, 55200-2.

Canal between Loughs Mask and Corrib.

A canal between Loughs Mask and Corrib had been partly constructed by Government at great cost, but remained unfinished; completed it would open communication between Galway and Mayo counties, especially between the seaport town of Galway and the important town of Ballinrobe; goods could be transported by steamer from Galway at a less cost than by rail, 55199.

Waterworks for Oughterard.

Waterworks were greatly needed in Oughterard division, especially from the point of view of sanitation; bad water had resulted in typhus and typhoid fever, 55199.—The cost of supplying the town with good water had been estimated at £730, 55204A, 55206, 55207.—The people of the town of Oughterard should be liable for a certain portion of the necessary tax; the responsibility for waterworks rested with the Rural District Council, 55205-6.—Oughterard division had a valuation of £2,679, which would mean a rate of £35, but it was not intended to erect waterworks unless the rate were put on the whole union, whose valuation was £15,623 7*s.*, 55206A, 55207A-11.—The scheme proposed was a gravitation one, 55212.—

JOYCE, Mr. JOHN H.—*continued.*

Other places, for instance Clifden, had not paid entirely for their own waterworks, 55216.—The people in the country districts had received assistance from the town of Oughterard, 55217-8.—It was very difficult to get waterworks made when the area of taxation was wide, 55219.—Congested Districts Board might fairly contribute to these waterworks, 55222-4.

Harbour of Refuge for Anaclough.

A harbour of refuge at Anaclough could be easily effected by making an open cutting; the stones from the existing useless pier could be utilised; the harbour was needed on the edge of the lake for refuge for boats from the mainland and islands, 55225-6.—The boats were of five and six tons, and were used for carrying turf, &c., to market, 55227-8.—One boat had recently been badly damaged for lack of a harbour, 55226, 55229-31.—Such incidents were not very common on Lough Corrib, because the people watched the signs of approaching storms and shifted their boats to the river mouth and tied them against the bank, 55232.—Witness was not sure whether he was a member of the Committee of Agriculture, 55233-43, 55248-64.—He was not interested in the distribution of sires, as he thought them no good; the offspring of the horses were too soft and not fitted for the country, 55244-6.

KIRWAN, Mr. DENIS.

See pp. 102-6.

Knock Ferry Scheme.

Several estates for which witness was agent would be benefited by the Knock Ferry scheme, as it would bring them into communication with a supply of turbary, and also with the railway stations at Galway or Tuam; the nearest stations at present were twelve or eighteen miles distant, 55266.—At present it was difficult to cross in rough weather, 55267.—A ferry that would accommodate a large cart was needed, 55268.—An estimate had been made, and Congested Districts Board would have advanced money, but the scheme fell through, 55269.—A bridge would be an unnecessary expense, and almost impossible owing to the rocky approach, 55270.

Parish Committees.

Witness was agent for several estates in County Galway and a few in Mayo; he had been nominated to give evidence by the Irish Landowners' Convention, 55265-6, 55271.—He farmed about 200 acres of his own property, 55271.—Witness had acted on a Parish Committee for dispensing a grant of £50 a year from Board, 55271-3, 55282.—The grants could not be extended to the whole parish, because only part was scheduled, 55274.—This Parish Committee gave grants for well-kept gardens and improved houses, &c.; it gave a grant for improving the village road, 55278, 55279-80.—Grants for drainage and fences were not given, 55279-84.

Drainage.

Waterworks were greatly needed in Oughterard out a few years ago, but the drains had remained untouched since; tenants should be compelled to keep the drains in order, 55286-90.—Where estates had been sold to tenants a committee of tenants might be formed as trustees, with power to levy a contribution from each tenant to maintain drainage works; this could be arranged for when tenants bought holdings, or on large estates, where the tenants got the shooting, that might be let, and part of the proceeds applied to maintaining drains, 55291, 55295.—If drainage were dealt with by Board of Works it would be very expensive; drainage was much needed about Tuam, 55296.—Tenants should maintain the drains on their own holdings, but some authority should have charge of construction and maintenance of main drains, 55290, 55297-9, 55302 55305-6.—Tenants who had received advances of public money to purchase farms should be required to keep the farm drains in order during the currency of the annuity for repayment, 55303-5.—A

KIRWAN, Mr. DENIS—*continued.*

Parish Committee might be charged with maintaining local drainage, as they would know the local needs, 55307-10.—Where the country was flooded for several miles a big drainage scheme should be applied, but sometimes the cost was too great to make it worth while, 55300.

PRICE OF LAND CALCULATED ON LANDLORDS' NET INCOMES.

Grazing land sufficient for Congested Districts Board's purposes might be obtained without compulsory powers if landlords could count on getting such a sum as could, when invested at 3½ per cent., return them their net income; rents on properties managed by witness were well paid; in some special cases the net income would not be a fair standard of value; allowance should be made for an owner's proprietorial rights in cases where he was selling lands hitherto in his own hands, 55311, 55317, 55339-41.—When land had never been let the landlord had nevertheless two rights in it, namely, the tenant-right and the landlord's interest, 55314-6, 55319-21.—The proprietorial rights included hereditaments such as shooting and turbary, 55324-31.—Where the land offered for sale was farmed in conjunction with other land, the exact income derived from the portion for sale might not be determinable, 55311, 55317, 55322-3, 55339.—Where a landlord had a demesne and a tillage farm, and worked the two together, having the stock sometimes on the one, sometimes on the other, there was an enormous difficulty in apportioning to these two elements what belonged to his net income, 55332-5.—Mr. Boyd's standard for untenanted land, namely, one and one-third of the valuation, would be too low, and the valuation was not uniform, 55342-6, 55355-7.—It would be better to fix a fair rent and calculate it on the two interests, 55346.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD.

Congested Districts Board had greatly improved, by drainage and roads, estates they had purchased; the area of Board's operation should be enlarged, 55271.—Delays at present occurring in completing sales of land should, if possible, be avoided; Board's staff and funds should be increased, and a special sum set aside for purchasing estates in congested districts, the latter getting preference over more prosperous parts of the country.

COMPETENCE IN NEW HOLDERS NECESSARY.

In dividing grazing land it should be given only to persons who had shown industry and thrift in managing their old holdings, and who had some capital, otherwise the additional land would not be of great benefit; Board should keep an eye on these tenants for a few years, and lend them money when needed, 55361.

CATTLE TRADE AND DIVISION OF GRASS LAND.

If all grass land were divided into small holdings small tenants would not find a ready and good market for their young stock; at present graziers bought young stock and kept them a year or two before selling them to the Leinster men or cross-Channel dealers; if the grazing system disappeared, small men must keep stock longer and finish them; consequently the small holder must keep fewer stock, and his profit would be less, as young stock from £6 to £9 were proportionately the dearest, 55361-4, 55366-76.—Moreover he would lose by the delay in turning over the money, 55374.—Cattle would not do as well on twenty or thirty-acre holdings as on large farms; men with fattening farms would not breed cattle, but would buy stock, 55365.—None of the new holders of the broken up land would be able to buy cattle, because they would all be small holders, and would breed as much stock as their land could support, 55377-82.—The man with thirty acres could keep little stock in addition to what he had himself, as he would have to keep his own some time, 55383-4.—The breaking up of grass land would, therefore, naturally lead to fewer cattle being kept, 55386.—Ireland's prosperity could, perhaps, not be measured by the number of cattle she produced, but the cattle industry was the staple one in 1907, and seemed to pay best, 55387.—The people might be better off if more mixed tillage farms were granted, but the farmers should have capital to start the farms, and the change should be effected gradually; the whole existing state of the industry should not be altered altogether, 55388-90.

KIRWAN, Mr. DENIS—*continued.*

Document put in by Mr. Denis Kirwan.

Payment of rents on estates managed by witness, Page 276

MURPHY, Mr. HENRY.

See pp. 107-16.

CONGESTION IN GALWAY UNION.

Witness was a member of Galway County Council, and was a solicitor, living in Galway; he gave evidence on behalf of the parish of Castlegar, one of the most congested in the Galway Union; Galway Union's rateable valuation was £55,794 16*s.* 4*d.*, and there were 4,429 holdings, of which 2,092 did not exceed £4 in value, and were rated at £4,959 4*s.* or £2 7*s.* 6*d.* per holding; 1,813 houses were uninhabitable, and 1,228 of these were classed as third rate; the area of the union was 198,535 acres 2 roods 25 perches, and there were 36,465 inhabitants, 55391.

CASTLEGAR PARISH.

Castlegar was not scheduled; witness's evidence was for the purpose of having it scheduled, 55455, 55458.—The valuation was not high, but probably over 30*s.* per head, though the people were very poor; the grazing lands adjacent raised the valuation in the district, 55454-7.—The scheduling should take place at once, so that the grazing land on other estates which were being sold might be available; Castlegar tenants were willing to migrate, 55396.—Castlegar was not an electoral division; part of it was in the urban area; it was not correct to say that poor tenants who lived on land such as that in Castlegar would be unable to cultivate better land if migrated to it; witness knew instances to the contrary; their experience of the difficulties of poor soil enabled migrants to produce better crops in a better district, 55595-9.

CONGESTION ON LORD CLANRICARDE'S ESTATE IN CASTLEGAR PARISH.

Eight townlands of Castlegar parish belonged to Lord Clanricarde; Castlegar, within the urban area of Galway, contained 106 acres 1 rood 30 perches, valued at £34 17*s.*; Castlegar rural contained 422 acres 1 rood 21 perches, valued at £208 17*s.*; one-third of this townland was waste, rocky land, and an average holding was eight acres, some being only two acres, half of it unfit for tillage; the portion within the urban area was subject to rates of 8*s.* in the £; there was no turbary in this townland, and tenants purchased turbary from the landlord at £1 to £1 10*s.* per year; there were twenty-nine tenants at a valuation of £8 1*s*, thirteen of them being valued at 10*s.*, and one at £2; while one was valued at £3, three at £4, seven at £5, and four at £6; Carrabrowne townland contained 861 acres, and was valued at £185 3*s.*, or an average of 4*s.* 3*d.* per acre; while there were nineteen tenants who had an average valuation of £9 2*s.*, seven of them being valued at under £5; about 25 acres of Carrabrowne townland were set to tenants outside it; Carrabrowne townland had 285 acres 3 roods 26 perches of turbary held by the landlord, who set turf banks to the tenants of this and other townlands, 55391-2.—There was no road to the bog, though the landlord had levied a tax on the tenants, and 1*s.* per bank for the cost of extending the road to the bog had been paid ever since 1892; tenants had to carry turf long distances on their backs, 55392-4.—One-third of this townland was subject to flood in consequence of the neglect in maintaining the drainage works in the hands of the Corrib Drainage trustees, though a tax was levied for maintenance of these works; in some of the cuts where four or five years ago a boat could be taken it was possible to walk across on the accumulated mud and soil which caused flood over adjoining land, damaging crops and causing disease to stock, 55394-5.—Corlough townland contained within the urban area 311 acres 0 roods 32 perches, valued at £90 12*s.*, and subject to the urban rate of 7*d.* to 8*d.* in the £; within the rural district Corlough townland had 52

MURPHY, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

acres, valued at £7 10*s.*; there were seventeen tenants, their average valuation being £5 15*s.*, and one having £1 valuation; while eleven had £2, two had £4, and one £5; eleven tenants were joint tenants having land in sixteen different places, each of which was divided into three parts, one for each crop; loads of weed brought for manure had to be divided into three or four portions before they could be brought to the holdings, so inaccessible were these latter; two-thirds of the holdings were covered with surface rocks, on which no horse could be left to graze, because of the clefts; holders of twenty-five acres could not till more than four, and as the fields were small, much land was wasted by headland, and was so light and poor that tenants had to go elsewhere to get meadows, for which they paid £5 to £7 annually, besides paying 10*s.* to 12*s.* to the landlord for turbary; Killoughter townland contained 345 acres 2 roods 10 perches, and was valued at £127 16*s.*; there were 19 tenants with an average valuation of £6 1*s.* each, two of them being valued at £2, one of them at £3, eight at £4, and seven at £5; while the holdings were divided into small patches comprising very inferior land; the townland of Terryland contained 218 acres 2 roods 16 perches within the urban area of Galway, and was valued at £127 10*s.*; 83 acres of Terryland were in the landlord's hands, and set annually to graziers or people other than tenant farmers; these 83 acres were within half a mile of the congested areas of Ccolough and Ballinfoyle, whose tenants might be relieved by its division; Sylaun townland contained 479 acres 0 roods 1 perch, was valued at £36 5*s.*, and was wholly in the hands of the landlord; most of Sylaun townland was bog, and could be reclaimed to relieve congestion; the landlord set about 50 acres of meadow annually, which tenants bought at competitive prices; that portion of the Clanricarde Estate which was in Castlegar parish contained 3,657 acres 2 roods 8 perches, of which 729 acres 0 roods 33 perches were in the landlord's hands, 55395.

ESTATE OF ERASMUS SMITH IN CASTLEGAR PARISH.

The estate of Erasmus Smith in Congested Districts Board's hands included eleven townlands of Castlegar parish; the townland of Murrough rural contained 147 acres 0 roods 30 perches, of which only 25 acres 3 roods 12 perches were let to three tenants, the balance being in the hands of Richard Blake, Esq., who lived fourteen miles away, and set the greater portion of this land annually; Murrough contained 102 acres 3 roods 3 perches within the urban area, of which 38 acres were in the hands of tenants, and the rest set annually by the landlord; Roscam contained 420 acres, of which only 19 acres 0 roods 34 perches were let to tenants; while 148 acres were held from the landlord by a lady, who set them for grazing annually; Renmore contained 479 acres 0 roods 12 perches, of which 20 acres were a common along the shore divided between seventeen tenants; while Major Lynch had 177 acres, which he set annually; Ballybrit contained 325 acres 2 roods 39 perches, of which Mr. Lynch held 221 acres 2 roods 21 perches, and six tenants had the balance; Ballybanemore, within the urban area of Galway, contained 73 acres 2 roods 2 perches, of which 40 acres was in the hands of Major W. Lynch, and the rest divided among seven tenants; Ballybanebeg in the urban area contained 307 acres 1 rood 9 perches, of which Mr. R. N. Somerville, the County Surveyor of Cavan, held about 86 acres, and sublet them to Pierce Joyce, Esq.; while the Prisons Board Inspector held 145 acres, and Major W. Lynch 64 acres 2 roods 9 perches; Ballybanemon in the urban area contained 307 acres 1 rood; Mr Somerville owned 82 acres, and three tenants held the rest, 55395.—Much of the Erasmus Smith Estate was outside Castlegar parish; some of it was in the town of Galway; the agent lived at Cork, and merely collected rents, and the Board in Dublin allocated the funds; one of the Erasmus Smith schools was in Galway, 55511-3.—Before the Act of 1881 no improvements were done by the landlord's administrators on this estate, except by the building of the schools, 55514-5.

BLAKE'S ESTATE.

Coarsfield townland, in the Blake's Estate, contained 264 acres 2 roods 14 perches, valued at £31

MURPHY, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

6*s.*, and was often completely covered with flood from Corrib for two miles up from the shore; three feet of water sometimes came into the houses, and water often totally destroyed the crops; tenants had to keep boats; this flooding was due to the manner in which the level of the lake was kept up by the arrangement of sluices and falling boards at Galway in the interest of salmon fishing; the landlord asked 23 years' purchase, 55395.

DR. FAIR'S ESTATE.

Dr. Fair's estate in the townland of Clooncaneen contained 480 acres 3 roods 28 perches, of which the landlord held a farm of 120 acres, which he set annually for grazing; he also held 82 acres 2 roods 37 perches for turbary; the balance was let to thirteen tenants; several fruitless efforts had been made to purchase the estate; one-third of each holding was very rocky and waste, and much damage was done by drainage; meadow had to be bought off the farm in the landlord's hands at £3 10*s.* an acre from Mr. Walsh, who had the meadow from the landlord at £1 10*s.*, 55395.

SIR V. BLAKE'S ESTATE.

Sir V. Blake's estate at Menlough, on the borders of Lough Corrib, contained 692 acres 3 roods 29 perches, valued at £222 5*s.*, and was set to 47 tenants of miserable holdings with little land available for tillage; twelve or fifteen tenants sometimes shared a crop in one field; the houses were bad and the land rocky, so that ploughs could not be used; average holdings scarcely exceeded five acres; twenty years before 1907 barley was a great source of income, but had declined in price; while constant cropping had resulted in the land producing only half their former crops; tenants had to go five or six miles for turf, 55395.

MARBLE QUARRIES.

Marble quarries at Menlough and at Meslin Park had been closed, though the marble was much sought after, 55395, 55460.—The black marble quarries were abandoned, because the capital expended on the initial work had exhausted the available finances, 55460, 55464.—There was a general unwillingness to risk money in Ireland, especially the West of Ireland, 55461-2, 55465.—Granite and marble works near Galway had been abandoned, and afterwards taken up, and in 1907 had been for about two years doing a magnificent business, 55465-9.—Congested Districts Board might work the Menlough quarry, 55473.—If Board bought the estate it would have to consider whether it was worth while to utilise this source of employment, 55478.—The distribution to exhibitions in the United Kingdom and America of samples of the marble might induce some capitalist to work the mine, 55481-2.—At the works in Galway there were a number of apprentices subsidised by the Technical Committee of the Galway County Council; Congested Districts Board might undertake to give similar help to a company undertaking to open works at Menlough, and might also give a loan towards machinery, 55483, 55485-7.

FOSTERING AND DESTRUCTION OF IRISH INDUSTRIES BY THE STATE.

Witness knew of no instance in which Irish industries had been fostered in this way, but Irish industries were destroyed by the fostering of industries elsewhere; the Irish woollen trade was killed by hostile tariffs and bonuses to the English woollen industry, 55489-90, 55495.—In the middle of the nineteenth century twenty-seven flour mills were at work in Galway, but in 1907 only one, 55490-2.—Within ten years of 1907 there were still nine or ten at work, but the importation of American flour stopped their trade, as it caused the production of grain to decline, imported grain having become cheaper, 55492-4, 55497-502.—The change in fiscal policy being the cause of the collapse of the flour trade, the district had some claim on the Government for subsidies to foster other industries, 55503-5.

MURPHY, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

FREE TRADE.

Free trade had not benefited Ireland, 55507A.

DRAINAGE.

Drainage works of Castlegar were in the hands of trustees, who met seldom; the drainage works were under the immediate management of Mr. Townsend, who was also Secretary and Engineer for the Navigation trustees; the positions were incompatible, for in the interest of navigation the lake should be kept at high level, while drainage required it should be kept low, 55395.—Navigation could be kept up without interfering with drains, but in Lough Corrib mud was allowed to accumulate, so that the level of the water was constantly rising, 55409.—The water was drained back with falling boards near Galway, and the height of the walls increased instead of the channel being deepened, 54410-2.—The drainage trustees were originally appointed under an award of 1860, and they were appointed by the landowners to represent them; the people had no representation; the County Council of Galway and Mayo should execute and maintain drainage works; they already collected a rate for them, 55395-403.—Mayo and Galway contributed to the drainage of Loughs Mask and Corrib, but did no more than provide the funds required by the secretary, 55404, 55449.—The existing drainage works had been constructed between the navigation and drainage trustees, who obtained a Government loan, repayable by instalments charged on certain areas, 55442.—This method was good, and might be followed in the future if an efficient body were substituted for the existing drainage authority, 55443-5.—In 1906 Galway and Mayo counties paid £296 half-yearly for maintenance of drainage; this sum was spent on maintenance and works, but not spent properly, merely wasted; for years only an insufficient sum was levied, 55449-53.—A system of arterial drainage of a river running into more than one county could be managed by a board of representatives of the several County Councils concerned, 55404.—Arterial drainage would be better trusted to a Dublin department than continued under present system, 55405.—Drains contained in several districts could be dealt with like roads, some of which were county-at-large charges and others district charges, 55435.—Big works, such as the Shannon drainage, might be dealt with by a central authority, 55435, 55440.—Branch drains should be dealt with by County Councils, 55406-8.—Tenants should be obliged to maintain drains on their own lands; large drains should be managed by a public body, 55413-4, 55431.—It would be difficult for the County Council to impose a rate over a large area for drainage, 55415-6.—The present tax raised by the drainage trustees was raised over the area benefited by the drainage, and the same thing should be done by the Board when they bought any estates; if it were done, then this difficulty would not arise, 55427-8.—The construction of drainage on such land as the Berridge Estate should be done by Congested Districts Board, 55418-20.—The difficulty that the County Council might object to paying for maintenance of works constructed by the Congested Districts Board already existed in regard to piers and harbours, 55424.—But the Council's objection was founded on the inefficient manner in which piers and harbours were built, involving large expenditure, for piers built on sandy soil had required extensive repairs after the first storm, 55424-6.—If Board bought a single estate in a district it would be difficult to find an outfall for the main drainage; if blocks of estates were bought this dijculty would not arise, 55427-8.—As drainage would add to the value of the land a considerable part of the cost of draining a holding could be put on the purchaser's annuity, 55429-30.—Where Board purchased only a single estate and there was no outlet, French drains, four or five or ten feet deep, would be of great benefit; large loose stones were thrown into such drains for three or four feet, and they were practically a waterway underneath; if a large flood came they took it off the land's surface immediately it got time to percolate through the ground, 55436.

MURPHY, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

SALMON FISHING RESTRICTIONS.

The restriction on salmon fishing at Renmore, at the mouth of the river had been recently enforced by the Board of Conservators, after remaining many years in abeyance, 55508-10.

COUNTY COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE.

Witness was a member of the County Committee of Agriculture, which was fairly operative in poorer areas, but funds were limited, and spent chiefly on breeding of live stock and on cattle shows, 55519.—Except for lack of funds, Committees were working well, 55530.—Agricultural instruction and development was as well done under Agricultural Department as under Congested Districts Board; more work was done than could be done by Board, and the people took more interest in the work, as they had direct representatives on Committee, 55531-3.—It was easy to obtain representatives on the Committee, 55526.—If the area between Spiddal and Roundstone had no representatives on the County Committee of Agriculture the inhabitants were themselves to blame, as the Committee was elected annually by the County Council, and was supposed to contain representatives of each district, 55520, 55534.—Even without a representative on the Committee people in that area could communicate with the Committee, and they had an able representative on the County Council in Lord Killanin, 55521-3.—Witness thought this district had not suffered for lack of representation, 55535.—Witness was not surprised to hear that Connemara had more donkeys, premium bulls, boars, mares, and eggstations than all the rest of Galway, 55536.—This showed the consideration shown for unrepresented districts, 55537.—Witness thought these animals were put in by the Committee; Department sent them in isolated instances where the need was great, 55538-40.—In a Blue Book list of premium bulls located under the county schemes, as indicated by the Chairman of the Commission, witness saw that there were forty premium bulls located in the district between Spiddal and Roundstone, at Carna, Barna, Lettermore, Spiddal, and Oughterard, 55541.—In this district seven bulls had been placed by Department, which in this work confined itself to the Connemara district, 55542, 55546.—The County Committee had placed only five bulls in this district, because the people were generally too poor to pay their share of the price of a bull, 55545, 55549.—Funds to enable the Committee to do more for the poor districts were lacking; if the work were to be done money must come from outside, 55547-54, 55568.—The supplementary schemes under which the Department placed bulls in Connemara were being financed by Department for one year, but it might not be possible to continue them, 55555-7.—These supplementary schemes might properly be continued by Congested Districts Board, as the need for them was the result of a state of congestion, 55558-62, 55569-74.—If Congested Districts Board had money for these schemes animals might be supplied to small holders at cost price by Department and County Council, 55575-6.—This would probably be the best and most economical procedure, 55577.—Witness had no alternative scheme to this which sounded practicable, and would probably interest all parties, as all had a share in it, 55579-88.—When congestion disappeared the congested districts would then be left under the County Committees as other districts were, 55589.—The County Council with sufficient money and an adaptation of its arrangements would probably be able to do for any congested districts all the agricultural and industrial improvements in connection with live stock, 55565.—The interests of the people would probably be served by the County Council continuing its present duties under the Local Government Act and the Technical and Agricultural schemes, while Congested Districts Board was entrusted with the improvement and sale of land, 55566-7.—The Agricultural Committee included members who were not on the County Council, 55523.—The Committee allocated the money for agricultural improvement, and determined the number of sires, etc., and their distribution, 55524-5.—A man from a poor area would not have less influence on the Committee than those from far better off areas; Committee took the whole county, and sent round inspectors where they were asked for; several clergy-

MURPHY, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

men were on the Committee, 55527-8.—They probably had more knowledge of the local needs than anyone, because all their parishioners confided in them, 55529.—The formation of a Sub-committee to look after Connemara, as the Sub-committee in Mayo took charge of Erris, had never been suggested, 55590-1.—It might work well, but should be subordinate to the principal Committee, 55592.

Congested Districts Board—Reconstruction.

To have nominees of County Council sitting on Congested Districts Board would be better than having an Advisory Sub-committee of the Rural District or County Council authorised to supply Board with local information of needs in congested districts; the County Council from their frequent meetings and the number of country people attending them had special knowledge of grievances in different districts, 55600-4, 55606.—County Councils would probably be willing that such nominees should hold office not three but six years, 55605.—It would not be difficult to find men living in congested districts who would have leisure to attend Board's meetings in Dublin, 55607-8.—Under an Advisory Sub-committee scheme it would be difficult to make Board's reasons for refusing a particular request known locally unless a verbatim report of Board's proceedings were supplied; on the other hand, direct nominees of the County Council sitting on the Board would be able to supply the Council with an explanation of Board's reasons for a refusal, 55611-7.—Members of Congested Districts Board nominated by County Councils would probably work for the general interests of Ireland, as well as those of their own particular district, and their doing so would be approved by the nominating Councils, 55634-8.—County Councils would probably not wish to limit their nominations to their own ranks, 55639.—In answer to the question whether it was more likely that a competent member of Congested Districts Board would be obtained through nomination by an entirely competent authority, or through election by a County Council, witness would say nomination, but with regard to Galway County Council the same man would be chosen by them whether by election or nomination, 55644.—Many men would be anxious to represent Galway on Congested Districts Board, and there would be canvassing for votes, but it did not follow that the best man would not be elected, 55645-9.—The views of an elected man would be more likely to meet those of the people than would the views of a man appointed by the Government, 55652.—The scheme adopted by a body popularly elected would be likely to have the approval of the people who elected it and benefited by the scheme; an elected body in any department of Government would be best, 55655-8A.

CRADDOCK, Rev. JAMES.

See p. 116.

Congestion in Castlegar.

Witness was Parish Priest of Castlegar; Castlegar parish should be scheduled a congested district, as was proved by Mr. Murphy's figures; the parish had townlands as poor and congested as any in Ireland, and emigration was constantly increasing; forty-five young people went to America in the summer of 1907, and others to Queensland; this was due to want of land; yet there was enough in the parish to satisfy many; migration and other measures to stop emigration should be undertaken at once; migration to a strange locality should be applied only when the available lands of the parish were exhausted, and then migrating tenants should be taken in batches from the same townland, and be located near their old neighbours in the new holdings; the wrench would thus be less painful, 55659.

Compulsory Powers.

Where landlord and tenant in congested areas could not come to terms Congested Districts Board or Estates Commissioners should be empowered to apply compulsion; landlords unwilling to sell in such cases at a fair price were an obstacle to the prosperity of an entire community, 55559.

GLYNN, Mr. JOSEPH A.

See pp. 117-27.

Status of Witness.

Witness was a solicitor, acting for thirty-seven estates in County Galway, 55662.—He had discussed his evidence with his colleagues on the County Council, but did not speak for them all officially, 55859-64.

Estates Commissioners preferred to Congested Districts Board.

Overlapping occurred between the Estates Commissioners and Congested Districts Board; the latter were not good purchasers, and the Estates Commissioners were a better authority for purchase and settlement of land; they worked expeditiously; Estates Commissioners purchased estate of Captain Hugh Henry, near Tuam; it was inspected in June and July, 1905, and was striped in November, 1905, while the houses were built and inhabited by May, 1906; houses and fences together cost less than houses built by Congested Districts Board in the district about Tuam, 55650-71.—All the 104 tenants of this Henry Estate were satisfied; twenty or twenty-five tenants, some of them tenants from the adjoining O'Sullivan Estate, received new holdings, and the remainder had enough land to make their holdings economic; tenants and landlord were satisfied with the price, 55660-1, 55664, 55672-4.—The land had been striped, and when a tenant was removed his holding was divided among his neighbours, and boundaries were re-arranged, 55667.—Tenants built houses with grants of about £100 from Estates Commissioners and under superintendence of the Commissioners' inspectors; the tenant used his own labour, made his own contract, and supplied the stone, 55660, 55670, 55689-91.—One at least of the new holders was the son of a tenant, 55675, 55684.—The tenants from the O'Sullivan Estate came from a poor but not scheduled area, 55677-8, 55695-6.—The Henry Estate was purchased under Clause 6, 55697.—Though in this estate the Commissioners were not hampered by difficulties that would have existed had the estate been in rundale, as were many properties with which Congested Districts Board had dealt, they had to build houses and fences for 2,000 acres of grass land, and to make roads, 55663, 55666, 55668-9, 55681-3, 55686-7.—Estates Commissioners did not wait to put in tenants till they had finished re-striping holdings and making roads and drains, but put the men in first, and set them to work on the roads, etc., while meantime the tenants were getting the benefit from the land; Congested Districts Board would not admit tenants till everything was prepared, 55688.—Where migrants came from a great distance it might be difficult to house them before new dwellings were built, 55692-3.

Bodkin Estate, Kilclooney.

The Bodkin Estate of Kilclooney, near Milltown, in neighbourhood of Tuam, had been purchased by Congested Districts Board; originally it was bought by Mr. Parnell to experiment in planting the people on grass land; Mr. Parnell formed a company called the Migration Company; the experiment failed, and the company went into liquidation, but all the tenants bought their holdings, and the grass lands were taken over by the Land Commission, which had advanced most of the purchase money, 55697-8, 55706.—Under the Land Commission's management the company's shareholders had to pay up the full amount of the calls on their shares; the sale was carried through, and the Land Commission kept over the tenancies of the grass lands, witness thought because there was at that time no power to stripe and divide them; this was in 1885, before formation of Congested Districts Board; for several years the grass lands were set to graziers, and in 1900 it was said all the graziers had been approached by the Land Commission with the object of selling out those farms to them under the Act of 1891; witness, with the assistance of some local people, then endeavoured to find some means to secure the grass lands for division among the local people, 55700, 55706.—In 1900 witness approached the Land Commission regarding the purchase of grass land on this estate, and was referred to Congested Districts Board, 55698-700, 55706.—Witness wrote to Congested Districts Board in October, 1900, and as nothing was done he wrote again, in June,

GLYNN, Mr. JOSEPH A.—*continued.*

1901, enclosing a memorial signed by Dr. O'Donnell and others, asking that the Bodkin Estate should be sold out for re-purchase and distribution among the tenants; after the question had been raised in Parliament and further negotiations made Congested Districts Board purchased the Bodkin Estate; witness then wrote to Congested Districts Board saying there were people who held tenancies on the estate but did not live there, and would probably be willing to sell to the Board their interests in the farms; witness had this information from a tenant, but Board rebuked him for attempting to speak to a tenant about selling to Congested Districts Board and for writing to Board on such a subject, 55700-2.—Witness was then acting as solicitor to the tenants; the last paragraph of Board's letter was about purchasing from the tenants, and witness, adopting that paragraph, wrote to the tenant who offered the farm, and the latter was eventually bought by Board, 55703.—Witness did not deny that the case of this Bodkin Estate was especially complicated, but he complained that after Board had purchased it they left it a long time idle, and for years grazed it themselves, not attempting to divide it up into stripes, 55709, 55711-5.—It was purchased about the end of 1901, and was vested in the tenants 27th July, 1906, 55710, 55778.—Witness knew no reason for delay in striping, except that Congested Districts Board were fully occupied elsewhere, 55716, 55729.—The land should have been striped immediately, and people from the neighbourhood put on it; Congested Districts Board brought at least one man from Dunmore; the local people's needs should first have been satisfied, 55717-9, 55737, 55740-2.—The people introduced from a distance came from scheduled areas, 55735.—Congested Districts Board were hampered by the fact that they could not enlarge holdings of local people not under £5 valuation; £10 would be a better limit than £5, 55722-3, 55742-5.—If Board were waiting till they received power to enlarge holdings above £5 valuation their reason for delay was good; witness did not think that was their reason, 55736, 55738.—Migration from a distance was not desirable if local wants had first been satisfied, 55741-2. 55745.—The sons of tenants should be given land where possible, but not before congests from a distance, the latter had a prior claim after local holdings had been rendered economic, 55746-9.—One of the reasons why tenants preferred Estates Commissioners to Congested Districts Board was that the former were more likely to divide the land among the local tenants and their sons, 55750-4.—When Congested Districts Board bought land in a non-scheduled area the fact that it was non-scheduled prevented local tenants receiving land purchased by Board, 55755-6.—If the £5 limitation were raised this objection would be removed, 55757.—The mansion house of Bodkin Estate was in September of 1907 in the hands of a Mr. Garrett, 55724.—The policy of Congested Districts Board allowed a big man to be brought in in this manner if he left enough land for enlargement of holdings, 55725.—Mr. Garrett was a tenant elsewhere; witness approved of his being brought in; it was difficult to dispose of such a mansion house in Ireland, 55726-8.—When Board purchased the Bodkin Estate the graziers surrendered their land or sold to Board; they were dealt with in 1901 and 1902, 55730-3.—Witness was not fully acquainted with the history of the Bodkin Estate previous to its purchase by Board, 55766-75.—His evidence was intended to compare the method of the estate's treatment by Board after they acquired it with the Estates Commissioners' treatment of similar estates, 55776-7.—Witness was aware that Congested Districts Board had to arrange with Land Commission as to a heavy mortgage before they could get the Bodkin Estate, 55780.—Witness did not deny the success of Board's efforts regarding this estate, he only complained of the delay, 55826-9.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD'S WORK CONTRASTED WITH THAT OF ESTATES COMMISSIONERS.

Witness knew that Board had dealt very rapidly with the Nugent Estate, near Tuam; Board had dealt more energetically with estates since 1903, but this was probably greatly attributable to Estates Commissioners' example, and he did not think the delay regarding the Bodkin

GLYNN, Mr. JOSEPH A.—*continued.*

Estate was wholly accounted for by the special circumstances, 55781-3, 55842.—Judge Leonard's Estate near Tuam had been purchased by Board three or four years ago, and still, in September of 1907, was unstriped and in graziers' hands, 55783-5, 55840, 55843.—The reason was that the Board had insufficient staff and resources, 55841, 55849-52.—The delays might be partly due to the delay in vesting estates, as till this was accomplished the more important improvements could not be carried out, 55853-4.—Witness knew of no difficulties as to who should receive land on Bodkin Estate, but some of the tenants had difficulty in keeping the land at the rent, 55786.—Board did no work on the estate till three years after they acquired it, 55787-90.—Some time further elapsed before migrants were brought in; some time was spent in improving Ardnagull farm and dividing it into four parts, which were given to migrants, 55791.—There were many local applications for this farm, and some of the delay might have been in considering the claims of the applicants; the chief delay was due to the high price asked for the farms, 55792-3.—Deliberation was necessary in choosing the right people to occupy the divided grass land, but the delay on the Bodkin Estate had nevertheless been too great, 55794-8.—Congested Districts Board had more difficulty than Estates Commissioners in finding tenants for their farms because their rents were too high; rents demanded by Estates Commissioners were always reasonable, 55759.—Congested Districts Board could acquire land more easily than Estates Commissioners because they had more money, but Estates Commissioners could settle property once acquired more easily and satisfactorily, 55760-5.—In stating that Board paid more for land than Commissioners witness referred only to purchases in immediate neighbourhood of Tuam, namely, the Kilclooney and Nugent Estates, as contrasted with the Henry Estate, 55799-807, 55819.—Board made no offer for the Henry Estate, 55808.—Witness had not implied that Board got Kilclooney and Nugent Estates because they gave a bigger price than Estates Commissioners were willing to give, 55809.—Estates Commissioners might be considered better purchasers than Board, because the tenants on Commissioners' estates did not complain of their annuities while those on Board's complained of theirs, 55810-1.—Tenants on Board's estates were the same class as those on Commissioners', but the migrants brought in by Board from scheduled areas were generally a different class, 55812.—Estates Commissioners spent less than Board, and built houses and fences at less cost; Board's procedure was too expensive, 55813-5.—Commissioners granted £100 for a house, and this sufficed to pay for material and carpenter and mason, while the prospective occupier gave his own labour in addition; the £100 covered the cost of fences and out-offices, 55816-8, 55831-3, 55837.—Board spent £120 to £140 on the house alone, 55818, 55831-5.—Houses built on Henry Estate with Estates Commissioners' grants were very good cottages, and ample for any holding; they had one storey, roofed within; there was a loft inside and a second room on top; some of the houses were two-storeyed, 55836-8.—Witness believed annuities were higher on Board's property than on Estates Commissioners', 55822.—Board's work of introduction of migrants might be more expensive than the bringing men from quite close at hand, 55823-5.—Purchasing, striping and distribution of land should be given entirely to Estates Commissioners, who should continue it on lines previously followed by Board; Board should be left to attend more practically to the work it was doing in earlier years, namely, schemes for the developing of properties; Board's time could find full occupation with work concerning technical education and questions of agriculture and the development of the province generally in relation to fisheries and industries, etc., 55844-6, 55855-6, 55871-2, 55888-92.—Witness's chief complaints against the Board were their delays and the high price they gave, as shown by the annuities, 55848.—He did not suggest Board's abolition, but all Connaught ought to be scheduled as congested, and as in Galway alone there are 23,328 uneconomic holdings, this meant more work in connection with the land question than Board could deal with, in addition to adequately performing their task of development generally, 55839, 55855-7, 55905.—If the settlement and striping of estates were taken over by Estates

GLYNN, Mr. JOSEPH A.—*continued.*

Commissioners they should be able to spend on slum estates more than the 10 per cent. allowed under Section 6, and they should have compulsory powers in Connaught, 55853, 55874.

Land Available for Relief of Congestion.

The land in Connaught, even if compulsorily acquired, would not entirely suffice to relieve congestion in the province, 55875.—At present it would be useless to ask for compulsory powers beyond Connaught, but eventually they might be needed in other places if the congestion problem was to be solved, 55876-84. It would probably be some time before the land in Connaught available under a system of compulsory purchase could be dealt with, 55885-7.

Suggested Procedure Regarding Purchased Estates.

Estates Commissioners having purchased a badly-congested estate should not sell it in an unimproved condition, but should retain it till they could get untenanted land, and to avoid delays in dealing with estates the Commissioners should possess themselves of a stock of untenanted land beforehand, 55893-6.—Estates Commissioners holding that land would migrate tenants and enlarge holdings, and having placed the holdings in an economic condition, the Estates Commissioners would retire, their places being taken by Congested Districts Board, whose functions would be limited to improvement of holdings by drainage and improved seeds, etc., 55897-901.—These functions would greatly overlap those of the Department of Agriculture, which for the present might disappear in Galway, 55902-4.

Work of the Agricultural Department.

Board's work of general development had been greatly interfered with by Agricultural Department, and the number of Departments existing in 1907 caused complication and loss, while no Department had enough money to do its work properly, 55858.—Agricultural Department's advent had caused Congested Districts Board to abandon their agricultural and technical instruction work in congested districts, or rather to transfer it to County Committees; these Committees and the Department did not do the work in the same admirable way in which Board had done it, 55865-8.—This was because their funds were insufficient, 55869-70.—Local Committees were unable to effect such work as the formation of Parish Committees and the establishment of small model farms, where good bulls or boars could be kept for local use and where proper classes of seeds, etc., were to be seen, 55958.

Alternative Scheme for Purchase.

As an alternative scheme to making Estates Commissioners the sole authority for dealing with purchase and distribution of land witness would not object to an arrangement by which Estates Commissioners should buy property in Connaught at requisition of Congested Districts Board, and should then hand the property purchased to Board for striping and improvement, 55905-11.—Witness however preferred the Estates Commissioners as the sole authority, and thought it better that one body should manage the purchase and distribution of land, 55926-9, 55931.—The good work done by Estates Commissioners, in one county at least, rendered it inadvisable that their operations should be excluded from Connaught altogether, except at requisition of Congested Districts Board, 55912-3, 55917.—If Commissioners bought at requisition of Board the Commissioners should decide what price was to be paid, because they and their staff were the better judges of land, 55932, 55934.—The two bodies were not likely to make such different estimates of the price that Estates Commissioners would refuse in a particular case to buy at price suggested by Board, 55933, 55935-6.—The reason for denying purchasing power to Board was that hitherto Board had not bought so well as Estates Commissioners, 55937.—There could be no universal standard of price all over Ireland, but Estates Commissioners would be likely to fix a reasonable sum for a piece of land in any part of the country, 55941-3.—Under an arrangement by which Estates Commissioners bought, on Board's requisition Board would not be concerned with the question of price but would merely state to Commissioners which property they required, 55940, 55944-6.—The retention of the present system by which Estates Commissioners purchased and distributed land without dealing with migration conflicted with the policy of migration, 55914.—But under a system by which Estates Commissioners purchased at Board's requisition the Board might fully develop their migration policy, and there would be no conflict between the policies of the two bodies, because Board would not be concerned in the purchasing, 55916-8.—Even if Board were the purchasing authority throughout Connaught the legal processes in the transfer of estates could still be in the hands of Estates Commissioners, 55919.

Local Objections to Introduction of Migrants.

If Estates Commissioners were the purchasing and distributing authority the tenants and their sons who had previously received great advantages from Estates Commissioners would probably object to the introduction of migrants, but the objection was not likely to be a serious matter; there had been no serious objection to the migrants introduced into Kilclooney and Nugent Estates by Congested Districts Board, 55920-5.—Estates Commissioners had been driven to provide for the sons of tenants lest their should be conflicts with tenants on properties under £5 valuation adjoining the land on which migrants were placed, 55924.—At present both Estates Commissioners and Congested Districts Board had a difficulty about bringing migrants from a distance, and the limit for admission from neighbouring estates should be raised from £5 valuation to £10, 55947-51.—Board's and Commissioners' powers regarding introduction of migrants were similar, 55952-3.—Estates Commissioners had power to purchase untenanted grass lands wherever they chose, 55954.—There might be a certain amount of competition between Commissioners and Board if the latter were buying land in Connaught and also outside for the purpose of transferring migrants, 55955-7.

Piers.

County Councils were obliged to keep up piers, many of which were useless, as they were in the wrong places; the cost of their maintenance fell on the poor districts; some of the cost had been temporarily placed on the county-at-large in order to relieve Connemara rates, but this arrangement could not continue, 55958-64.

Lough Corrib Ferry.

The length of the crossing for the proposed Lough Corrib Ferry was only a quarter of a mile; the ferry was badly needed, 55965, 55971.—The County Council had voted £400, and grants had been promised from Department of Agriculture and from Congested Districts Board, and the County Council undertook to maintain the ferry; it was then discovered that the County Council had no power to make a ferry, and a Bill to obtain this power was introduced into Parliament, but was lost in consequence of a clause in regard to Board of Works, by which the county would have suffered financially, and to which the Irish Party objected, 55965-6, 55972-3.—There was a general opinion that Ireland suffered from indifferent legislation, 55967-9.—The County Council had power to maintain ferries once made, 55970-1.

ARMSTRONG, Mr. E. G.

See pp. 127-8.

Cattle Trade and Division of Grass Lands.

Dividing up of grass lands would probably injure the trade in cattle, which formed the chief wealth of Ireland; small farmers in the West of Ireland either reared calves from their own cows, or bought calves

ARMSTRONG, Mr. E. G.—*continued.*

from Tipperary or Limerick dealers; they fed the calves for a year or a year and a half, and then sold to men with 100 acres or more, who kept the calves a year or six months, and then sold to farmers who kept them another year or six months, and finally sold them to Leinster graziers or exported them to England to be fattened; small farmers could not feed cattle till they were fat, as they had not enough grass land, even if it were rich enough; 100 acres of fattening grass land would carry seventy to seventy-five three-and-a-half-year-old cattle, and finish them during the summer, but the same 100 acres, divided into four or five smaller fields, would not give the cattle a sufficiently wide walk, or enough variety of herbage, and there would also be a difficulty about water; country farmers sometimes fattened cattle by stall-feeding in winter, but these were generally inferior beasts; a small farmer with thirty acres would have eight acres in tillage, and keep two cows, two, or even three, ewes, and a mare; next year he would have two cows, two calves, three ewes and their lambs, and a mare and foal, and the land would not suffice to feed them; he could not send all his yearlings to England, and if the middlemen who owned moderately good grass lands were abolished there would be no buyers in Ireland; Ireland required four classes of holders of land, namely, the small farmer who reared cattle, the moderate farmer who fed them for a year, the grazier with fairly good land who fed them another year, and the Leinster man, or English or Scotch man who finished the cattle; the transfer of land to small holders might cause deterioration in the breed of cattle, as small farmers would not have the capital or means of getting good bulls and rams; Ireland was naturally a grazing country; witness had farmed 1,200 statute acres himself, and managed 3,000 for others; from 1882 he was engaged buying cattle and managing for landowners in Mayo and six other counties, and he thought that the large graziers and the landowners who farmed their own land had been the means of improving and keeping up the breed of sheep and cattle in Ireland; landowners in Roscommon had imported shorthorns in days of witness's grandfather with good results to local breed of cattle; small farmers, if left dependent on cattle dealers, would be ruined; small farmers had to keep a good portion of their land in meadow for winter feeding, which was the most profitable in Ireland; the principle of dividing grass lands and creating farms of from thirty to forty acres, and migrating tenants was not objectionable, but whatever was done should be done slowly lest the whole trade of the country should be ruined and national bankruptcy supervene; few men from congested districts could manage a large farm; the grass lands to be divided should be carefully chosen; strong heavy fattening land or wet rushy land was not suitable for division, but light dry moory land or good reclaimed land were suitable; thirty Irish, or fifty statute acres, were the least that could make a farm capable of supporting a family, 55977, 55979, 55980, 55984-5.—There were some grass lands of a nature to be improved by tillage, and these should be broken up, 55981-3.

Weeds.

Ireland was overrun with weeds which cost the soil 30 per cent. of its fertility, and which were continually increasing; every landowner should be compelled by law to keep his ground clear of weeds; the clearance should be general, as it was of little use for one man to remove weeds if seeds of weeds were being blown in from his neighbour's ground, 55977-8.

General Condition of Land in Ireland.

Congested Districts Board had done, and was doing, good work, and the destruction of Board or its amalgamation with Estates Commissioners or Land Commission would be a National calamity; Board's capital should be increased; compulsory purchase was needless as plenty of land was to be had at a fair price; valuation of land was difficult, and required careful inspection, as the variety of land within a small area was great; there was no doubt that landowners were possessed of both the fee and the occupation interest of untenanted land; the limitation

ARMSTRONG, Mr. E. G.—*continued.*

in the Land Act of 1903 excluding the enlargement of holdings exceeding £5 in value was a serious drawback, and the limit should be £10; as to the purchase of estates by Estates Commissioners, the delay in getting the money was a serious drawback, and the security offered the vendor was doubtful, 55979.

KENNEDY, Mr. CORNELIUS J.

See pp. 128-31.

Status of Witness.

Witness was a member of Tuam Rural District Council, which had appointed him to give evidence, 55986-7.—He lived in the town of Dunmore, where he carried on a large trade in grocery and provisions, besides having a bar; he was Rural District Councillor for Dunmore Division and County Councillor for the County Electoral Division of Dunmore, 55989-90.

Tuam Union.

Tuam Union contained 190,649 acres, with valuation of £77,625 3*s.*; a statement furnished by the Clerk of the Union showed that there were 56,925 acres under grazing, including two demesne lands unoccupied, and that these grazing lands were in possession of 98 non-resident and 171 resident graziers, and that 2,315 occupiers had valuation under £5; the Union's population was 39,832 in 1881, and 34,630 in 1891, and in 1901 it was 30,924, 55988, 55991-2.—There was acute congestion in part of Tuam Union, particularly in neighbourhood of Dunmore, part of which was scheduled, 55990-2.—As regards Dunmore and its neighbourhood, the village of Luhro had 11 tenants, and the average holding contained 3½ acres, and was valued at £2; Carnagur had 8 tenants, and the average holding contained 6 acres, and was valued at £3 10*s.*; Clonkeen had 36 tenants, an average holding containing 7 acres, and being valued at 17*s.*; Carnaseer had 20 tenants, with average acreage of 6 acres, and valuation 4*s.*; Britenagahy had 14 tenants, whose average acreage was 4½, and valuation 4*s.*; in this one townland there were 25 patches of land and there were hundreds of acres of grass land, 55991-2.—Lisabodder had 6 tenants, average holdings being of 6 acres, and average valuation £1 15*s.*; these tenants had to carry bags of flour on their backs as there were no roads, 55994.—Killooney had 42 tenants, the average holding containing 5 acres, and being valued at £3 10*s.*; Cappagh had 32 tenants, with an average acreage of 10 acres, and valuation 4*s.*; Caramanagh had 32 tenants, average acreage 9½, and valuation 4*s.*; Clooncun had 6 tenants, average acreage 5, and valuation 3*s.*; Sleir, 15 tenants, average acreage 8, and valuation 5*s.* 10*d.*; population of town of Dunmore was under 600; the town was nearly surrounded by the best grazing lands; the population, except a few shopkeepers, were very poor, and the majority had practically no land, and felt keenly the want of grazing; most of the graziers refused to let any grazing, but Captain Martyn's agent, on the Deering Estate, gave grazing accommodation at £3 10*s.* per annum; the town and its neighbourhood suffered from periodical flooding of the River Elare, and from the lack of railway accommodation, 55996, 56018.

Acquisition of Grazing Lands.

The grazing should be bought by some authority, and the whole of it settled with migrants from the villages round whose vacated holdings should be divided amongst those who remained, 55991-2, 55997-9, 56000.—Tenants were prepared to migrate, 55999.—Grazing land should be acquired by compulsion; the 171 resident graziers included many shopkeepers, 56001-2.—Resident graziers should receive some fair compensation, but the non-resident, who were eleven-months' men, should receive none, 55991-2, 56003-10, 56024.—Eleven-months' men had overstocked the land and eaten the heart out of it, 56025.—A certain individual who had purchased out land on the Bodkin Estate was entitled to compensation though he was non-resident, 56026-9.—Where a man had half a dozen farms and lived

KENNEDY, Mr. CORNELIUS J.—*continued.*

on one of them Congested Districts Board should acquire the five, leaving the holder that on which he lived, 56046-9.—When all the local people had received sufficient land what was left might be distributed amongst migrants from a distance, 56011-4.—The land shoud be used entirely for the relief of congestion; migrants from a distance being provided for in preference to farmers' sons; the latter should not receive land, 56015-8.—Estates Commissioners had bought some grass land within Tuam Union and had given some of it to sons of tenants, 56019-22.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD.

Transfers of land from landlord to tenant should be carried out by some authority such as Congested Districts Board or Estates Commissioners, as in private treaties between landlord and tenant the latter might agree to give a sum which would make his annuity too large; powers of Congested Districts Board should be enlarged and local men elected by popular franchise should be on the Board in order that local interests might be given due attention and overstaffing of Board be prevented, 55991-2, 56030.—The Rural District Council should nominate these local members who need not necessarily be County or District Councillors, 56031, 56034-4.—A system by which the Rural District Council appointed a sub-committee to inquire into local aspects of congestion and make representations to Congested Districts Board and by which Board were bound by law to consider those representations would also be most useful and might avoid the difficulties likely to arise if Board included members anxious to advance the interests of particular districts, 56032, 56037-43.—On Rural District Councils the difficulty of meeting the views of representatives of all districts was greatly felt, 56044-5, 56050-5.—County Councils usually managed to transact their business in spite of the conflicting interests of various districts, 56056-61.—Witness preferred the scheme of having a local representative on Congested Districts Board to the sub-committee scheme, though a sub-committee might have more aggregate knowledge of local needs than one individual representative, 56062.—A local representative who did not get many local grants for his own county would be defeated on re-election, 56067-77.—Three years would probably be a sufficient term of office for these representative members of Board, but witness personally would not object to a seven years term, 56079-83.—County Councils might lose control over their representatives if elected for so long, 56086-9.—The control by the Council was less important than the original choice of a good man, which was likely to be secured if the representative were chosen, not by nomination of the County Council, but by the voice of the people, 56090-3.

D'ARCY, Mr. JOHN R.

See pp. 131-2.

CONDITION OF GLENNAMADDY.

Witness was Clerk of the Rural District Council of Glennamaddy, on whose behalf he appeared, 56094, 56129-30.—Glennamaddy Union contained 3,423 occupiers, of whom 3,204 had a valuation of under 6; there were 15,013 acres of unoccupied land available for distribution; this unoccupied land had a valuation of £6,000, and was partly bog, but mostly grass, 56095-6.—About 10,000 of the 15,000 acres were capable of being tilled; 64 graziers held this land; the area of the occupied land was 71,296; between 1881 and 1891 the population had decreased 18 per cent., chiefly through emigration to America, 56097-8.—Few emigrants returned except temporarily, 56123.—It was difficult for them to get farms; witness knew of none who started shops, 56125-8.—The division of land, the starting of factories, and the improvement of railway accommodation would increase the prosperity of the country; the nearest railway station to Glennamaddy was Ballymore, ten miles distant, 56098-9, 56112.—It would be a great advantage if all Glennamaddy Union were scheduled; only seven of the eighteen divisions were scheduled, 56111.

D'ARCY, Mr. JOHN R.—*continued.*

IMPROVEMENTS SUGGESTED.

The land in the district would probably suffice to make the holdings economic, 56100.—Congests on local uneconomic holdings should be satisfied before sons of tenants, but the introduction of migrants from a distance, while sons of local tenants were unprovided for, would probably cause trouble, 56101-4.—This circumstance made the problem of relieving congestion on such places as those along the coast where there was no grass land available a very difficult one, 56105-9.—If all the great grass tract between East Galway and Roscommon were given to the sons of tenants relief of congestion on the seaboard would be impossible, 56110.—A woollen factory might be started in Glennamaddy as it was a sheep country, 56113-4.—Local weaving had been, to a great extent, given up as it did not pay; weavers at present could not earn more than 1*s.* 6*d.* a day, 56115-8, 56121.—The industry would probably pay if the work could be sent to distant markets, 56119.—An instructor going through the districts to teach young men weaving on an improved loom would be of use, 56122.

MACKEN, Very Rev. CANON.

See pp. 132-9.

LITTLE WORK DONE BY CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD IN TUAM UNION.

In Tuam Poor Law Union only four electoral divisions were scheduled as congested, namely, Addergoole, Belclare, Dunmore, and Levally; others needed scheduling; there were 56,925 acres of grazing land in the Union; Tuam parish had an unusual proportion of grazing land, but Congested Districts Board had only dealt with two small estates, and built seven or eight cottages, of which it was complained that the annuities were too high, 56132, 56257.—One tenant on Ardnagoll townland on Bodkin Estate paid £16 15*s.* for 23 statute acres; his holding was in three divisions, and he had paid £82 to get possession; he asked to have his case represented to present Commission, saying he had thought he was getting 25 acres; he had been brought from a congested area, and Board fixed his annuity; he saw the land before getting it; his grievance was not very serious, 56132-8.—Nothing was done for the congested area in Tuam parish till August, 1907, when the Parish Committee were promised a grant of £50; twice questions had been asked in Parliament by the member for the division as to why nothing had been done for Levally; since Levally was scheduled 1,000 acres had been sold to graziers in Gallagh, close by, at 18 years' purchase, and this tract would have sufficed to relieve congestion in Levally division while the moderate price would have enabled Board to provide large holdings at moderate payments; if Board had had greater resources and a larger staff they could have acted more promptly and acquired this grazing land, 56139-40.—This grazing land was sold in 1900 under Ashbourne Act, 56141-4.—Board should have more money and members representative of counties who would know what was going on in the county, 56145-6.—Under the existing scheduling rules there was little room for Board's operations in Tuam Union, 56254-6.

FINANCE OF THE LAND ACT OF 1903.

The Land Act of 1903 should be promptly amended as the financial system was obviously unsound; it was clear that the Government Land Stock provided less than five-sixths of the purchase money; in 1903 it was expected that Irish Land Stock, paying a dividend of 2¾ per cent. would stand at 100, but in 1905 it touched 95½, and during 1907 fell to 81; in September, 1907, it had risen again only to 83; this meant that 17 per cent. of the purchase money would eventually fall on the rates; it was useless to say that some of the balance came from grants made in relief of the rates, for even if these grants were a gift, which they were not, the rates would increase in proportion to the amount used in the purchase of land; at the existing rapid rate of purchase, and on the present financial system, the balance of the

MACKEN, Very Rev. CANON—*continued.*

purchase money would soon be an enormous burden on Irish ratepayers, and would fall even on those who owned no land; other gilt-edged securities such as India three per cents. had fallen in the same proportion as Irish Land Stock, which meant that the earning power of money had considerably increased since Irish Land Stock was first issued; its increase was 10 or 15 per cent., so that a landlord who in 1907 received 17 or 18 years' purchase for his land was as well off as the landlord who in 1904 received 20 years' purchase; the Land Commissioners seemed to have appreciated this, and in valuing an estate in Galway recently they fixed the price at about £7,800, though some years before the tenants offered about £11,000; a landlord should receive his net income, but in calculating it allowance should be made for agents' fees, and wages of bailiffs, and rent warners as well as for lawyers' fees, and bad debts, and rates payable by landlords; nothing should be allowed for moral and intellectual damages; the ordinary law of supply and demand did not apply to Irish land purchase; Irish tenants would pay anything for their land, and knew of no other security in which to invest their savings; they could not look years ahead and weigh the probabilities regarding importation of Canadian live stock and such considerations, nor understand the juggling of big financial houses in depreciating stock; such contingencies must be considered for them; if the Land Act were altered and rents reduced in a manner which present-day conditions would justify, and if Congested Districts Board, or some other authority, got power adequate to the work a settlement of congested problems would be in sight, 56147.—Financial arrangements for issue of stock should be put on a basis which would bring Land Stock up to £100; this would be about 3 per cent., and there would be less of a discount falling upon the country; it was anomalous that with Land Stock bearing $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., and Consols $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and the same security for both, the prices were almost equal, 56239.

Congestion in Tuam Electoral Division.

What was formerly known as the electoral division of Tuam was divided in the 5th of April in 1898 into Tuam Urban and Tuam Rural; Tuam Urban consisted of the township of Tuam, containing 604 acres, and a population of 3,012 persons; Tuam Rural consisted of the rural portion of the old electoral division of Tuam and of some additional townlands; in Tuam Rural 82 tenants had an average valuation of £2 10*s.* 4*d.*; Levally, which was scheduled congested, had only 65 tenants rated under £5; those tenants of Tuam Rural who were not graziers numbered 155, their average valuation being £5 10*s.*, and this valuation could be raised to £25 if the 5,811 acres of untenanted land in Tuam Rural were distributed; witness's calculations were based on the books of the Union; the Tuam Rural tenantry were in great poverty, and witness had distributed sorely needed relief to them; labour was scarce, and many people eked out existence by cutting turf from bogs and selling it in the town for fuel; they were industrious, but under present conditions it seemed mockery to exhort them to self-help; in Tuam Rural was situated the estate of Mr. Day, on which there was a farm containing 70 Irish acres let to a grazier about the year 1877, when land was expensive at £2 an acre; for this farm, at this rental, thirty tenants had recently offered 23 years' purchase, though an excellent farm on a neighbouring estate had been sold at the same time for $22\frac{1}{2}$ years' purchase on a greatly reduced rental; though each of the thirty tenants would only get about two acres, and this, in some cases, at a distance from their own farms, the 23 years' purchase was worth their while, because at present they paid £4 to £6 per acre for con-acre meadow and grain crops; an official table of statistics drawn up in October, 1906, showed that within the entire Union of Tuam there were 2,315 occupiers valued under £5, and that there were also 56,925 acres under grazing, and valued at £22,692; valuation of the whole union was £77,625; in Abbey parish 300 families had less than £5 valuation each, and in Dunmore electoral division, 205; Claretuam electoral division had fifty-six occupiers valued under £5, but there were 3,170 acres of grazing; the rundale system existed in Carrowrevagh and elsewhere in Tuam parish, 56148-9.

MACKEN, Very Rev. CANON—*continued.*

Gombeenism.

In three or four cases gombeenism with 100 per cent. interest existed in neighbouring parishes, but was less flourishing than formerly, 56148-9.

Remedies for Congestion in Connaught.

Tuam Union was fairly typical of other Poor Law unions of Connaught; the whole province and other places similarly circumstanced should be scheduled congested; the scheduling of large areas instead of having regard to the poverty of individuals or small townlands had been a mistake; many non-scheduled districts were poorer than those scheduled; tenants were aggrieved because the presence of grazing lands in their midst had deprived them of the benefits accorded to districts scheduled congested; this explained much of the existing unrest; many persons round Tuam were applying for labourers' cottages on the ranches in the hope of later on getting a slice of the grazing land, 56150.—Land should be purchased and the annuities for the holdings should not be so large as to prevent the possibility of the tenants thriving; a tenant on the Gallagh congested estate whose house was not yet built had sublet his new holding for grazing at a price lower than the annuity and he remained in his old holding, 56150-4.—Congested Districts Board had done excellent work in Connaught, but paid more for land than Estates Commissioners; if lower prices stopped sales landlords would have to face reductions of rent or compulsion would become necessary; landlords, if their net income were fairly secure, should get no compensation for compulsion, 56154, 56182, 56124.—The transfer and distribution of land should take place as soon as possible, 56172.

Compulsory Purchase.

Compulsion should be used to acquire grazing lands held on eleven months' system, and unless the grazing lands proved insufficient to relieve congestion compulsion should not be applied all round, 56175-7, 56188-9, 56211-3, 56215.—When estates were needed for migration they should be compulsorily acquired, 56190-4.—The price of compulsorily acquired land should be calculated on the basis of the landlord's net income, that is the sum the landlord could put in his pocket after discharging all obligations on the estate, 56173-4, 56178.—In securing landlords their net income it should be remembered that limited owners had a wider field of investment than before the passing of the Land Act of 1903, 56178-81.—Grass lands were held by graziers on eleven months' system, 56216.—The rent in Connaught was variable, 56217.—Witness knew of one exceptionally good farm near Tuam let at £2 per Irish acre, 56218.—He knew of no land on the same estate held by tenants at that price, for tenants notoriously held inferior land as it had long been customary to plant tenants on boggy soil, 56219-2.—Tenants paid perhaps £1 per acre; this was not judicial rent; the landlord on that estate was a kind one and gave voluntary reductions, 56221-3. If the rent were £2 the landlord should get that, but the tenants should not be charged £2 10*s.* in consequence if that made the annuity too heavy; the difference should be bridged by the Imperial Treasury, 56224-7, 56230.—The difference would not be enormous, 56228-9, 56231.—Tenants would pay more for good land than for their present poor land, 56232.—The £2 rent was gross income, 56233-6.—The reduction would amount to about 20 or 25 per cent; as a rule it was not put high enough, 56237.—It was impossible to compare the rental of the tenanted and untenanted land as the soil varied so greatly, 56290-1.—It was impossible to expect that land of a good quality could pass to a purchaser as land of a bad quality, 56292.—The land valued at £1 an acre produced besides that £1 the cost of the tenant's living, but it was impossible to estimate the grazier's profit from the land at £2 an acre, 56293-301.—Judicial rent fixation began under the Act of 1881, which applied to both tillage and pastoral land in the hands of present tenants, and during its operation rents had been successfully reduced except in certain cases, 56310-4.—Certain pastoral farms had been excluded from the rent-fixing process by reason of the devise of the eleven months' system, and thus

MACKEN, Very Rev. CANON—*continued.*

some pastoral lands had had their rents altered while others of the same quality remained with rents unchanged, 56315-8.—The rent should have been altered, but as this had not been done the landlord's net income should be calculated on the basis of the rent as it stood; a corresponding annuity could not, however, be placed on these pastoral lands when broken up and given to tenants for agricultural purposes, and the State should supply an additional bonus to make up the difference, 56319-24.—If landlords did not sell now that judicial rents had to be fixed it was likely, having regard to the importation of live stock, that rent would be lowered; this should be an inducement to landlords to sell even if they did not get their net income from gilt-edged securities, 56328.—It was desirable to continue and encourage the policy of purchase, 56282-3.—The State should see that no class of individuals suffered by this policy, and if compulsory powers of sale were introduced the landowners should not be left worse off than before, 56284-6.—If the existence of two purchasing authorities resulted in the diminution of the price of land there should be two authorities, 56195-7.—The tendency among the rival Departments was to purchase as cheaply as possible, 56198.

PURCHASING AUTHORITIES.

In County Galway the Estates Commissioners had purchased more cheaply than Congested Districts Board, but they had a wider field than Board; the latter always tried to purchase near a congested district, 56198, 56258-9, 56263.—It would be best to have one purchasing authority, which should be a unification of the four existing Departments, 56199-201.—As the Estates Commissioners had bought more cheaply than Board they seemed to be the best purchasing authority, 56202-6, 56265-6.—Witness did not counsel the abolition of Congested Districts Board; one body with various powers, rather than many Departments, was what was needed, and for this reason, if Estates Commissioners bought land they might also improve it, 56155, 56210, 56267-9.—Estates Commissioners would, in that case, have to rehabilitate the properties in West Galway and in the poorest parts of the country by migrating tenants, 56270, 56272-3.—Estates Commissioners had not so far done any such work; their work, as at present carried on, tended to frustrate Board's objects, because they were buying estates and giving them to sons of tenants instead of leaving the land to Board for relief of congestion, 56271, 56274-5.—Estates Commissioners had done good work in improving holdings of people a little better off than those Board dealt with and in relieving congestion which was often acute on their own estates and on the margin, 56276.—There would be no objection to Congested Districts Board being the purchasing authority in Connaught and Estates Commissioners the authority outside Connaught, and in that case if Board operated outside Connaught they could purchase land through Estates Commissioners, 56277-8.—This would prevent competition, 56279.—It might be possible to have land purchase everywhere effected by Estates Commissioners and the purchased estates made over to Congested Districts Board for subsequent improvement, 56325-6.

IMPROVEMENT OF LAND AND AGRICULTURAL INSTRUCTION.

Improvement of land by afforesting and drainage was needed; agricultural instruction was required and the work of the present teachers was too superficial; Board should work model farms, and if it were seen that the methods used made land more productive the example would be imitated, 56154.—Either Congested Districts Board or Agricultural Department might undertake the agricultural instruction, but there were at present too many Boards with work overlapping; agricultural instruction was really Department's work, and in this they did not clash with Board to any appreciable extent, 56155-7, 56159-63, 56207 10.—Department should develop the work on existing lines, but more thoroughly than was possible with present funds and staff, 56161, 56164-8.—If Congested Districts Board were to purchase and improve land there was no reason why they should not work in alliance with Agricultural Department and have a large say in Department's schemes, 56169-71.—The Agricultural

MACKEN, Very Rev. CANON—*continued.*

work administered by the popularly appointed County Committees should not be taken from the latter, 56244-5.—In congested areas supplemental schemes were needed beyond those the committees could finance, 56246, 56251.—For these the body dealing with congestion really found the money, and it should have a big voice in them, 56247-8.—A voice in arranging these schemes might be given to Congested Districts Board, and to the County Committee also, and through the latter to the Department, 56249-50.—It would be a good thing if agricultural training began in National schools, 56281.

AGRICULTURAL TRAINING FOR PRIESTS.

In Belgium priests took a two years' course at an agricultural college, and the success of agriculture in Belgium was said to be greatly due to them, 56154.—In many remote districts of Ireland the people had no-one but the priests of whom they could ask advice, and if the priests had a couple of years' training in agricultural science it would be of great benefit to their parishioners, 56302-8.

WOOLLEN INDUSTRY FOR TUAM.

Collateral industries should be started; a gentleman of distinguished business capacity had inquired into the subject and informed witness that a woollen factory could be made a success in Tuam, 56154, 56240.—Similar industries flourished in Galway and Athlone, where there were no greater facilities than in Tuam, 56184, 56186.—The division of grazing lands might tend to diminish the number of sheep, but there would still be enough to supply a factory, 56184-7.—There were plenty of girls in Tuam to work in the factory, 56241.—The feeling in the neighbourhood was against Government aid for the factory, and it was believed that it could be made to pay as an entirely private concern, 56187, 56242-3.

IRISH LANGUAGE.

The migration of people for the relief of congestion would result in the spread of the Irish language, 56280.

EAGLETON, REV. MARK.

See pp. 139-4.

EXPERIENCE OF WITNESS.

Witness had a practical knowledge of agriculture, and had set an example to his parishioners; by draining he had produced good crops on what had been very cold land, 56333.—He had had a great deal of experience of small holders during thirty years, 56334.

DEBTS TO SHOPS.

Some holders in congested areas generally were greatly in debt to shops, but perhaps less than formerly; for goods lent for a long time shopkeepers charged more interest than the bank, but it did not amount to gombeen interest; landlords sometimes had shops, a system likely to result in the tenant paying rent and leaving the landlord all his crops at the landlord's own price, 56335-6.—Thrift and industry and living on the substantial foods formerly in use instead of on bad flour, bad tea, etc., would mitigate the credit system, 56337.

FOOD OF TENANTS.

The present habit was to drink much tea and little milk, 56338, 56345.—Formerly oatmeal, and milk, and gruel were much in use and tea not at all, 56339-44.—Formerly people ate potatoes and grew and ground their own corn, and ate their own bread, 56344, 56346.—Wheat was not grown so much now as formerly as the class of land the people now dealt with was not capable of producing a wheat crop, 56347-8.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD AND ESTATES COMMISSIONERS.

Witness had not had much to do with Congested Districts Board; the Belclare division was the only congested area in his parish, and all the Board had

EAGLETON, Rev. MARK—*continued.*

done for him was to migrate five or six parishioners to a neighbouring parish; these men were unwilling to go but were persuaded by witness and his co-operator, 56349, 56363.—This would be the attitude of priests generally, 56350.—The migrants were succeeding well, 56351.—Their holdings had been arranged for by Board, 56351.—Witness thought they made no complaints of the annuities, 56353.—Witness had considerable knowledge of Estates Commissioners' work; they had done wonders in his parish; the first estate purchased in Ireland under the Act of 1903 was the Bodkin Estate of Abohill, in witness' parish (not the Bodkin Estate of Kilclooney), 56353.—Most of witness's parishioners were now annuitants, 56354.—The result of tenants becoming owners was increased industry enterprise and improvement, 56355.

Industries stimulated by Estates Commissioners.

Extraordinary industry had been shown on the Smith Estate in witness's parish which Estates Commissioners bought on satisfactory terms; it comprised 1,700 acres, 1,200 of them rich grass lands, farmed by the landlords; land was given to all the tenants with uneconomic holdings and to sons of tenants on neighbouring estates, where the people were very poor, and to tenants from other parishes; roads were made and loans given to tenants; walls and fences were quickly raised; people from neighbouring estates who received land earned 2*s.* to 4*s.* 6*d.* per day with their carts as well as working on their own farms morning and evening, 56356-7, 56358.—Estates Commissioners were worthy of all praise, 56357A, 56362.—In some instances they made grants of £30 to £50 for improvements on new holdings, 56358.—Their policy was to stimulate the people themselves to carry out improvements by giving them small assistance and in every case the people responded, 56359-61.

Sales under Ashbourne Act.

Sales effected under Ashbourne Act in various places where witness had been averaged 13 to 18 years' purchase; on Bodkin Estate the first term rental was about 18 or 19 years' purchase, and on Smith Estate, where there was an exceptionally good landlord, 20 years'; on other estates, even in witness's parish, landlords expected too much, and compulsion should be applied, 56364.—In sales under Ashbourne Act landlords were paid in stock, not in cash, so that comparison with sales on another basis was difficult, 56365-9.

Net Rent and Compulsory Sales.

The net rent was really too much for landlords to expect, because grass lands were depreciating; rent of one farm in witness's parish had fallen in twenty-five years from £800 to £400; on other property land was let at £1 10*s.* per acre, which twenty years before fetched £2 15*s.* per acre; another rent had fallen in thirty years from £150 to £45, 56369.

CURRAN, Rev. JAMES.

See pp. 140-1.

Change in Scheduling Regulations Needed.

All congested districts in Connaught should be scheduled where the valuation of tenants demanded it irrespective of the valuation of grazing farms and demesnes, 56370, 56388.—In Abbey Parish there were 300 families of £5 valuation and under, and 100 families at about £8 valuation, and 50 families over £10 valuation; the parish contained 12,000 acres of grass land; Congested Districts Board had bought the Cooloo and Tighe Estates, and done good work distributing lands and enlarging all holdings on the estate except one of thirty acres; but two small estates near contained holdings whose average valuation was £2, but which had not been scheduled; the village of Feagh contained fifty-two houses, where all the families but one were under £5, while west of them was a farm of 700 acres, farmed by a man who lived on the produce of Leinster, and east of them was 1,100 acres of grazing; of the nine townlands in the electoral division of Abbey East seven had no population, and the other two were crowded, but

CURRAN, Rev. JAMES—*continued.*

were not scheduled because of the neighbourhood of 4,000 acres of grazing land, though forty-six of the tenants had less than £5 valuation, and only one as much as £10, 56370-1.—Two landlords had expressed their willingness to sell to Board, but one had died and his successor was in an asylum, 56372-3.—Both Board and Estates Commissioners had been approached regarding purchase of the 12,000 acres of grazing land, 56373.—Local industries had been established in Abbey, though both Congested Districts Board and Department of Agriculture had refused help, saying they had no money, 56373, 56382, 56386-91.

Factories Established in Abbey.

There was a small woollen factory not in a congested area, 56374-5.—At a timber factory or sawmills, started early in 1907, egg-boxes, gates, carts, fences, and palings for cattle were made, 56375.—There was plenty of timber; Congested Districts Board sold timber on Cooloo Estate, the transport of which to Galway cost 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton, and the return transport would be the same; the factory would be easily worked if the timber could be obtained locally, 56376, 56379, 56381.—There were plenty of woods in the district in the hands of landlords, 56377-8.—Landlords cut down all timber when they intended to sell their estates; rye grass now grew where there were once plantations; clay was put over the roots of the trees, which were then burned, 56393-4.—The sawmills were worked by steam, and doing well, 56382-3.—A corn factory to grind oats had been established eight years, and was doing splendidly; another was being started, 56383-5.—These industries had been established about six miles south of Tuam, 56392.—Some landlords were applying to both Estates Commissioners and Congested Districts Board to buy their lands; both bodies should send inspectors, and where there were facilities for local industries Board should take them up; Estates Commissioners should attend to land purchase; Agricultural Department's teaching should also have regard to local conditions; it was useless to teach dairying where sanitary conditions were very bad; in such conditions Board might give loans for improvements, 56391.—There was no Parish Committee established in Abbey, though one had been formed to get a grant from Department; witness's remarks regarding Abbey applied to other poor districts all over the union, 56391A.

STUART, Mr. W. H.

See pp. 141-2.

Position of Witness.

Witness was Estates Commissioners' Chief Land Inspector for Connaught, 56405-7.

Corrections of Statements Regarding Estates Commissioners.

Evidence given to present Commission concerning Comyn's Estate was incorrect; the facts were that prior to the Act of 1903 that estate was offered to Land Commission, who refused to buy it; after the Act of 1903 was passed Estates Commissioners were asked to inspect the estate to consider the question of the tenants giving eighteen years' purchase; witness made a preliminary inspection, and found the estate so bad that at his request the Commissioners themselves went to look at it; witness saw most of the tenants, many of whom said they never offered eighteen years' purchase, while others stated they had been coerced into doing so; Estates Commissioners refused to make an offer for the estate, 56395-7.—Witness thought the tenants did not know what zones were; it was necessary to employ an interpreter to speak to them, 56398-400.—Untrue statements had been made almost everywhere where this Commission had taken evidence, 56400, 56403.—At Castlebar a witness stated that on Clanmorris Estate the Estates Commissioners had not expended a shilling on improvements; Estates Commissioners had so far laid out £2,713, of which £2,705 were a free grant, 56400.—There was no considerable congestion on Clanmorris Estate; it was on what was called the plains of Mayo, 56419-20.—An official of Congested Districts Board (Mr. Doran) had stated that Estates

STUART, Mr. W. H.—*continued.*

Commissioners never re-arranged holdings nor striped land nor migrated tenants, and that they sold bogs without striping them; this statement was entirely wrong, and witness had himself subsequently given the facts in his evidence, 56400-3.

GRANTS OF LAND TO SONS OF TENANTS.

Estates Commissioners could give holdings to sons of tenants on their estates but not to sons of tenants on adjoining estates, 56408-10.—There was considerable demand for holdings for sons of tenants, 56411.—It was not advisable to give land to all tenants' sons applying, but in some cases by making such grants it was rendered easier for migrants to come in, 56412.—Heads of families should however be given the priority, and where there was local objection to migrants it was better to have police to enforce the arrangements regarding these migrants rather than give a lot of land away to sons of tenants, 56413-7.—Police had been thus used in County Galway, where the people had since admitted that the Estates Commissioners were in the right, 56417-8.

CALLANAN, REV. J. P.

See pp. 143-52.

OBJECTIONS TO BOARD'S PROCEEDINGS IN EAST GALWAY.

Witness was Parish Priest of united parishes of Killimore and Tierenascragh, about ten miles from Loughrea and five from the Shannon, near Portumna, and between the Clanricarde and Pollock Estates, 56421-2, 56607.—He had been Parish Priest there eight years, 56423, 56583.—Statements regarding these parishes applied in great measure to most other estates in East Galway; all had rich grazing lands side by side with uneconomic holdings, and on all there were sensible practical farmers fighting their way against grasping landlords and greedy graziers; witness had had some experience of Congested Districts Board and of the Estates Commissioners and of Agricultural Department; Congested Districts Board had done excellent work elsewhere, but in this locality had failed, and there was a strong opinion against them, 56423, 56500-1.—Congested Districts Board paid too much for land, and so had to set annuities ruinous alike to individuals and ratepayers, and they also held monster grazing tracts for years without dividing them; Congested Districts Board's Report for 1906 showed they gave £22,945, or thirty-five and a half years' purchase, for land valued at £646, while on adjoining land Estates Commissioners, about the same time, purchased a valuable farm for twenty-six and a half years' purchase; Estates Commissioners had settled tenants on their farm, but after four years there was no sign of Board's dividing the Kenny Estate; in the same report Board set down £5,714 for "improvements and other expenses," though to witness's knowledge not more than £10 had been spent on improvements, and though they farmed most of the land themselves, setting con-acre at a high price and taking in graziers at a higher price than was charged across the road their receipts were only £5,163, or £600 loss; if Board thus incurred loss how could a family support itself and pay its outgoings?; only those who had nothing to lose would be likely to take this land at thirty-five years' purchase of the poor law valuation, and they would probably not be able to meet their engagements, so that the ratepayers would have to bear the loss, 56424, 56505, 56514-6, 56528-9, 56531-8.—This was Dr. Kenny's Estate, 56530.—About four years ago Congested Districts Board bought the Blake Estate at Benmore over the heads of the tenants, and at three years' purchase over that offered by tenants; it had only recently been divided after local agitation; Estates Commissioners bought the O'Farrell Estate at Doon, divided it, and built houses on it in the space of nine months; work done on O'Farrell Estate was superior to that done on Blake Estate; Congested Districts Board had charged Pat Wade £23 for a holding containing only three or four acres fit for tillage; Board promised to open main drains and make a bog road, but abandoned the works, so that the lands became water-logged; some of the Benmore

CALLANAN, REV. J. P.—*continued.*

annuitants would have to pay 35*s.* to 40*s.* an acre, including annuity, rates, etc., a figure for which no land in that locality could pay whilst enabling the tenant to live decently, 56424, 56539.—On Benmore Estate there had been difficulty regarding introduction of migrants from Mayo before local wants were satisfied, and witness believed this was why no other land in that locality had been divided by Board, 56555-7.—If local wants were first attended to migrants would be welcomed, 56557.—On estates where there had been no trouble land was still undivided, 56558.—Board explained delay in distributing land by saying they had to wait till lands were vested in them, but Estates Commissioners bought land, and in a couple of months had houses built and tenants settled before the land was vested in Commissioners; this was puzzling to laymen, and the priests found it difficult to restrain the people from driving, 56592-7.—At Slateford Board had acquired land about four years ago and built houses two years ago, but the annuities were so high that the houses were still vacant and the land let to graziers; in view of the high annuities measures should be taken to prevent amalgamation of holdings or a Jewish type of landlords would be introduced, 56424.—Witness would be slow to think Board had to pay especially high prices in East Galway, 56502.—He would be interested to learn that, excluding prices in that neighbourhood, Board had bought cheaper than Estates Commissioners all over the country, 56503.—He believed that if there had been no Estates Commissioners Board could have bought as cheaply in this district as elsewhere, 56504.—Witness thought the dearest price paid by Estates Commissioners for land in Clonfert was twenty-six or twenty-seven years' purchase, and thought that was too much, 56506-7.—Under present circumstances the chances of the market had something to do with price, 56508.—Estates Commissioners had bought a great deal of land in Galway, and the price had risen; this was the objection to having two bodies working side by side, 56509-10, 56526.—With compulsory powers Board could buy land cheaper, even if Estates Commissioners continued their work, 56512-3.—Witness had not been aware that Congested Districts Board were not limited as to the amount of loss they could incur on a particular estate, and had supposed that if Board laid out a large amount on an estate they must charge a proportionately high annuity, 56515-7.—If Board had been forced to buy the Benmore Estate at a high figure because the owner made this a condition of selling a very congested estate he possessed in Mayo the Board should use its power to lower the annuities on the poor people, 56518-9.—A pound or two added to the annuity made a great difference to small holders, 56520.—Instalments should not be weighed down with heavy charges for houses, 56524-5, 56539.—Board built houses for tenants and employed men at 2*s.* and 2*s.* 6*d.* a day; in one instance a boy received 2*s.* a day for driving a horse and cart belonging to Board; a farmer would not have given him so much; when possible tenants should be brought to the land and should help to build their own houses to save expense, 56539, 56570, 56580-1.—Under such an arrangement tenants took greater interest in the houses and employed their own labour, and acted as a kind of clerk of the works; the cost of the house would thus be kept as low as possible, and the building of it would be a lesson in industry to the occupier, 56571-2.—Some houses in witness's parish had been built thus more cheaply than by a builder, 56574.—Tenants were more likely to be satisfied with houses built by themselves, 56575-6.—In some cases Congested Districts Board had built houses for sons of tenants; it had been complained that they refused to build one for Wade, 56577-8.—Witness himself did not believe they had refused to build a house for Wade out of vindictiveness and because he was secretary of the United Irish League, though that had been suggested; he thought Board might, for the sake of peace, have settled Wade's case when they settled others, 56598-603.—Mr. Doran stated in his evidence that the amount paid to engineers and surveyors, etc., was charged by Congested Districts Board to the cost of each estate, 56461, 56531, 56540, 56542-3, 56545.—Witness had thought these expenses would come from some other fund, 56541.—He was glad to hear that these charges were placed against an estate merely to show its cost, and were not necessarily all taken out of the annuities, 56544.—In one instance where Board

CALLANAN, Rev. J. P.—*continued.*

divided holdings there were 237 holdings with scarcely two or three acres of tillage each and forty or fifty acres of other land; four men bought land that only strong cattle and nothing else could make a living out of, 56604-5.

DANGER OF MORTGAGING HOLDINGS.

In one or two cases witness had written to Estates Commissioners to restrain a tenant from getting a loan through a mortgage; the lender was an auctioneer in Ballinasloe, who was advancing money to tenants in witness's parish with the object of acquiring their freeholds, 56425-9, 56437.—The auctioneer got the country people into his books in various ways, 56427, 56437.—People raised money on their holdings while they were still paying annuities to Government; witness did not know if this was legal, 56425, 56430, 56432, 56437.—Witness believed the money was advanced on the security of the holding, 56431.—Witness knew of no case in which the lender had actually foreclosed on a holding, but the Ballinasloe auctioneer had got possession of farmers' holdings seven miles from Loughrea, and had cattle grazing on them, 56433, 56435.—The farmers were still there acting as the money-lender's caretakers, 56436-7.—Land should be given only to those who could be shown to be deserving of it, and when a tenant could not meet his liabilities his holding should be sold, and he should give place to a proper tenant, instead of borrowing money, and giving the lender a chance to become landlord of the whole countryside, 56438-41—A tenant's power of mortgage should be limited to a sum barely sufficient to start the farm, 56442-52, 56454, 56460.—He should be allowed to mortgage to that extent because he had no other means of raising money, 56450-1.—If Board of Works could advance money at low interest, to be added to the annuity and not charged on the farm, tenants would still probably go to the money-lender, if possible in order to avoid the formalities required in borrowing from Board of Works, 56453.—Borrowing from Board of Works on tenant's personal security would be an advantage, because it would leave the holding intact, 56455.—Something like an agricultural bank would be a good thing, 56456-7.—Applicants for grass land should not receive land unless they had some capital to give them a chance of success in cultivating it, 56627.—The capital might be provided by Congested Districts Board, but this should be done only in the case of congests, not in cases of sons of tenants, 56628-9.—If Estates Commissioners had public money at their disposal for this purpose it might be useful; if men received money to increase their stock the security would be strengthened, but witness did not say Estates Commissioners should do this for sons of tenants, 56630-2.

OVERLAPPING OF ESTATES COMMISSIONERS WITH CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD—EFFECT ON PRICE OF LAND.

It was extraordinary that two rival Boards should be buying up land; the system was to the landlords' gain, and this was why landlords and agents were so generally in favour of Congested Districts Board; the future of Ireland depended on securing land at its fair value and on its proper distribution among deserving people; Congested Districts Board should go in for large tracts at reasonable prices, and migrate colonies rather than isolated families, but there should be only one body purchasing; Board should look after the very congested areas of the West, where some spoon-feeding was needed, and Estates Commissioners could allocate the lands they required without interfering with their present excellent work; or Board should be confined to those poor districts, and when they wanted untenanted land for migrants should apply to Estates Commissioners for it, 56461.—Witness had some reason to think that Congested Districts Board and Estates Commissioners when operating in the same district were really competing bodies; the enormous price paid for the Ballydonelan Estate was the special occasion of witness's appearing to give evidence under the bishop's direction; the owner of this estate evidently would not dispose of his lands unless he got more than their value; first he tried to divide the lands, charging fines to tenants, but public opinion defeated him;

CALLANAN, Rev. J. P.—*continued.*

then he approached Estates Commissioners, and failing to get enough money from them went to Board, who gave him thirty-five years' purchase, 56462-3.—

LANDLORDS' NET INCOMES.

Landlords had no right to their net incomes at 3¼ per cent. security, because land security was shaky, 56464.—Witness agreed to the principle of securing a landlord his average income calculated over a number of preceding years, 56465.—In carrying out a great State policy no person should be subjected to loss; the interests of the greater number should be looked to, 56466-7.—But if injuries were to be borne on one side witness saw no reason why the sufferer should be the State; the State should give a bonus to meet the loss, and if some people here and there had suffered the State had done fairly well; already by passing the Land Laws the State had lowered the landlords' rents 30 to 35 per cent., and some further injury to them regarding purchase could not be avoided, 56468, 56559-60.—The landlord was not actually injured by the law; the reductions in his income were legitimate, 56479-80.—The landlord who had an occupation interest in a holding as well as that of ownership must either set it to graziers or farm it himself; not long ago there were many well-to-do graziers in county Galway, all of whom had since been broken down through farming; if landlords now farmed the land they would risk severe loss, and letting to graziers was no longer very profitable; thus a landlord's occupation interest was now of little value, 56561-2, 56565, 56569.—Annuities for tenanted land should be somewhat higher than those for untenanted, 56563-4.—Untenanted land should be valued independently of the income derived from it, which was no standard where there were competitive rents, 56566.—The value should be fixed on a basis somewhat lower than fair rents under the rent-fixing Acts, 56568-8A.—During the eight years in which witness had known East Galway the rents of the smaller grazing tracts had been kept up by competition, but he thought those of larger grazing tracts had gone down, 56582-5.—On the Ballydonelan Estate rents had fallen from 27*s.* and 28*s.* per acre to £1 and less; this estate was distributed to tenants at 25*s.* and 35*s.* 6*d.* per acre, 56586.—If the grazing lands were divided and distributed to tenants the latter could sell their interest at a considerable number of years' purchase, 56587-9.—Their interest would be rather more than the landlord's, and it would be fair to charge them something more than the landlord's interest on their annuities, 56590-1.

CLAIMANTS TO LAND FOR DISTRIBUTION.

The distribution of land should not be limited to deserving people occupying uneconomic holdings, as others who had no holdings were perfectly deserving, 56470-1.—In East Galway there were large grazing tracts with uneconomic holdings on their borders, and it would be a great hardship if whole colonies from a distance were settled there at expense of local congests, 56472.—Heads of families on uneconomic holdings in the district where land was bought for the relief of congestion had the first claim on that land, 56473, 56497.—Heads of families on holdings at a distance had the next claim, but in introducing them the claims of the sons of local tenants should be taken into consideration, as otherwise the migrants would suffer from the discontent about them, 56474-8, 56486-90, 56547, 56615, 56619-22.—The people recognised that Congested Districts Board in distributing land had first to deal with the relief of congestion, 56549-51.—The general opinion was that Board bought land chiefly for outsiders, and consequently would not look after wants of local people, while it was known that where Estates Commissioners bought land the local people would be looked after first, 56548, 56552.—They knew that Estates Commissioners had power to give land to sons of tenants, and they therefore associated Estates Commissioners rather than Board with distribution of land in that direction, 56553-4.—Men at a distance in the same county should not necessarily be given preference over men in the same county; the essential was that people in the neighbourhood where land was purchased should be relieved before migrants were introduced, 56610-4A.—If there was not in congested counties in the West of Ireland enough land to end congestion the

CALLANAN, Rev. J. P.—*continued.*

purchase by Board of large tracts in Westmeath and Roscommon and the migration to them of large colonies would be better than the migration of a few families, 56616, 56461.—If local congests were first relieved migrants would be welcomed, 56617-8.—There was a great deal of good land in the district about Loughrea, 56481.—In Portumna Union there were 21,000 acres of untenanted land; 302 tenants were under £5 valuation, 323 under £10, and 421 under £20; when these and deserving sons of tenants were supplied there would still be a good margin of land left for migration purposes, as the union's population was only 9,054, 56482, 56609.—The population of Portumna Union in 1841 was 30,836; the Pollock and Clanricarde clearances partly accounted for the decline, and many of the evicted tenants were still waiting a chance to return home, 56609, 56495-6.—Both the country and the town would be benefited if this untenanted land in Clonfert diocese were let to occupiers of reasonably-sized holdings, 56483-5.—About 10,000 acres of this land might be employed in relieving congestion in the far west of Galway, 56488, 56495, 56498.—Alongside every grazing tract there was a congested area, which should be dealt with before migrants were introduced; on edge of Kenny Estate, in parish of Killimore and Tierenascragh, there were about twenty families, with average of about £6 valuation, and some as little as £1 or £2 valuation; there were ten or twelve men with no land who had saved something from cattle-dealing and grazing and from their earnings by working hard in the hope of eventually acquiring a holding in the locality; since Board acquired the estate one tenant had emigrated, and was saving money in New York in the hope of returning when distribution was made; Congested Districts Board had no business in this locality, but being there should provide for local needs.

Clanricarde, Ashtown, and other Estates.

The Clanricarde sore would be healed if Estates Commissioners purchased Clanricarde and Pollock Estates; in these cases and in those of Ashtown, Clonbrock, Colonel Nolan, and others, compulsion might be necessary, and if so should be applied; in the first week of September, 1907, Lord Ashtown summoned all his tenants to his hall-door only to trifle with them and threaten them, while absolutely refusing to sell, 56607.

Compulsory Purchase.

Unless compulsory powers were obtained the present Commission would fail of its object, because most landlords would refuse to sell or would hold out for the last shilling; as ratepayers were interested almost directly in sales there should be no private bargains between landlords and tenants, as the latter, in their eagerness to get land, would make unfavourable terms, 56609, 56623.—The County Council might be consulted regarding sales, as they were in a sense responsible for bargains made, 56624-6.—Estates Commissioners had as a rule enlarged holdings, but they divided two farms of 200 acres each among existing holdings, and in two cases gave land to sons of tenants whose families got no increase of land, and in one case they gave land to an evicted tenant, 56491.—This was on Colonel Bailey's Estate, where the land was needed to make the holdings economic, 56492-3.—Witness knew of instances where tenants' sons received holdings, but he did not know whether it was from Estates Commissioners or Congested Districts Board; the only work of which he had definite knowledge was that on the Doon Estate, where Estates Commissioners migrated men from adjacent villages and put them on the good land and amalgamated the vacant holdings, 56494.

Agricultural Department.

Agricultural Department's operations should follow not precede those of Congested Districts Board; Department's work might be useful and even essential in cases of migration, especially those from bad to good land; Department had been viewed with suspicion from the first, and the unpopularity of the late Vice-President did not tend to remove the distrust; better things were now hoped for, 56609.

KELLY, Mr. PETER J.

See p. 152.

Needs of Loughrea Rural District.

Witness was a member of Loughrea Rural District Council and also of the County Council, 56633.—In the rural district there were 10,000 to 12,000 acres of untenanted land; Estates Commissioners had to give too much for untenanted land, 56634-5.—The land hunger in the West of Ireland had caused people to take too little heed of the price they gave for farms, and the result would probably give the Government more trouble than they anticipated, 56635.

Compulsory Purchase.

If Estates Commissioners were to acquire the grazing tracts within reasonable time it would probably be through compulsion; men like Clanricarde and Ashtown and Clonbrock would not give in easily; thousands of acres of land in this union could be utilised for re-afforestation; drainage was urgently needed, as the rivers flooded the low-lying lands and destroyed crops; there was sufficient fall to make drainage easy, 56635-9.—The drainage should be direct, not by curves, and it should be into the sea on one side and the Shannon on the other, 56640.—These large tracts should be in hands of Estates Commissioners, 56641.—They should be drained by the State, 56642-3.—The untenanted land did not need drainage, 56646.—In Loughrea Rural District there were 1,200 holdings under £10 valuation which should be reclaimed and enlarged by Estates Commissioners; some of the tenants and their sons should be transferred to untenanted lands, 56648.

Mr. Wyndham's Promise regarding Uneconomic Holdings.

Mr. Wyndham in the House of Commons had said he would plant the young men on untenanted land, leaving the old men on the uneconomic holdings, and when these old holders died off their holdings should be added to others to make the latter economic; this policy had not been put in practice; the present Chief Secretary said he would do away with Lord Clanricarde's type, but he had not abolished him yet, 56649.

Twelve Electoral Divisions that should be Scheduled.

Twelve electoral divisions in and about Loughrea should be scheduled as congested; it was to the tenants there and their sons and not to congests from Connemara that the land should be given, 56650-5.

MULLEN, Mr. JOHN.

See p. 153.

Congestion in Portumna.

Witness was a member of Portumna Rural District Council; the divisions of Abbeyville and Cloosh and Drumnon should be scheduled congested; in Abbeyville there were twenty-three tenants valued under £5, while in Cloosh there were forty-five, and in Drumnon thirty-five tenants valued under £5, 56656-8.

TAYLOR, Mr. FRANK M. SHAWE.

See pp. 153-8.

Status of Witness.

Witness had been nominated by Irish Landowners' Convention; for nearly twenty years he had farmed all classes of grazing lands in County Galway for himself and others, and had bought large numbers of stock on commission in West of Ireland annually for customers all over the country; he was a land agent and a tenant farmer, as well as an owner in fee who farmed his own lands, and a tenant of lands purchased under the Ashbourne Act; an annuity was payable on the latter, 56659.

Lands Suited and Unsuited for Sub-division.

There was a great deal of deep and heavy land in County Galway valuable for grazing, and suitable

TAYLOR, Mr. FRANK M. SHAWE—*continued.*

for nothing else; if it were sub-divided and tilled the land itself would be ruined, as well as the occupier; in parts of Counties Galway and Clare there was much rocky land very valuable for winterage grazing, but not suitable for sub-division or tillage; there was, however, plenty of dry and light medium-class land in the West of Ireland now used for grazing, which would be equally useful if tilled; there was also plenty of heathery land used for grazing, and not valuable for that purpose, but which would be the better for tilling; to till such land both skill and capital were needed; plenty of such land could probably be acquired without compulsion if a fair price were given, 56659, 56730-3, 56799-800.—Probably most of the land in Meath would be unsuitable for tillage, 56801-2.

Divided Lands Unprofitably Treated.

The amount of land to be given for each new holding must depend on the circumstances of each case, 56659.—Returns of lands sub-divided and sold should be furnished to Estates Commissioners, and should show how much was under tillage and how much under meadow (conacre and otherwise), and how much was sub-let for grazing purposes; these returns would probably show the new holdings were not being profitably used, 56659.—It was not profitable to have much land in conacre or much sub-let; the lands were not being artificially manured, and there was an enormous quantity of hay in the country for which there seemed to be no market; witness had been offered hay at £1 a ton, a price which could not pay the producer, 56783, 56788.—On the whole the transfer of land led to a fall in the price of hay, as more hay was saved, 56785.—Witness did not think that grazing land had been allowed to depreciate for want of manuring; some graziers were more careful, and had the thistles and ferns cut, and the landlord probably manured the meadows, 56789.—There had been no sensible depreciation in grazing land in the ten years before 1907, 56790-1.—On the Branagh farm, which in 1906 was divided among the tenants, some of the land had been sub-let; witness thought that at one time a good many of the grazing ranches had been cultivated, 56794-5.—There were signs of tillage on many of them, 56798.

Migration Question.

The question whether the introduction of migrants from a distance was acceptable depended on the locality; at present there appeared to be an idea that all grass lands bought were to be divided amongst the people of the neighbourhood whether the holdings were economic or not; generally migrants from congested districts would not have sufficient agricultural knowledge to work their new holdings properly, and would need competent instruction and financial aid, 56659, 56734-5, 56805.—Some men would learn something about the working of a plough in two or three years; others would need supervision twice as long, 56807-8.—Powers should be retained by a public body with regard to the maintenance of the improvements made on the land at the public expense, 56736.

Cattle Trade and Sub-division.

Under the existing system small farmers kept one or more cows, and bred and reared their own calves; dealers also brought up large numbers of calves and yearlings from the South of Ireland to the West, and sold them at the local fairs and markets to small farmers, who kept them till they were about two years old, and then sold them to local graziers, 56659, 56737.—The latter sold the cattle as three-year-olds to Leinster men for fattening, or to the shipper for exportation to England and Scotland, as land in West of Ireland was not good enough for fattening; if grass lands were divided more cattle would be bred and reared, but as the graziers would have disappeared, the "shippers" would be the only purchasers, and these exporters would only buy young store beasts when in first-class condition; not one man in a hundred would be able to produce beasts in

TAYLOR, Mr. FRANK M. SHAWE—*continued.*

such condition unless the entire farming system of the West were changed, so that farmers could fatten all the stock they reared, and this would be impossible, as it meant putting a great deal of land under cultivation which was not feasible, owing to lack of labour and of capital to import labour; moreover, if the farmers depended wholly on the shippers trade would be good only when there was plenty of keep in England and Scotland, and otherwise would collapse altogether; when it collapsed store cattle would be saleable in Ireland only at ruinous prices, and the slump in prices would be unprecedented; one of witness's employers had lost five grass farms since the Act of 1903, and witness consequently now bought for this man in the local fairs 500 fewer store cattle per annum than formerly; while the present occupiers of those farms bought very few, 56659, 56660, 56676-82, 56687-8, 56768-9.—If cases of this kind multiplied the value of store cattle must depreciate, and the cattle trade of Ireland become greatly disorganised, so that the whole country's prosperity would decline, 56659.—On these five farms much of the land was now under conacre, meadow, and much was sub-let, 56780.—The land now carried only 100 cattle instead of 500 cattle, as well as some sheep; some of it was under tillage; it carried more people than before, 56781-2.—The cattle witness bought for these farms were two-year-olds; all West of Ireland farmers with any means kept cattle till they were two years old, as they then had the best market, 56662-5.—Witness sold to Leinster men or shippers, 56666.—The people among whom the five farms were divided could not buy so many cattle as witness had bought; one of these men with twenty or thirty acres would have his own stock of cows with calves and a mare with a foal, as well as some sheep, and he would not be able to support much more; if he bought anything it would be yearlings, 56661, 56667-70, 56709, 56711.—If these men were to supply the place of the graziers they would have to keep the stock till they were three years old, instead of selling two-year-olds as at present, 56670-1.—Moreover, there was no sale for three-year-old cattle at local fairs in small lots, 56672-3, 56712.—If cattle were fattened in Connemara no one would buy them if there were not local graziers, 56761-2.—Buyers would not come from Dublin because there was plenty of good beef there, 56763.—Selling two-year-olds was more profitable to small farmers than selling three-year-olds, 56674, 56708, 56713.—These small men had not the capital to buy two-year-olds, 56707-8.—There was £3 or £4 difference between the price of a two-year-old and a three-year-old, 56710.—These remarks referred to small farmers in County Galway, 56714.—Small farmers in Clare kept their cattle till two years old; the best two-year-old cattle in Ireland came from Clare, 56716-7.—So far the price of store cattle had not gone down, but in the first three weeks of the present month* there seemed signs of its decline, 56683-4.—It was bound to depreciate if shippers became the only buyers, 56685, 56738.—The effect of the disappearance of graziers would be not so much against the large farmers as against the small men, who were compelled, in order to live, to sell their cattle as two-year-olds, 56739-40, 56777.—The number of cattle was not likely to diminish under the new system, 56754.—Leinster men only bought young store cattle at one period of the year, 56693.—For the pollying trade Leinster men bought in February, March, and the beginning of April from small farmers and from graziers; the cattle they purchased were young stores in forward condition; these were brought to Leinster and dishorned, and after being fed for the summer they were sold in autumn to English and Scotch feeders, 56695.—The cattle would be two-and-a-half years old in September; the trade only lasted a couple of months, as dishorning could not be done in hot weather, 56696.—This pollying trade might continue as before, even if grass lands were divided, 56697, 56703-5.—Much of the grass land of Meath was unsuited for the pollying trade, and only fit for feeding three-year-old beasts and so on, 56698.—The revival of tillage to any great extent would be not merely unprofitable, but impossible; witness was tenant of a judicial farm very suitable for tillage, and had for years improved it by a tillage system, but did no find it profitable, as labour was scarce and dear, and the rent had been

* September, 1907.

TAYLOR, Mr. FRANK M. SHAWE—*continued.*

raised over ten per cent. for the second statutory term, probably because witness was an improving tenant; witness intended to practically give up tillage on this farm, 56659, 56742.—If witness had not improved his farm, but let it go back, he would have got a reduction in rent, 56743-4.—The worse the farmer the bigger the reduction he got, 56745, 56749.—In basing the price of land upon second statutory term rents loss was incurred by the owner where the tenant's neglect had reduced the value of the land, 56746.—Witness was allowed for his improvements, and made the best case he could, 56747.—His landlord was Mr. Martin Ward, 56748.—Third term rents would probably be notably under second term rents, as second were under first, 56752.—Consequently landlords would do well to get rid of their land as quickly as possible, 56753.—Witness had tried stall-feeding, but it did not pay him, 56689-90.—Stall-feeding on a huge scale would disorganise trade, 56701.—If the intermediate lands were divided the tilling them would be impossible on a large scale, owing to the state of the labour market, 56755-6, 56787.—Men with thirty acres could not profitably stall-feed their cattle in view of this expense of tilling and the expense of building out-offices, and buying corn and meal; it would pay better to try and get out the cattle at two years old, 56700, 56759.—Witness did not think small holdings would ever be able to carry cattle till they were fat, 56787.—It was possible that under an intensive system of agriculture with green crops produced in rotation under a system of mixed agriculture a farmer might rear his own stock, and finish and fatten them; but before this could be achieved the system of agriculture in Ireland would have to be changed, 56764-5.—In some cases, but not in all, it might be well to change the system, 56766.—If the first-class land was left untouched under the new system it would still be available to take up young stock, 56767.—In the first years of the settlement of a man by the Estates Commissioners or Congested Districts Board he would have great difficulty, and perhaps could not till the first year as afterwards, 56770-1.—Even with an intensive system of agriculture the farms could not be in working order for at least two years, 56772.—Witness did not agree with Mr. Doran that more cattle could be fattened if the grass lands were divided, 56773-5.—The division of grass lands would probably not diminish emigration, as the young people would not be content to remain and work on the farm merely for their keep, but desired to work for themselves; as farming was practically the only industry in Ireland, too many people were engaged in it; the revival of declining industries and the starting of new ones would do more good than indiscriminately dividing up all the grass lands in the West of Ireland, 56659.

TENER, Mr. EDWARD SHAW.

See pp. 158-60.

The Clanricarde Estate.

Mr. Henry Murphy, a solicitor of Galway, in giving evidence regarding the townland of Carrowbrowne, on the Clanricarde Estate, stated that tenants had to pay £1 per annum for their turf, and that there was no roadway to the bog, and that in wet weather the turf had to be left on the bank for a time; he also stated that in 1892 the landlord levied a shilling tax on the banks for a roadway but made no road and continued to levy the tax; as a fact only one man on the estate was charged 14*s.* for turf, the rest being charged 5*s.* to 10*s.*; no such levy as a shilling per tenant was made, and there was a road to the bog for whose maintenance the landlord paid a yearly sum, 56809, 56814.—Witness did not think tenants contributed anything for the making of the road; it was made before he was agent; he had been maintaining it for twenty years and knew of no payments made for it by tenants since he was agent, 56811-3.—The turbary was in Carrowbrowne townland but not on tenants' holdings; the turbary was never free in witness's time, 56815-7.—Holdings on Carrowbane townland were rather small; tenants were allowed to sell the surplus turf they took, and by this means they made from £3 to £7 a year though their rent

TENER, Mr. EDWARD SHAW—*continued.*

might be only £7 to £8, 56818-9.—Enlargement of their holdings would be useful but could not be done on that estate as there was no land untenanted except the Clanricarde Estate demesne and a small home farm, 56820-5, 56829, 56876.—One-fifth of this home farm was tilled and meadowed yearly in conjunction with the residence, and the other four parts were temporarily let, 56826.—The owner was non-residential, 56827.—There was not enough grass land on the estate to enlarge uneconomic holdings; there was no land on eleven or twelve months' system, 56830, 56853-5.—The tenancy at Tullahill was an eleven months' present tenancy, grazed by a Mr. Levinge from Athlone, who was non-residential; he obtained his tenancy about ten years before 1907, 56856-60.—This farm could not be cultivated; half of it was excellent grass land and the other half was needed for meadow to supply the first half in winter; it was a very small farm; witness had divided into eight portions a larger tract of land near Loughrea, 56861.—Some hundreds of tenants, including nearly all the non-judicial tenants, held from year to year, 56862-4, 56877.—These tenancies could not be determined on giving compensation as the lands were tenanted and tenants had a right to go to the Land Court, 56865, 56877.—Witness was certain that neither Estates Commissioners nor Congested Districts Board could terminate the tenure of a future tenant without a sale, 56866-9.—Estates Commissioners or Congested Districts Board having purchased an estate could determine the tenancies of future tenants by giving them six months' notice and a maximum of three or four years' compensation for disturbance, besides compensation for improvements; witness did not think they could do the same with present tenants, 56869-9A.—No landlord could terminate a first term rent, but Congested Districts Board could for relief of congestion, 56886-7.—If a tenant were not satisfied with the compensation he had an appeal to the County Court, 56870.—In 1906, on a portion of the estate, comprising sixty-seven tenants, five tenants went into the Land Court and their rents were raised by the Sub-Commissioners one-third; the remaining sixty-odd tenants had not gone into the Land Court up to September in 1907, when four or five appeared before the Commissioners at Portumna, 56878.—Two-thirds of the tenants, namely, about 800, including those in the towns, had judicial rents, and the rest seemed not to desire them, though an occasional notice was served, 56879, 56888.—The raising of rents by the Sub-Commissioners was not common on adjoining estates, 56881.—The rents in question were first term rents, 56882-3.—Some men had applied for second term rents; the last who did so had his first term rent confirmed, 56884-5.—In many cases where judicial rents were fixed the old rents were confirmed; in others there were varying reductions, 56889.—The average reduction did not exceed 12½ per cent; witness thought this was not the case on most other estates, 56891.—There was no principle followed in giving reductions; one set of Land Commissioners would value three or four farms, and six months later another set valued others adjoining, 56889-90.—This Clanricarde Estate was the lowest rented in the county; tenants had many privileges as to turbary, etc., and received quantities of timber for their farms and roofs of houses; so far as rent and occupation went they had no cause to complain of their landlord, 56838.

Transfer of Migrants from Unsold Estates.

The reason why it was difficult to assist small men, unless the estate on which they lived was sold, was to be found in the ill-will of those on adjoining estates and their unfriendliness to migrants, 56840.—The changing of men off an estate that had not been sold would not necessarily result in the farms being left derelict; holders of two small farms on the Clanricarde Estate had been recently transferred to the Blake Estate at Benmore; the rent of one of these migrants was £3 5*s.*, and an adjoining tenant paid him £70 for the tenant-right, 56841-2.—The large price paid for the tenant-right showed the purchaser was satisfied with his own rent, 56843.—It would be well if such transactions were carried out on a large scale, 56844.—This case showed the purchasing of estates was not necessary to effect transfers, 56845-7.

TENER, Mr. EDWARD SHAW—*continued.*

—There were some portions of Clanricarde Estate which it was intended to use to enlarge holdings; it was not intended to charge fines for such enlargements, 56848-9.

GOUGH, The VISCOUNT.

See pp. 160-2.

Description of the Procedure adopted by Continental Governments in striping Agricultural Holdings.

Re-integration or the striping of land had lately occupied much of the attention of the Coburg Government; finding that the old law of 1863 had become out of date on the first of June in 1907, they passed a new law; the disadvantages of disintegration were—loss of space along each boundary; opportunity for law-suits and waste of time; labour and loss of time for men and animals journeying from one pasture to another, especially in bad weather and during harvest; carts could not be filled properly going from one harvest to another, and could not be properly utilised; paths were bad; manure could not be freely conveyed to inner places nor produce drawn out; water could not be drained out; at Ralberingotten, in Nassau, a parish had been divided and re-integrated, so that each owner had exactly the same land he had before while the parish had gained 200 acres in paths worth £240 per annum, representing, at 4 per cent. interest, a capital of £6,000; the cost of re-integration was £1 per acre; small holders were usually placed near the village, alongside one another as far as possible; re-integration resulted in a new spirit of industry which promoted increased prosperity; if re-integration in Ireland increased prosperity rates and taxes would be less, and there would be less outlay on public administration; improved morality heightened prosperity; in effecting re-integration each farm was made, as far as possible, four-cornered, and was accessible from the road; in Coburg re-integration was followed by improved cultivation, 56892-4.—It was difficult to use farming machinery on sub-divided holdings; Prussia had long had a technical administration, and Coburg, like other German States, had invited Prussia to send her officials to arrange restriping, Coburg was to pay Prussia £2 10*s.* for the work per hectare (about 2½ acres); under the new Act in Coburg land could be dealt with compulsorily if three conditions prevailed, namely, if one-third of the parish was owned by the applicants and the applicants paid more than one-third of the land tax, and the Local Government approved, 56895-7.—The ground was valued in September or October, when the harvest was finished, and the next year's crop not yet put in; the ground was marked all over with little sticks on each of which was fixed a paper stating the value of the ground; the capital value of the ground was fixed at twenty-five times the value of what it had actually produced in a year, 56897-8.—If this method were impossible, and in that case only the capital value was calculated as 25 years' purchase of the letting value, 56899.—While the valuation was proceeding no trees could be cut except by permission of the officials, and work was suspended, 56899.—Twenty-five times the valuation of the parish was put together in one block; the object of the valuation was to secure to each individual on re-distribution the same amount as he gave up, 56900-1, 56910.—Witness believed about 4*s.* 6*d.* or 5*s.* was allowed as a great exception to this rule, 56910.—The system did not provide for additions to uneconomic holdings, but corresponded exactly to the re-striping of holdings from rundale, only it was done with more detail, 56911-2.—A judicial holding in Ireland could be striped in cases where there was a landlord when three or four small farmers had been consulted and their approval obtained, but after this the Land Commissioners' approval had to be got, and by the time that was done one or other of the small farmers would have drawn back, 56917.—The Coburg farmers were free to dispose of their interest, and the Government exercised no right of pre-emption in connection with the law of reintegration of holdings; but there were other complicated laws regarding them, 56913-4.—All that was now being done in Ireland had taken place

GOUGH, The VISCOUNT—*continued.*

in Germany from the beginning of the nineteenth century; in 1850 the work was done in Saxony with laws similar to those now being made for Ireland, 56916.—Very old game laws were still in force in most of Europe; in order to shoot game a man must have a freehold tenure of a certain amount, 56920-4.—The Local Government controlled the shooting on small holdings; the profits of many licences from those for shooting to those for keeping nightingales were appropriated to the benefit of the Poor Law, 56925-7.—The present Royal Commission might usefully send an expert to view and report on the work of re-integration in progress in Coburg, 56905.—The Coburg Government had the right to bring in a little bit of land from an adjoining parish where the geographical features made it desirable; witness used the word parish to translate "flur," which was something between a townland and a parish, 56906-7.—The only Act dealing with the question of re-integration in Ireland was the Act of 1885, which said in section 11 that where land to be sold under this Act is sold by tenants in common or rundale or intermixed plots it shall be lawful for the Land Commission, upon the application of either landlord or tenant, or if it shall seem necessary to the said Land Commission to make orders for the partition exchange or division of such land, and the provisions of the 79th and 92nd sections, inclusive, of the Land Estates Court Act shall apply; doubtless at the moment of speaking in September of 1907 there were many cases where the time was especially favourable for re-integration, 56907.—Re-integration had been found of enormous benefit in Coburg, and Saxony, and Prussia, 56909.—Witness had distributed to members of the District Councils copies of a book published by Government describing the system of which he spoke, 56928.

Documents put in by The Right Hon. Viscount Gough.

Page

A.—Report of Dr. Gentrsch on Consolidation of Holdings, ... 277

B.—Laws of Saxony with regard to Agricultural and Peasantry Holdings, . . 277

MOERAN, Mr. ARCHIBALD.

See pp. 162-4.

Experience of Witness.

Witness represented Irish Forestry Society, of which he was a member and provincial secretary for Connaught; he was member of the Scottish Arboricultural Society as well as honorary editor of the Quarterly Journal of Forestry; he had studied forestry in France and Germany, etc., and had practised as an expert in Ireland for about twelve years; he had a large knowledge of the centre and West of Ireland, and had been employed by Department of Agriculture in making a forestry survey; forestry was now admitted to be of urgent importance to United Kingdom; conditions in Ireland, and especially in the area under care of Congested Districts Board, afforded a wider scope and rendered State action a more crying need, 56929.

Re-afforestation.

More of the witnesses before the present Commission would have advocated re-afforestation had they not been conscious of their own lack of expert knowledge; all forestry operations could be carried on in winter and would provide occupation for the numerous migratory labourers who were idle during that season, 56930, 56957.—Portion of Connemara from which labourers were accustomed to migrate to other parts of Ireland would be suitable for planting, 56933-6.—Congested Districts Boards forestry operations would have to be limited owing to the enormous expense; it was always a long time before forestry operations produced results, 56936.—Some of the mountain slopes which could be planted were at present under grazing, but its value was almost nominal; where grazing rights existed compensation must be given, but sufficient ground would be available where there were no grazing rights, 56937.—Witness had

MOERAN, Mr. ARCHIBALD—*continued.*

sent round circulars to a few people in various parts of Ireland, and from these few alone had received a return of about 45,000 acres on which there were rights of graing belonging to the owner who was prepared to sell, 56938-42, 56944-5, 56950.—If Board withheld these tracts for planting there would not be much risk of discontent from neighbouring small holders; the latter recognised that the right of grazing was a small thing as was shown by the rent of 1*s.* or 6*d.* an acre; the money spent on employing labour would reconcile the people to afforestation schemes, 56943, 56946, 56957.—This would be the case on 16,000 acres of land belonging to Lord Clanricarde, and included in the return; this land lay between Woodford and the Clare border; at present it was largely under scrub timber; 56951.—There were no tenants on it; a small section only was grazed, but cattle strayed across the line for three miles, 56953-4. —Witness did not suggest planting such slopes as those to the south of Ballynahinch, from Recess to Clifden, where there were patches of grass land; such mountains as the twelve Bens would be suitable, 56947-9.—It was difficult to show what return the State would get for the money spent on forestry; Continental returns showed that under conditions similar to those in Ireland such land as in Ireland produced a shilling a year could be made to produce £3 and £6; the climate in Ireland was admittedly the best in Europe for forestry, and superior even to that of the Landes; Ireland was the India of Europe with a climate equable and humid and ideal for the growth of the timber used in commerce, 56958-61.—The forestry operations should be done in rotation by sections; a certain amount being planted each year, 56955-6.—It was generally supposed to be essential to have large blocks planted, but in certain circumstances the biggest profits could be realised from small blocks, 56962.—If small blocks were planted on waste corners of existing farms where the sites were sheltered and already fenced with steep banks there would be no expense beyond that of putting in trees, 56963-4.—Where fencing had to be done it would be cheapest to do it well, 56965-6.—There would also be surface drains to make, 56967.—Expenditure would be continuous as sections of forest would be planted annually, 56968-9, 56971, 56976.—It would be about twenty-five years before the work would be reproductive, though there would be some thinning of a not very profitable character before that, 56970, 56972.—For the first five or six years the cost of keeping grass from the trees would be considerable; there should be a resident forester, 56974-5.—Congested Districts Board should work on the lines followed by the American foresters; they first studied the facts and ascertained the probable profits; they made experiments to disarm prejudice and by gradually training their staff they taught the whole country to realise the profits of forestry, 56983.—Congested Districts Board's Forestry Department might consist of one man if he were efficient and could spend a certain amount, 56984.—It would be a good thing to have one Forestry Department for all Ireland, including congested areas, but none existed at present, 56985-7. —The Agricultural Department had a small forestry school, a few acres in extent, 56988.—The first necessity was to obtain the land and hold it over for forestry as it would be difficult to get ground once small ocupiers were in possession, 56989.—It was not desirable to plunge into extensive forestry operations before everything was thought out; heath fir and larch were the most profitable trees hitherto, but the latter was a risk, as in England it had suffered from larch canker; Scotch firs were indigenous to Ireland, 56990.—Board should begin by encouraging planting by private individuals and giving them instruction in forestry, 56991.

NEIL, Mr. WILLIAM.

See pp. 164-5.

Grass Land near Rathglass.

Witness resided at Rathglass, Woodlawn; his evidence related to an area of 8,000 acres of grass land beside which were fifty congested families among whom it could be beneficially divided, 56995.—The landlords were Lord Ashtown, and Mr. Trench, and Mr. Smith, 56996.—Witness was an evicted tenant from this estate, 56996.

NEIL, Mr. WILLIAM—*continued.*

A Holding near Rathglass.

In 1904 Estates Commissioners gave him as a tenant-puchaser a new holding at Rathglass, comprising about thirty-six English acres about a mile and a half from his former holding, 56997-9, 57001, 57010. —The new holding was better than his old one, but comprised less land, 57009, 57013.—The annuity was £17 17*s.*, 57011.—The old holding was rented at £9, 57012.—He had turbary rights on the new holding, 57014.

Game Rights.

He and his neighbours had expected to have game rights on their holdings, but these, with the timber rights, were sold after they got in to a grazier, 57000, 57002, 57005, 57015-7, 57020.—Witness wished for game rights that he might shoot rabbits and prevent trespass in his crops, 57003-4, 57006, 57019.—He had not seen anyone come to shoot, 57007.—He had pheasants on his farm, and if he reared these he would shoot £5 or £6 worth, 57008, 57018.

PELLY, Rev. J. A.

See pp. 166-7.

Condition of Kilquaine.

Witness was priest of the parish of Cloonkeen, Ballinasloe; he took, as typical of the diocese of Clonfert, the parish of Kilquaine, 57024.—Which was situated eleven miles south-west of Ballinasloe, a little more than half-way to Portumna, near the town of Eyrecourt, in the union of Portumna, 57025-6.—In the half parish of Kilquaine there were eighty-six families; its area was 6,859 acres, of which 2,773 acres were let to graziers under the eleven months' system, and ten or eleven resident large farmers held the amount of 1,000 acres; these 3,700 acres comprised the good land in the parish, the 70 small agricultural holdings being of the worst description, 57026.

The Pollock Estate—Untenanted Lands, Evictions in 1854, &c.

The Pollock Estate, in Kilquaine, consisted of 13,000 acres, purchased after the Famine year by Mr. Allan Pollock, 57026.—He was a Glasgow shipbuilder, 57026, 57044.—Previous to the purchase, in 1854, the tenants had been in comparatively comfortable circumstances, but Pollock evicted every tenant from the 13,000 acres, with the exception of tenants in Ballymanna, who held their land on lease, 57026-7.—The tenants were evicted without receiving compensation, 57026, 57028.—One, whom witness had seen recently, earned enough from Pollock to pay his passage to America by pulling down his father's and his neighbours' houses, and building the wall that now surrounded the ranches, 57027-8.—The estate was sold in the Encumbered Estates Court in 1854, 57029-30.—At this time (as shown by maps and papers produced by witness) fifty-three families lived in comfort on two of Pollock's farms, 57029, 57036.—These farms consisted of about 800 acres, 57034-5.—Afterwards the farms were amalgamated into a large grazing tract, and managers were put in by the owner, 57030, 57038.—The former holdings had varied in size, one being 33 acres, others 28, 20, 15, and 9 acres, 57030.—At the present time they were owned by two graziers, and only two herds lived on them, 57180.—The estate originally belonged to the Eyres of Eyrecourt, and the St. George's of Tyrone, who mortgaged their estates, and squeezed the tenants to pay the mortgagees; when they were ruined the estates were bought by speculators like Pollock or worse than he; the clearing of these estates had ruined Eyrecourt, once the most prosperous town in East Galway; had destroyed Laurencetown, and seriously injured Ballinasloe, 57031.—Mr. Pollock attempted scientific farming on the Scotch system, with the result that his managers became rich, 57036, 57040-1.—The managers left him, and set up for themselves,

PELLY, Rev. J. A.—*continued.*

some in Meath, 57037, 57040-2.—And one (Ailsie), who failed subsequently, about seventeen miles from Ballinasloe, 57041.—But the estate went down, and was put into the hands of a receiver, 57036, 57039.—The land then fell into the hands of graziers, 57042.—And mixed farming was abandoned, except immediately around Lismanny, 57046.—The failure of the estate was not attributable to mixed farming, of which system witness was in favour, 57049.—One of the managers had stated that, apart from tillage, grazing would not pay, 57036.

The Estates Commissioners and the Pollock Estate.

No application for sale of the estate was made by tenants to Mr. Pollock, since no tenants remained, but recently Estates Commissioners, exercising powers given them by the Evicted Tenants Bill, had taken up 1,600 acres for distribution to the evicted tenants of the Clanricarde Estate; this plan was unpopular, as the Clanricarde tenants would prefer to return to their former holdings, 57051.

The Ruthven Estate.

The Ruthven Estate was also acquired in the Encumbered Estates Court, 57052, 57060-1.—It consisted of fifteen agricultural holdings, of valuations ranging from £28 5*s.* to £6, and one large farm of 240 acres, held by a grazier, 57052.—It was situated eleven miles from Ballinasloe, in the direction of Portumna, near Woodford, 57054A-5.—The former owner, Bermingham Ruthven, was now dead, 57056-8.—And the property was in the hands of the Life Association of Scotland, to whom it had been mortgaged, and in whose agents the management was now vested, 57052.—As in other estates in this parish, all the good land on the Ruthven Estate was cleared, the tenants occupying only worthless land in undrained bottoms, or sandy hills; the tenants applied some years ago to Mr. Golding, the solicitor to the Insurance Company, to have the estate sold, and were refused, in a letter which witness could produce; the land was now held by a grazier who had 3,000 or 4,000 acres of land in Galway, 57053.

Evil of Mortgages.

This was an instance of one of the agencies which had impoverished Irish peasants, of corporations or individuals who would advance money on land to its full value in times of prosperity, and make no allowance in bad years, thus, every year taking all that comes from the soil, and giving nothing back, 57053.

The Persse Estate.

The Persse Estate, which was also in Kilquaine, was at Spring Grove, fifteen miles from Ballinasloe, 57088.—It contained nine holdings, 57086, 57088.—Of valuations from £51 7*s.* to £7 15*s.*, and in addition a farm grazed by the owner, Mr. Algernon Persse, who resided at Ardrahan, thirty miles from Spring Grove; the tenants on the estate were more prosperous than those in other parts of the parish; the tenants had asked the landlord (through the parish priest) to sell, and he had consented to sell the tenants' holdings, but replied that he required the grass lands for himself; this grass land had also been cleared in the bad times, 57088.—The Wyndham Act was ineffective in all this district as regards the transfer of land, 57086-7.

The Nolan Estate—Area, &c.—Proposed Purchase Price based on usual Receipts instead of Rental.

The Nolan Estate was the worst in Kilquaine parish; it formerly belonged to the Browne's, of Mount Hazel, and at the time of the passing of the Wyndham Act was owned by Colonel Walter Nolan; it was acquired through the Encumbered Estates Court, 57088.—It was situate between Ballinasloe and Cloonkeen, 57089.—To the south of Kiltormer, 57090-1.—It consisted of twenty-seven tenancies of valuations from £10 downwards, the majority being very small; adjoining there is a large grass farm of 450 acres, from which the tenants were evicted fifty or sixty years ago; some of the evicted tenants

PELLY, Rev. J. A.—*continued.*

settled in the bog, and these had no resource but the sale of turf to supplement what they could grow in a worn-out bog; they were on the verge of starvation, and had to make a journey of fifteen miles to Ballinasloe or Loughrea to sell their turf, 57088.—On the passing of the Land Act the owner consented to sell, and in prospect of this took up the grass lands from the grazier in occupation; the agent did not wish to accept the price offered by the Estates Commissioners, and at this stage both the owner and the agent died, and the land came into the possession of Colonel J. P. Nolan; he was approached by both parish priests, but denied that his brother had ever promised to divide the lands, saying that the offer of the Estates Commissioners was confiscation; he, however, offered to sell the tenanted lands at prices that would bring him in the net income he had had from the land under competitive rents in the best of years, 57091.—He stated in letters, which witness could obtain, that he would not sell unless he obtained his net income, 57092-5.—Witness understood, on the authority of the parish priest, that he wanted the net income based on the competitive rent of one good year, 57096-8.—Even of 1872 or 1873, 57098.—But it was possible he meant a series of years, 57099.—If the Commissioners were to estimate the net income from the rental, this would be a false basis of calculation, 57100.—The net income and the net rental were not the same, 57100.—He did not receive anything like the net rental, 57104-5.—What landlords wanted was a price, which, invested at 3½ per cent., would bring in their net income; tenants on this estate were many years in arrears, and these arrears should not be reckoned in estimating income, 57106.—The rents had been originally fixed by Court, 57106A.—The tenants were too poor to go into court, 57107.—The landlord might claim to base purchase price on these nominal debts which could not be collected, 57109.—But for tenanted land, where the landlord was his own agent, and the net income and net rental approximately the same the income should be estimated, not on the rental, but on the usual receipts, 57111-2.

The Cowan Estate.

The Cowan Estate was the only one in the parish in which sales had been effected, 57024.

Poverty in Clonfert.

In the diocese of Clonfert all the best land was held by graziers, and the portions held by tenants were small and poor in quality, in the three unions of Portumna, Loughrea, and Ballinasloe, 57024.—Within the parish of Kilmaine (?Kilquaine), which is a triangle with Loughrea, Ballinasloe, and Portumna at its apexes, and its sides fifteen miles long, is contained all the best land of the three unions, and grazing ranches and congested districts exist side by side; by congestion witness meant that the bulk of the people lived on farms, which supported them with difficulty in good years, and in bad years exposed them to extreme want; in some districts where population was larger the people had been able to better their condition, and buy their holdings, but this was exceptional, 57113.

Cause of Poverty is "Trusts" in Land.

Poverty had been caused by famines and evictions, which had enabled the landlords to make a "trust" in land, the effect of which was to limit the access of the people to the land, which was their only resort; the rents of not only large, but small holdings, were raised, and rents were fixed, not according to economical considerations, but according to the necessities of the people, 57113.—The supply of land was limited and its price raised, which led to emigration, and the consequent physical deteriorating of the remaining population, 57115.

The Land "Trust" is the Origin of the Grazing System.

The grazier originated with the land trust, for those who speculated in land in the Encumbered Estates Court had no energy or capital to work the ranches that were cleared, but put them up to competition, and out of competition arose the grazing system, 57031, 57115. Before the general evictions

PELLY, Rev. J. A.—*continued.*

on the Pollock Estate there were no graziers, properly so called, no large eleven months' takes, 57033.—In this particular district of Galway there were no graziers previous to establishment of the Encumbered Estates Court, and the introduction of cattle ranches; witness gained this knowledge from his father, who had been a land agent, collecting £30,000 a year in this district, 57032, 57117.

Failure of Successive Graziers.

In witness's memory there had been a succession of graziers on all the farms he had mentioned, and nearly all of them had disappeared, 57042, 57062.—One after another had failed, 57062-3.—In Pollock's farms there had been the Lestrange's, the Hardy's, and the Ryan's, and then Cooke and Mitchell, and a grazier shopkeeper, Mrs. Conolly, 57066-7.—The time the land was held by the Hardy's, Ryan's, L'Estrange's, and Cooke's, would cover forty years of witness's memory, 57068.—These people were all on the same land, 57067.—And varied little in the size of their takes, 57069.—Witness supposed that, like all grazing land, it was only let from year to year, and if a bigger rent was offered by a new man he got the land, 57070.—These competitive rents lead to the ruin of graziers, 57043, 57065, 57070.—These graziers held the land as long as they were able, 57072.—This was from year to year on the eleven months' system, 57073.—No one knows what rents the graziers paid, 57073.—At that time, previous to 1870, there was no eleven months' system, 57033, 57076-7.—But the yearly system was much the same thing; the eleven months' system was adopted for the purpose of evading the Act of 1870, 57079.—The hunger for land kept up prices and ruined graziers, 57065.—In 1872 people would have land, whatever the price; witness knew of a man giving 52*s.* 6*d.* an acre rent for land bought for £5 an acre in the Encumbered Estates Court, 57075.—Lately grazing rents had been going down, owing to the agitation against the grazing system, which had been going on in Galway since 1879, 57080-1.—Though the real movement against the graziers began with the starting of the United Irish League in 1900, 57082-3.—There was no real interference with graziers till the passing of the Wyndham Act, 57084.—It would be fair to take the ten years before 1903 as a time when the letting of grass lands was governed by economic considerations only, 57085.—Witness fancied that during those years rents were going down, but witness did not know the variations of the rents, since his father was not a grazier with an eleven months' take, but had an interest in his land, 57086.—The first graziers were mostly creatures of the rent office, people who had assisted the landlord in the clearances, and were rewarded with grazing land; some of these also took bribes from the tenants who were turned out, though they did nothing for them, 57116.—This was before witness was born, but the time shortly after was within his recollection, 57117.—Many of the first graziers also were shopkeepers who had in the bad times made a corner in food; when these first graziers disappeared their places were taken by shopkeepers and men who had made money in business, and others who had supplemented their savings by money borrowed from banks about 1879; these had disappeared, and among their successors also were many shopkeepers and men who were receiving money from the Property Defence Association; these were penniless twenty years ago, and now were anxious to grasp half a county, 57117.—They no longer belonged to the United Irish League, 57118.—These grazier shopkeepers in turn were ruined by competition, for though they were satisfied with a small profit per acre, they were ruined by bad years; the people had no sympathy with them, and landlords would not help them; their ill success, however, did not deter others, for Irishmen all had a hunger for land, and it was a tempting investment for shopkeepers who did not realise the risks of farming; nine-tenths of the ranches ten years ago were occupied by shopkeeper graziers who had made their money out of the poor, and then kept the poor out of the land, 57119, 57121.

Evils of the Grazing System—It is not Essential to the Cattle Trade.

The graziers were the real obstacle between the people and the proper working of the Wyndham Act, 57122.

PELLY, Rev. J. A.—*continued.*

—At the same time witness did not believe that the shopkeepers seized the cattle of the poor for debt, and stocked their grazing lands with them, 57120—If the graziers were abolished the landlords would sell to the tenants, emigration would cease, the population would grow, and the wealth of the country be developed; the welfare of the grazier must not be set against the general good; farmers who practised mixed agriculture did more to develop the country, and a man with a small holding made more money out of it than a grazier would get from the same area, 57122.—Grazing also deteriorated the land; it was not time, as stated by Mr. Armstrong in Tuam, and Mr. Shawe-Taylor in Loughrea, that to abolish the grazier would stop the supply of store cattle, 57123.—Because the graziers did not breed cattle, 57124.—The small farmer bred the cattle, and could, if his farms were enlarged, sell his stock at a later age, make the same profit as the grazier, and owing to greater care turn out his stock in better condition than the grazier; the small farmers also produced sheep, and if they got good land could supply in smaller lots what the graziers produce now, 57124.—With regard to the argument that cattle required a larger run over different kinds of land, the farmers in that district as a whole, were able to produce young stock; there was little fattening done, except in the neighbourhood of Old Abbey; the limestone land was only needed to produce bone, and it was the custom to sell stock at one-and-a-half or two years old to the Meath men; the small farmers, if they had good land, could carry on the trade in the same manner, 57125-6.—Witness, who had a great deal of experience, knew nothing of cattle being confined to one part of a large farm, and removed to a different part at certain times to get access to a different kind of herbage, 57126.—"Winterage" was land capable of holding grass in winter; persons took it instead of buying hay; this might be useful to the small farmer, but a larger farm on the mixed system would be better, 57127.

Compulsory Purchase—Prices, &c.

Witness thought grass land should be acquired compulsorily, and distributed to the people at a fair price, 52127-8.—The rent of grazing land would not be a fair standard for estimating its value, 57129, 57139-40.—The selling price should be fixed by Commissioners appointed on account of their probity and their knowledge of land, and appointed permanently so as to be independent of party, 57130.—The landlord should be given the full price of the land, 57132.—Which should be estimated by its value, 57133.—According to the quality of the land, 57130, 57135.—The Commissioners should use their expert knowledge, 57142.—The value of the land should be taken to be its value when used for mixed agriculture, 57136.—When used for the purpose for which it was best fitted, 57137.—The basis should not be rent, for excessive rents had ruined the graziers, 57139-40.—Nor on calculation based on the landlord's net income, 57130, 57138.—The Commissioners should estimate the value of the grass land; what it could fairly pay after allowing for husbandry, 57140.—As regards the double interest of the landlord, witness considered that he had received it originally as a free gift from the State, and that it would be unfair that the State should pay a large price to resume it, 57141, 57202.—In the case of a landlord who had been in the habit of receiving rents, and had subsequently bought out his tenants, he had paid something, but had got something for nothing by laws made by landlords, 57143-4.—He should not be deprived of what he has paid for, 57145.—And should be given compensation for disturbance; the double interest was to be compensated, 57148.—But tenant-right, which the landlord got for nothing, should not be estimated as if he had bought it, 57148.—The security for the land was the State and the ratepayers; the Commissioners should deal with the money of the State as a stockbroker would deal with the money of his client, not considering the interest of the seller, but the quality of the stock, 57130.—Witness would not attempt to estimate the number of years' purchase which should cover the landlord's interest, 57151.—The Commissioners should give full value to the tenant to live and fair value to the landlord for what he was selling, 57130, 57152, 57224.—In order to bridge over

PELLY, Rev. J. A.—*continued.*

the difference between the landlord's and tenant's claims, witness would say that Mr. Morley's plan of a twenty per cent., instead of a twelve per cent. bonus, should be adopted, 57150, 57203.—The Judges of the Supreme Court had said that no principle applied to the fixation of fair rent in Ireland, but some of them knew little of the matter, 57153-4.—And with regard to the dissatisfaction with the work of Commissioners, some of the Sub-Commissioners were clever and some ignorant, 57155.—Witness would be sorry to say that the Land Court as a rule was ignorant about land; the Sub-Commissioners knew the land, and were honourable men intent on doing justice, 57156.—Mr. Shawe-Taylor, of Loughrea, who had complained that the Court raised his rent 10 per cent. on his own improvements, had had two valuers who differed by £107 about his valuation, and he had also reckoned as improvements what was only the ordinary good use of the land, 57157.—It did not follow that the 10 per cent. complained of was therefore put on for something non-existent; it might be put on something else; witness heard in Court that Judge Fitzgerald did not think anything should be given for improvements, 57158.—Witness's conclusion was that fair value should be fixed by the Commissioners, 57159, 57225-6.—The annuity should be the guiding principle, 57227.—And that being fixed, anything above that given to the landlord should be provided by the State, 57228.—The State should compensate the landlord for his occupation interest, 57219.—It would not be fair to ask the incoming tenant to pay anything for occupation interest, if after the highest price was given to the landlord, there was a margin between it and the annuity, the land could fairly pay, this should not be put on the tenant, 57203, 57220.—Though the tenant directly he got it can sell it, he had not got something for nothing; it was restitution he got, as he had tenant-right before, 57221, 57223.—The landlord should have the value of the land, and the tenant must be charged a price which would make the State safe, 57222.—The State must bridge over any difference between the price paid by the landlord and demanded of the tenant, 57204.

Grass Lands Available—Evidence of Mr. Tener, &c.

The grass lands compulsorily acquired should be the eleven months' and yearly takes where there was no resident tenant, all outside farms not necessary to the owner's demesne, 57204-5.—And all grass land acquired by the landlord for the purpose of defeating the intentions of the Wyndham Act, 57205.—If the owner could prove that the farm outside is used in connection with a farm inside the demesne it should be left to the landlord; all that was necessary to the demesne should be left him, 57206.—Whether within or without the demesne wall, 57207-9.—Mr. Tener, giving evidence in Loughrea as to there being no farms available on the Clanricarde Estate except home farms, reckoned as home farms Deerpark, 110 acres, with three farmers, and Drumscar 352 acres, two miles from the demesne, and Tom King's farm at Moorfield, and a farm near Lockstown, occupied by E. Fry, besides another farm of 300 acres; these had not for forty years been used in connection with demesne, 57209.

Lord Ashtown's Estate.

Lord Ashtown had also tried to acquire the Cloonoak property; when Colonel O'Hara's land was sold he bought out three tenants; Lord Ashtown said he had evicted only one tenant, but witness knew of two, Feeny, who was in Loughrea workhouse, and Sheridan, who, when witness last saw him, lived in a shed in the parish of Gurteen; a third man, Grady, was dead, 57213, 57214.—Lord Ashtown spoke of his property as being in high farming, but it was all game, 57215.—Lord Ashtown also interfered in the case of Mr. Trench, of Clonfert, who was dealing with his tenants about grass lands, 57213.

PELLY, Rev. J. A.—*continued.*

Distribution of Grass Lands.

The grass lands when acquired should be given first of all to evicted tenants, making no distinction between Plan of Campaign tenants and other tenants, 57160.—After that witness would provide for uneconomic tenants in the district, giving precedence to those who originally held the land, and after that, congests who were migrants should be considered before the sons of farmers; this was not a popular plan, but philantrophy should not be confined to parish boundaries, 57162.—The congestion in the estate and neighbourhood should first be relieved, and migrants should not be introduced to places where congestion already existed, 57164.—If land still remained land should be given to relieve poverty and congestion in the West before it was given to sons of tenants, 57166.—This unpopular view might be adopted by the people if put before them by people of influence, 57167.—The existing congestion fully justified the breaking up of grass lands, 57168-70.—Therefore if congests were debarred and land given to farmers' sons the argument that grass lands should be broken up for the relief of congestion could be no longer relied upon, 57170.

The Congested Districts Board—Criticism of its Methods.

Witness stated that in that district the people had great confidence in the Congested Districts Board; he considered it would be impertinent to criticise the Board without knowing anything of its larger operations, but in his opinion the work of the Board in that district had been a failure, and had impeded the action of the Estates Commissioners; it had bought four estates in the neighbourhood; the Longfield Estate was bought years ago, and houses had been built on it for two or three years, and the land divided, but owing to the high annuity under which the estate was purchased no tenant had yet taken a house, 57171-2.—Migrants had been invited from Derryclare, a scheduled district, 500 yards away, and none would go, 57172.—The Oakfield farm had been for some years in the hands of the Board, 57173.—Witness had heard that owing to the expression of dissatisfaction regarding the purchase of the farm for the benefit of migrants, the people from neighbouring farms, under the direction of the clergyman, had parcelled out the farm, and then applied to the Board for confirmation of their action, 57174.—Something of the kind may have occurred, 57175.—The Board might have found poorer congests from the neighbourhood of Oakfield, 57176.—But he understood that the present law did not admit that solution; Section 75 of the Act of 1903 restricted their action, 57177.—The agitation against the Board was brought about by the contrast between the delays of the Board and the action of the Estates Commissioners; witness would not have two buyers like the Board and the Commissioners in the same market, which raised the price of the land, 57179, 57181.—Where the Board had been successful its facilities should be increased in the congested districts, but it should take no action outside these; the Estates Commissioners should be supreme with regard to the purchase of land outside congested districts, 57180-1.—Landlords preferred to deal with the Board on account of the high prices it gave, 57181.

Purchase of Land.

The Commissoners should not be excluded from operations in Connaught on account of the non-existence in the provinces of sufficient land to relieve local congestion; witness did not think that all land bought by the Commissioners in Connaught, but outside the congested districts, should be ear-marked for the purposes of the Board, but evicted tenants and uneconomic tenants should be provided for, 57183.—Local congestion should be relieved by the Commissioners, 57184, 57187.—And then the balance should go to the Board for distribution amongst congests, 57185, 57188.—Witness's point would be met if the areas over which the two bodies acted could be separated, 57189.—Witness had seen the working of both bodies, and considered that where the Commissioners

PELLY, Rev. J. A.—*continued.*

settled uneconomic holdings they saved the ratepayers, 57190.—The improving and distributing authority should be the same as the purchasing authority; witness had lately seen an estate bought by the Commissioners; it had consisted of thirty-nine houses on small plots of land, with scattered patches all over the village, and adjoining a farm of 400 or 500 acres; the Commissioners had consolidated the plots of land, and built good houses with a large kitchen and three rooms and a pantry; here the people had the greatest confidence in the Commissioners, 57191.

Advertisements of the Encumbered Estates Court.

Witness had no document showing that the Encumbered Estates Court induced buyers to come forward by stating that the rent of the lands was too low, and could be raised, but he had heard that this was so, 57192-3.

Legislature to Prevent the Buying out of Tenants.

There was a danger that when all the land of Ireland was re-settled in economic holdings shopkeepers and others with capital might buy out annuitants unless it were guarded against by legislation, 57197. —For the mania for land still existed, 57194, 57196. —The mania would cease when people were supplied with enough land, 57195.—Legislation might make the present owner merely a life tenant, with remainder to his children, so that he could not mortgage it, except for his life interest, 57198.—But it was not possible to prohibit shopkeepers from buying land, 57199.—The matter was of great importance, 57201.

Drainage.

Witness had been asked to draw the attention of Commissioners to the Report of the Drainage Commission, stating that the non-productive part of works carried out under the Act of 1863 amounted to £133,333; before the Act the State bore all the extra expense, but now it did not, 57228.

GRIFFITHS, Miss R. A.

See pp. 175-6.

The Lace School at Carraroe—Appointment of Teachers, Audits, etc.

Witness was instructress at the lace classes at Carraroe until last August, when her sister took her place, 57232, 57255.—And witness took her sister's place at Lettermore, which she still held, 57255.—She was brought from Donegal to Carraroe by the Congested Districts Board to be trained in lace-making by French lace-makers, 57236, 52740, 57246-7.—Witness and her sister were the only lace workers from Donegal or that district who were so trained, 57237-8, 57249-50.—Two Mayo girls were trained at the same time, 57249.—These obtained positions at Lettermullan and Kilkerrin, County Galway, 57251. —Witness went to Carraroe as pupil teacher to learn the French lace industry and then to teach it, 57248, 57254.—She and her sister were previously experts and qualified teachers of other kinds of lace, 57239, 57243, 57245, 57247.—Mr. Naughton's statement in his evidence which witness had read, 57233-4.—And wished to contradict, 57235.—With regard to the lace school at Carraroe must apply to witness and her sister, 57256.—As no other girls had been brought from Donegal and trained in Carraroe and became lace teachers there, and subsequently married; witness's sister was now married, 57255.—Witness did not know of any proposal to continue migrating girls from Donegal to Carraroe and to train them as lace teachers, 57242.—There may have been Galway girls at the time of witness's appointment who could have taken her position, 57252.—But the Galway girls at the school knew little about the particular industry taught there, 57254.—Though they made other laces, 57253.—Carraroe was the first school where this particular industry was taught, 57244.—Accounts were kept at Carraroe School of work done and money paid, 57256.—The money received for work was paid to workers weekly, 57256.—The girls had pass-books, which were kept at the school and the amount earned entered in them, the same amount being entered in the returns sent to the Congested Districts Board, 57261.—A weekly copy of accounts of money paid out was sent to the Board, 57261-3.—The books kept at the school were also inspected by Mr. Walker, the Board's Inspector, when he visited the school, 57257, 57263.—This was fairly often, 57265.—The girls had never made any complaint to Mr. Walker of their claim for payment, 57266.—Nor had they complained to witness that the money, instead of being distributed among them, was appropriated by the teachers; when asked individually they had denied this suspicion, 57258.—But they might have mentioned these suspicions to others, 57260-1.—And in former times, when Mr. Nestmore was at the school, similar allegations were made, 57259.—Earnings of the school had fallen off last year owing to the lack of employment, 57267-8.—Mr. Naughton, who gave evidence about the school (at Oughterard), had a shop, 57270.—But there was no account between the school and that or the other shop, 57271-2.—Mr. Naughton sent to the school the materials used in the industry, which were manufactured in Germany, 57272.—He took the goods again, and supplied money with which to pay the workers, 57269.—There was no jealousy on the part of local shopkeepers with regard to the purchase of materials which were not manufactured in Ireland, 57272.

GRIFFITHS, Miss R. A.—*continued.*

ASHTOWN, The Right Hon. LORD.

See pp. 176-85.

Breaking up Grass Lands—Disadvantages, etc.

Witness was a resident landlord in County Galway, farming a large tract of land, and employing much labour, 57275A.—He considered that the breaking up of grass lands would alter the whole system of farming, and was a larger change than was contemplated by the Act of 1903; the staple industry of a country should not be disorganised till it could be replaced by something as good or better, 57283.

Land Unsuited to Tillage.

There were four distinct classes of grazing land in Galway, 57283, 57348.—These were: (1) Deep, heavy rich land, which could never be profitably tilled; (2) light land, on limestone rock, with the rock generally near the surface, this was impossible for tillage, but most valuable for some classes of stock; (3) land which could be tilled, but was more profitable in pasture—this chiefly occurred in the East Riding; (4) land which could be improved by tillage—this occurred chiefly in the West Riding (excluding Connemara); witness farmed 1,200 statute acres of No. 2 himself, 57283.—Any authority which required land for mixed farming must eliminate 1 and 2, 57349.—The land first acquired for the beginning of the experiment should be 4, 57350; And if this was not successful parts of grass farms in Class 3 could be tilled, 57351. —The land should be acquired in this order, 57352.—Witness could not say how much there was of classes 3 and 4, 57419.—There was more land available for mixed farming in the West than in the East, 57420-1.—The boundary between the East and West Ridings was a police boundary, 57414.—Roughly speaking, the land east of a line between Tuam and Athenry was some of it good for tillage, but much of bog country was too rich; witness tilled some of it himself; rich land in the neighbourhood of bogs was not good for tillage, 57417.—Oats grown on it would lie down; witness grew his oats on bogs, 57418.—The most valuable thing he knew was cut-away bog, 57418.—Land in Galway was not so good as land in Wexford for tillage, 57288.—There was no land in Galway really profitable for tillage, thought it might do for mixed farming, 57289.—The Wexford land required constant cultivation to produce crops, 57356. —The land there was not grass, but light tillage

ASHTOWN, The Right Hon. LORD—*continued.*

land, 57357-8.—Land of classes 3 and 4 would be most profitable if used for mixed farming, of which the chief object should be the raising of stock, 57288.

Breaking up of Grass Farms would destroy the Market for Stock.

The small farmer bred stock, and sold it to the store grazier of Connaught, who, after keeping them a year or a year and a half, passed them on to the Leinster graziers for finishing; if the grass farms were broken up the market for young stock would disappear, as the Leinster graziers would not buy stock till it was two years old, 57276.—The witness who bred all his stock, tried to mature them as soon as possible, 57276, 57277-8.—He generally sold them at less than a year old, 57279.—Small farmers could not do this owing to their ignorance of stock and their habit of keeping them in the open, 57280.—There was no reason it should not be done if small farmers had the knowledge, 57281-2, 57284.—Capital was also necessary, 57282.—And some land also, 57282.—It could not be done on forty acres or anything like it; it would require much more land than the small farmer had now, 57283.—On the present system the grazier bought from the small farmers, 57291, 57861, 57366.—Witness meant small farmers in that district, 57360.—The small farmer here purchased from the small farmer of the South, 57291, 57362.—The larger farmer bought from the very small farmer, but he also bought calves from the South, 57364.—There was a large import of calves from the South to the West; Western graziers often went South to make up their lots, 57283.—The farmer who bought calves from the South passed them on to the grazier, 57364.—Consequently the general breaking up of grass land in the West would seriously injure stock-breeders in both the South and West, 57282.

Injury to Horse-Breeding and Sheep-Rearing by Breaking up Grass Lands.

All the good horses were reared on grass lands; horses could not be properly reared on small runs, 57283, 57296.—On small farms the tenant could not afford to keep a quality horse, as there would be no market for it, 57293.—The remedy would be to enlarge the holding, but it could not be made large enough, 57294.—Thirty or forty acres would not be enough, 57295-6.—It could only be effectively done by large graziers, 57277.—The same thing was true of sheep, 57283, 57293.—All kinds of stock would deteriorate if the grass lands were broken up, for small farmers had neither money nor enterprise to use good sires, 57282.—The Department provided them, but the farmers would not use them, 57298.—As they thought an under-bred animal was easier to keep in the winter.

Gradual Change Recommended—Considerations Limiting Distribution of Land.

Witness did not believe that division of grass lands would cause prosperity, 57526.—But if it were undertaken, it should be done gradually, 57283, 57352.—The consequences of breaking up the existing system would be so serious that Government should not do so until they were sure the new proposals would work well; it would take years to educate small farmers into the new system; they must be taught how to fatten their stock, and be provided with suitable farm buildings, and steps must be taken to ensure that their stock was well-bred; land should not be given to men who are hopelessly bad farmers, or men much in arrear with their judicial rents, 57283, 57380.—Tenants' sons should not receive holdings, as this system tended to multiply very small holdings and discouraged enterprise; migrants should understand the system of agriculture suitable to their new holdings, and be provided with sufficient stock, implements, and capital in the form of loans or free grants, 57288.—These latter were absolutely essential; they could not start without them, 57378-80.—Measures should be taken for the supply from year to year of information as to how purchasing tenants were using their farms, 57283.—This was at one time collected by the Royal Irish Constabulary, 57283, 57368-9.—These were furnished every six months, but not published, 57368, 57370.—The practice was now discontinued, 57368.

ASHTOWN, The Right Hon. LORD—*continued.*

Labour of Uneconomic Holders.

Witness considered it would be a mistake to enlarge any small holdings where the tenants or their sons could obtain employment in the neighbourhood; a co-called uneconomic holding could be made economic if the holder would work; a small holding, supplemented by local employment, migratory labour, jobbing in small stock, etc., was more desirable and profitable to the tenant than a larger holding without them; it was not necessary that a farm should be of £10 or £12 or any fixed valuation to make it an economic holding, 57283, 57456.—Witness did not agree with the present definition of "economic," 57456, 57458.—If a man had a ten-acre holding on a block of granite it would be all right, if he could get labour from that block, 57457.—A scheme for the relief of uneconomic holdings based on valuation is on a false basis, 57407.—By a fixed valuation witness meant Griffith's valuation, 57405.—The valuation made sixty years ago was now out of relation to the inherent value of the land; the valuation in the West Riding was much higher than in parts of the East, 57406.—And in dealing with the question of uneconomic holdings many considerations beside valuation had to be taken into account, 57408.—To abolish the so-called uneconomic holdings would decrease the supply of labour in the district, and cause land to be badly farmed, and compel many owners and tenants who had land suitable for tillage to lay it down to grass, 57283.—Witness heard from Mr. Daly that since the uneconomic holdings were abolished he could not get labour, but had to lay his land down to grass, 57353.—With the addition of the labour witness provided on his estate many of the uneconomic holdings on his property were really economic, 57339, 573342.—Witness could give the history of the holdings if necessary, 57340.—He employed a great deal of labour, 57341.—The actual sums were, in 1900, £2,079 1*s.*; in 1902, £2,534 7*s.*; in 1903, £2,690 0*s.* 8*d.*; in 1904, £2,510 1*s.*; in 1905, £2,906 17*s.*; in 1907, £2,778 15*s.*, 57338.—The change from uneconomic to economic holdings diminished the labour supply, 57511.—Because the economic holder had no time for other employment, 57283.—Witness employed his own labourers on farm labour, improvements, fencing, and draining, 57512, 57518.—He employed some in connection with the demesne and some outside, 57514.—The labour employed in the demesne came to about £954, in addition to the cost of that employed in farming operations, 57517.—Stock-breeding employed much labour, 57513.—Witness also employed men in building, 57518.—His wages were practically fortnightly; a man would not lose his wages unless he were sick, 57522.—If he broke up his grass land there would still be employment on the land, but a man with an economic holding would not make so much a year as these labourers, 57519.—It depended on the size of the holding; but witness did not think a man with thirty acres would clear £2 an acre on it, 57521.—If witness were to go out of his land the farm work would probably remain, 57523.—And if he ceased to take an interest in the land the labourers might get economic holdings out of his land, 57524.—It was true that a man would be more safe and certain on a holding than when depending on the whim of an employer; but at present witness gave plenty of labour, and there was no need to consider the question, 57525.—Where there were uneconomic holdings and no demand for labour there was no resource for the tenant but migration or emigration, 57354.—Witness found that the sons of his tenants did in fact work for him for three or four months and then go to America, 57527-8.—It was not because the American wages were better, but because they had no opportunity of hunting in Ireland, 57529.—The migration of labourers from Ireland was due to want of demand for labour, 57531.—But they went to America to be more independent, 57532.—The outcry about uneconomic holdings in the West was largely owing to the fact that the land was held by tenants who would work no more than they could help, and had no ambition to improve their circumstances by their own efforts, 57283.

Emigration.

It was claimed that it was not thriftlessness but want of opportunity which kept the peasantry in their present condition; witness did not see the want

ASHTOWN, The Right Hon. LORD—*continued.*

of opportunity, 57435.—There was no reason they should remain in Ireland, 57436, 57438.—They could get employment elsewhere, 57437.—They would do better to remain in England or in Scotland when they migrated in search of work, 57439, 57445.—There was no need to be on the verge of starvation when work was obtainable, 57440-1.—If £2,000,000 per annum was obtained from outside Ireland for the support of her population it was earned by the people, 57444.

Mode of Cultivation Adopted by Small Holders.

Witness had endeavoured to obtain information as to the mode of cultivation practised by tenants in holdings created or enlarged by the Commissioners or the Board by the division of large grazing farms in the neighbourhood, 57283, 57201.—In almost all cases witness found that very little land was tilled; most of the new land had been sub-let for grazing or meadowed, and the meadows sold by public auction; in some cases the tenant had turned formerly-tilled land on his old holding into grass, while he tilled a small portion of the enlargements; this was not surprising to witness, since the land paid better in grass than in tillage, and the tenant had a less laborious life; but instead of creating a hard-working peasantry this system was creating a class of new proprietors who were perpetuating the grazing system, which it was desired to abolish, and did but little work themselves, 57284.—This plan of letting the land for con-acre meadowing was temporary only because it created a supply of hay for which the owners could get no sale, 57300, 57371.—Hay should not be sold off the farm, but it was the practice in the neighbourhood, 57372. —It was quite a wrong system, 57373.—It would take a long time to accumulate capital by letting land in con-acre, 57301, 57303.—Witness could only speak as to its being practised for two years, 57302.

Intimidation and the Price of Grass Lands.

Witness stated that it appeared to be the practice of the Commissioners to purchase grass lands where there had been gross intimidation, whereby the value of the lands had been reduced, 57283.—They obtained them at prices much below their value to the vendor, 57283, 57304.—On all those estates the Commissioners had given a very low price, 57397.—Witness would not go into the question of whether they were influenced by the fact of there having been intimidation, but the Commissioners were apparently under the impression that where there had been intimidation the landlord must sell, and there they had not given as good a price as elsewhere, 57309, 57398-9, 57486—The rent was reduced to a mere song at Clooncals, 57307.—Abnormal circumstances, due to agitation, could not alter the real value of the land, 57395. —Therefore, if a landlord wished to sell, the Commissioners should give him a fair price, and not a price produced by agitation, 57394, 57396.—There was a danger of the price of land being whittled down in consequence of intimidation, 57393, 57481.—Witness had had no dealings with the Commissioners, 57308.—Witness had made an offer for the Clooncals land, because he thought it ought not to be bought by the Commissioners, 57304.—He did not want to buy the land, but to discourage intimidation, 57305. —He did not unfortunately stop intimidation, since the Court of Appeal allowed them to make title to the land, 57306.—Witness thought the landlord should (in case of intimidation) be allowed to sell his land, but the tenants should not get it to enlarge their holdings, 57310-1.—The Government should be careful not to countenance intimidation, 57312.—If intimidation were allowed to continue the landlords would be forced to sell, 57313-4.—Witness did not say that where a landlord had resolutely held out for a price with which he would be satisfied the Commissioners should refuse to allow the sale, 57316.—It was not the case witness wished to put, 57315.—A landlord should not be forced to sell, 57317.—But if satisfied with the price he should be allowed to sell, 57318.—Witness was a representative of the Landlords' Convention, 57275, 57313.—No one should buy a property of which the value had been whittled down by agitation, 57481.—There had been agitation in Clooncals, in consequence of which the price declined, 57484.—Agitation should not reduce the selling price of land, 57482.—Witness made an offer for the property 57485.—And if his offer had been accepted would

ASHTOWN, The Right Hon. LORD—*continued.*

have got it at a lower price than the Commissioners afterwards gave for it, 57487.—He did not admit that if he had obtained the land he would have profited by the agitation, 57488.—To secure the property was a minor end, 57493.—He would have outwitted the tenants, 57491.—They would not have gained their ends, 57489.—He would have bought. 57490.—And would in fact have profited by intimidation, 57494.— The price of land was now too low for the seller, 57497.—Witness's rents had not fallen, though he had been intimidated as much as anyone, 57448, 57450.—His tenants had not been intimidated, 57453, 57455.—But there had been intimidation on the Athenry Estates, and the Dunsandle Estate had been sold, 57466.—The tenants on witness's estate, if he asked them to throw up the land, would not give the same price for their yearly take; he knew of a case in the town where rent had fallen from 47*s.* to 40*s.* on account of intimidation, 57454.—Witness's rents had not fallen, but then he had not sold; he would not take the price at which they valued land, 57450, 57452.—He could hold his own, while some landlords would have left, 57451.

Rise of Land Prices.

Land was being sold too quickly, 57498.—Witness did not think prices were going down, 47448, 57499, 57500.—They remained steady, 57501.—It had gone up since the Ashbourne Act, 57053-4.—The land sold under the Ashbourne Act was heavily mortgaged, 57502.—The price of land had risen concurrently with intimidation, 57508.—But intimidation had put down prices, 57508A.—Which would have been higher if the country had been peaceful, 57506, 57509-10.—Much more should be paid for some lands than at present, 57496.—There was not much likelihood of the Commissioners being able to abolish the large farms at present prices, 57495.

Fair Price of Grass Lands and Compulsion.

Sufficient land could be obtained for enlargement of holdings or migration of tenants where either of these courses was desirable if a fair price was given for grass land, taking into consideration the landlord's dual interest as owner and occupier; Commissioners had justified the low prices they gave by stating that these were necessary to the re-selling of the land to small tenants without prospect of loss; which implied either that the lands were more profitable under grass or that the tenants were incompetent; if the State wished to carry out a backward policy it should in equity pay the landlord a sum based on what a solvent and thrifty tenant would give if the law were enforced; Acts of Parliament had been utilised to plunder the loyal and thrifty classes of the population in the hope of keeping the country quiet; if a landlord sold untenanted land he sold a property including not only the income, but his proprietorial rights, which might be of great value, whereas if he sold tenanted land he sold little more than his income from judicial rents; compulsion could not be justified as long as land was sold more quickly than the State could pay for it, 57283. —If the grass lands were to be acquired witness would accept the net income as a basis of price, plus the landlord's goodwill, 57459.—The landlord had as much goodwill in the land as the tenant had in his, 57460.—Grazing land did not cover all that, 57462-4. —If the landlord were to put up the land to auction he would probably get seven or eight years' purchase, 57464.—He would, of course, estimate grazing land at a competition value, 57465.—The competition would not cease, 57466.—Witness did not accept the net income from grazing land as its full price, 57467, 57469.—He could not help it if his Convention had accepted it, but he did not think they had, 57468.— He thought grazing land was worth more than thirty-five years' purchase, 57470.—Grazing land was bought now by the Commissioners at twenty-seven or twenty-eight years, 57471.—And he would add a number of years to that for the landlord's good-will, 57472.— The price of a small holding depended on its size; you might get nine or ten years; you get more for a small piece than a large one, 57473.—If the landlord himself grazed his lands it was difficult to arrive at the net income, 57477.—Not if all the lands were grazed, 57476.—But witness could not give an opinion as to arriving at the income from the landlord's books,

ASHTOWN, The Right Hon. LORD—*continued.*

57478.—Unless he were selling the land himself he could not suggest another basis, 57479.—He would not take Mr Boyd's definition, nor did he think the present valuation right, 57480.—Where there had been regular transactions in a series of grazing years there was not much difficulty about net income, but in the case of untenanted land outside the demesne, 57401.—When one farm remained in tillage outside and two or three farms were worked together, and all worked in one manner, you could not possibly show the income from any one farm, 57408.—Nor could an outsider know how the rent would be affected by taking a certain quantity for meadowing, 57404. —And buildings done by the landlord would take some years to give a return, 57408.—There were three sorts of grazing lands—lands held in present tenancy, lands held in future tenancy, and lands on the eleven months' system, 57335.—There had been a reduction in the two former, 57332, 57335.—But the grazing rents had not fallen, 57327, 57330-3, 57336.—It was not fair to calculate selling price as the value of all three kinds of grass land; calculation of rents of land on the eleven months' system alone was a fair basis, because the only way of getting a fair price for land was by open competition, 57336.—It would be fair for the Commission to look back and see how long the lands had been let, and whether the landlord had asked an exorbitant rent, 57328.—Witness's own grazing lands had continued about as they were in 1880, except when a tenant died, 57319.—These were let on the eleven months' system and by the year, so that the rent could be raised every six months, 57321. —In the case of land farmed by the owner the Commissioners generally offered a fair price judging by the number of transactions that had passed through; if the landlord was satisfied they could not keep the estate from sale, 57325.—But when the land was let to a shopkeeper he got from it a certain income, which the Estates Commissioners had not always been willing to give, 57325.—Many farmers had been ruined by want of success, 57327.—But it was not true that many shopkeepers, though failing to make a profit by grazing, still held on in hope of better times, and paid the rent from the shop; it was not witness's experience at all; shopkeepers were, in fact, fond of other investments; graziers might be too hopeful, but for failure to make profits you must go back to 1879, when there was pleuro-pneumonia and foot-and-mouth disease, 57327.

High Grazing Rents paid to Annuitants.

Small holders let grazing land at double the rent the landlord used to charge, 57283, 57374—And in some cases the graziers let it back at double the price, 57374.—The explanation of the fact that the grazier should give these high prices to annuitants (when it was stated that he was being ruined by prices given to landlords) was that the grazier had to find grazing somewhere, and if he could not obtain it in large pieces he took it in small, 57376.—If he did not, he would have to give up, and start a new business, 57377.—And in that case he did not know in what to invest his capital, 57375.

Game and Fishing.

There was only two inducements for a landlord to remain in Ireland—the farming of his own land and the enjoyment of game and fishing; landlords resident on their estates gave employment, and were an example in farming to their poorer neighbours, 57283.—Game and fishing were, however, not to be considered as a class interest, but as an element of national wealth, and from this point of view were to be safe-guarded, 57392.

Management of Large Tenants and Attraction of Capital.

Witness would rather see the land in grass than divided; a large tenant employed more labour, 57446. —Every encouragement should be given to residents, both owners and tenants, to employ labour, giving employment to small tenants and their families, 57284, 57409.—By this witness meant not small annuitants, but big tenants who had already bought their holdings, 57410.—The large tenants should be given a feeling of security; they were afraid of having their holdings cut up, 57411.—This prevented them making improvements or employing any considerable amount of labour, 57412.—Just as before the Act of 1881, were afraid of doing anything for

ASHTOWN, The Right Hon. LORD—*continued.*

fear of confiscation, 57385, 57413.—Capital should be encouraged to come into the country by every possible channel, 57283, 57381, 57422.—If the land were distributed among the tenants no improvements and no industries would be started, since no one would invest in local enterprises unless theoretical legislation were discountenanced, 57283, 57424.—No one was secure in investing money in Ireland either in land or industries, 57283, 57384.—Landlords who had sold their property would not invest in the country, 57384.—Landlords were being frightened away from the country, 57423.—Neither would tenants go in for local investments, 57432.—The large tenants were not at all happy, for they were expecting to be deprived of their land, 57385.—This desire to attract capital was the foundation of the Incumbered Estates Act, which had led the country into difficulties, 57383.—Similar difficulties could be obviated if land could be made more profitable, and there was no fear of intimidation or compulsory purchase, 57383.—If distribution of grass lands were the State policy and matters were to be faced from this standpoint witness could not point out any means of attracting capital to the country, 57388.—If the grass lands were destroyed many landlords would leave the country, taking their capital with them; and most of the graziers, who were the backbone of the agricultural system, would be driven out also, and the country would become bankrupt, 57283, 57390.—Witness was aware that there had not been much money in the landlord class; that the estates were heavily mortgaged, 57425.—In former years, before 1880, before the bad times, landlords had not invested capital in Ireland, 57426.—But it would not be invested now, 57425-6.—On some estates there was considerable investment in improvements in agriculture or industry before the Land Act of 1881, 57427.—Witness did not know whether all the money invested in improving and reclaiming land was invested by tenants; he did not know about Connemara, 57428-9.—He thought that a large part of Ireland would be impoverished by improving the position of poor tenants in the West, 57433—The thriftless should not have benefited at the expense of the thrifty, 57434.—The legislation in question would make the country bankrupt, 57392.

Improvements on Land.

Some witnesses had stated that landlords in the West of Ireland had spent little or nothing on improving or developing their estates, and that the tenants' rents were not well paid, 57283.—Witness himself received rent to the amount of £2,130 15*s.* from his estates in Galway, 57343.—And the amount spent by him on the place last year was £3,732 10*s.*, 57344, 57346.—The money spent was on labour, 57345-6.—Many Irish landlords had spent large sums in improving estates consisting of very small holdings, such improvements as landlords in England and Scotland were not expected to make, except possibly in the North of Scotland; it would cost nearly, or possibly more, than the fee-simple of the holdings to erect substantial houses on them; and tenants could not pay rents which would recoup such expenditure; these facts had been recognised by authorities in England and Ireland, including Liberal statesmen; in 1845 the Devon Commission, on page 16 of their Report, drew attention to the matter, stating "that the smallness of the farms made the introduction of the English system extremely difficult, and in many cases impracticable"; in the debates on the Land Bill of 1881, Mr. Law and Mr. Shaw Lefevre had taken the same view, and Lord Spencer, later on, in the House of Commons, had agreed, quoting examples, and stating that "rent represents different things in the two countries; speaking, roughly, in England it represents the value of the land and the interest on the landlord's capital spent on the land: in Ireland it represents only the letting value of the land"; no Irish landlord could be blamed if he did not make these extensive improvements, 57283.

Documents put in by The Right Hon. Lord Ashtown.

A.—Table showing Gross Rents, Arrears, and Salaries on the Woodlawn Estate, . . Page 285
B.—Particulars of Uneconomic Holdings in Woodlawn, ... 285
C.—Sums allowed for Improvements, . . 287
D.—List of Agricultural Tenants who work also as Labourers, ... 287

CUNNINGHAM, Mr. JOHN.

See pp. 185-6

Congestion in Mount Bellew.

Witness was Chairman of the Mount Bellew Board of Guardians, and had from the statistics that there were 2,759 holdings in the union of under £5 valuation, of which 300 were in the scheduled division of Cloonkeen; only one electoral division in the union was scheduled, though all had congested townlands; the system of scheduling was misleading, because the most congested townlands were not scheduled owing to their adjoining grazing farms; one grazier had 893 acres, while all the other holdings on the property were uneconomic, and thirteen of the holdings were of four acres, with a valuation of £1 15*s.*; these were not scheduled, 57533.

Mount Hazel Division.

In this division one landowner had 795 statute acres in his own occupation, but refused to sell to his tenants, of whom there were forty, with average valuations of £2 9*s.* on holdings averaging seven statute acres, 57533.

Gunnade and Curraduff.

In Gunnade and Curraduff, in Ballinakill division, were nearly thirty tenants with a valuation averaging £3 10*s.*; the estate was sold twelve years previously in Ballinasloe by order of the trustees, and bought by Mr. M'Donnagh, of Tuam, at abuot twelve years' purchase; subsequently he refused to sell to the tenants at less than twenty years' purchase; and after the Land Act of 1903 he considered the land still more valuable, and the purchase was not effected, 57533.

Estates Purchased by the Board.

The Congested Districts Board, before 1903, bought the estate of St. Brendan's, 57533-4.—This was bought at fourteen and a half years' purchase in 1895, 57533-4.—It was their first and most successful purchase, 57535.—Before this, the tenants had judicial rents fixed, but witness did not know the amounts, 57535.—So he calculated it on the Poor Law valuation, 57536-7, 57547.—The Poor Law valuation could not really be the present value of the land, 57548.—The valuation was higher than first term rents, 57541, 57548.—It was about the same all over the Connaught district, 57548.—The poor rate was higher in the district than ten years previously, 57555.—Witness did not know what it was in 1871, 57554.—Tha land must necessarily be taxed higher, 57555.—Witness stated that the population of the union had declined by 3,404 between 1871 and 1901, 57533, 57554.—The Netterville Estate was also purchased by the Board before 1903, 57533, 57538.—The tenants were now very comfortable, and though they did not get much land, they got it on reasonable terms, 57555.—The price given was fourteen and a half years' purchase, 57533, 57556.—Previous to 1903 the Board bought the M'Donnell Estate, a large grazing farm, at twenty-eight years' purchase or less, 57540.—And the Fallon Estate at thirty-one and a half years' purchase on the valuation, 57533, 57339.—But, taking the average of the three estates purchased, the price was twenty-eight and one-third years, 57333, 57339.—Witness lived on the Fallon Estate, and knew it well, 57333, 57541.—He had a holding of eighteen statute acres, 57551.—He also had a small country shop, but no licence, 57552-3.—His holding had been resold to him, and the price fixed, 57542.—He was more satisfied with his annuity than some of his neighbours, 57543.—As the holding was fair, having been improved by the Board, which had drained the estate and made some roads; if a projected road was made the tenants would be satisfied, except that the land was too dear, 57546.—Witness paid more per acre than before, but he got a small allowance, 57544-57545.—He would not blame the Board for the dearness of the land; they made the best bargain they could, after having been petitioned by the tenants several times, 57546.—The Board had been obliged to give too much for the land, 57543, 57549.—This opinion witness did not base upon valuation, but upon the fact that the landlord had been getting more for the grazing land than it was really worth; it was in the centre of a congested district, where there was no means of earning money, but by going as migratory labourers; the people were obliged to have grass enough for a cow, and were willing to give exorbitant prices to obtain it, 57550.

CUNNINGHAM, Mr. JOHN—*continued.*

Methods of the Board and the Commissioners.

Witness thought the Board was the best body to deal with distribution of land in a congested area, 57557-8.—They should be able to buy as cheaply as the Estates Commissioners, 57559.—He thought that money was wasted in land bargains; he had seen little done by the Commissioners in his district; the Board had more experience, and would effect drainage and improvements that the Commissioners would not undertake, and would also lend money to stock farms at a reasonable rate; he did not think the Board could get land cheaply enough without compulsory powers, 57557.—There were 33,600 acres of grass land in the union available for distribution, 57533.

WARD, Mr. JOHN F.

See pp. 186-9.

Attitude of Witness.

Witness was appointed by the Galway County Council, but was not a member of that body, 57560.—But of the Board of Guardians and the District Council, 57561.—He lived at Ballinasloe, and was trustee of an estate belonging to his late father, 57562-4.—About eight acres of the estate were in Roscommon, and held by agricultural tenants, and he was trustee for this; and also an annuitant under the State, 57564.—He had long severed his interest from the landlords and was thinking for himself, 57565.—He was a Socialist, believing the State should manage everything, and that land and railways should be nationalised, 57581, 57579.—He thought the State should pay for the scheme he suggested, being eventually repaid by the development of the country, as in Australia, 57579.

Congestion in Ballinasloe.

The union of Ballinasloe was situated in Galway and Roscommon; in the Roscommon division the area of grass land was 5,274 acres at a valuation of £2,060, or 8*s.* per acre, and there were 243 holdings under £5 valuation, and 285 under £10; in the Galway division the total acreage was 45,709 acres, valuation £23,304, or 12*s.* an acre; there were 798 holdings under £5 valuation, and 521 under £10 valuation; in the whole union the acreage was 50,983 acres, valuation £25,365, while the total number of holdings under £5 was 1,041, 57565A.—And between £5 and £10, 285, 57565A, 57566.—The grass lands made up 32·4 per cent. of the area, less the urban area; the population of the union in 1841 was 48,811; in 1891 it was 20,993, a decline of 59 per cent. in fifty years; the number of inhabited houses in 1841 was 7,646; in 1901 they were 3,412, or 55 per cent., 57566.

Cause of Congestion.

This state of things was owing to the extensive sales of land by the Encumbered Estates Court, which between October, 1849, and September, 1857, sold twenty-five millions worth of land, of which twenty-four and a half million's worth passed to creditors, including £3,692,611 to purchasing encumbrancers; the powers of the court were in 1858 extended to the sale of unencumbered estates and its jurisdiction perpetuated in the Landed Estates Court; the cheapness of land transfer in these courts was an advantage, but to the cultivator their action had been disastrous; many of the new purchasers were investors who looked on the land as a source of income, and recognised no old customs or duties to tenants; others were speculators, who jobbed in land, as in other merchandise, and raised rents when they came into possession with the object of inflating the selling price of the estates; the result of the system was a constant change of landlords, and a custom grew up of offering to "clear the estate" to facilitate sale, 57566.

WARD, Mr. JOHN F.—*continued.*

CLEARANCE OF THE GRAZING LANDS.

Extensive clearances were made by two Scotchmen, Pollock and Mathers, who come to Ireland fifty years ago, 57565, 57565A.—The Pollock Estate lay on the Galway side of Ballinasloe, a large triangle of waste land, on which no habitation but a herd's house was to be seen, the human population having been superseded by bullocks; when Pollock, the grandfather of the present owner, purchased the estate (which lay between Ballinasloe, Banagher, and Eyrecourt), it was thriving and populous; the St. George's Estate in Roscommon was purchased by Mathers, and wholesale evictions were carried out on both estates, and in nearly every parish in the union; Pollock's tenants owed no rent, and some were bribed to give up their homes; Mather's tenants owed one year's rent, or less, but they were evicted on Christmas Eve under circumstances of great barbarity; many of them died, some got farms on other estates, and most went to America; there was no resource open to them when deprived of land; some of the evicted went into Ballinasloe, and to the workhouse, and eventually died, 57566.

DISTRIBUTION OF GRASS LANDS.

There were vast tracts of untenanted land near Ballinasloe which, if distributed, would satisfy all the needs of evicted and uneconomic tenants, and leave a balance for migrants, 57565A, 57587.—Land should be first given to the contiguous evicted tenants, 57584, 57593.—Then the uneconomic holders, 57584, 57593.—These should be congests from the estate to be divided, and neighbouring estates, 57585.—And then sons of congests, 57584, 57586.—If a man had a twenty-five acre holding it would support himself and two or three sons; it was better, if possible, to give the sons another twenty-five acres, 57592.—Witness would migrate before giving land to sons of tenants, who could go into trades or to America or elsewhere, 57594, 57590.—He would not recommend extreme sub-division, which was dangerous, 57588.—Existing poverty was to be dealt with before providing for sons of tenants, 57595.—Witness thought his opinions as to congestion were those general in County Galway, 57597.

RE-AFFORESTATION.

The advantages of re-afforestation were many; it would afford shelter to man and beast, would moderate storms, avoid inundations, and prevent the silting up of rivers; the wood produced would be invaluable for household and industrial purposes; wood was imported into Ireland while her waste lands were lying idle; an outlay of £3 to £8 per acre would provide for the preparing, planting, and fencing of land, which in twenty years would be worth £20 to £30; whole districts in Germany were dependent on forests and wood industries; in the Thuringian forest 50,000 persons earned over a million pounds annually by toy-making; the cost of afforestation should be undertaken by the Treasury; if the forests of Ireland had not been neglected, they would now be worth a hundred millions, 57597.

OSIER PLANTING.

The lands along the Suck and the Shannon, which were liable to flooding, should be planted with osiers, which after two years paid steadily, and were eventually worth £25 an acre, less the rent of the land; this would make it possible to develop a basket-making industry in the district, 57566.

ARTERIAL DRAINAGE.

The problem of arterial drainage in Ireland had been under consideration for 150 years, and was still unsolved; Professor Tyndall had said it would raise the temperature four degrees Fahrenheit, and immensely benefit not only the land, but the inhabitants; the Dutch, a poor nation, had drained the Haarlem Meer, with the aid of £860,000 from Parliament, and reclaimed from the Zuyder Zee half a million acres, which paid a profit of something like £12 an acre to the State; the drainage of the district was hampered by maintaining the navigation level of the Shannon; the profits arising from navigation of the Shannon were inconsiderable,

WARD, Mr. JOHN F.—*continued.*

and several County Councils had withdrawn their contributions from the Shannon Development Company owing to there being no trade; if all impediments to the free flow of the river were removed, the catchment area would benefit, the fallow lands could be cultivated, and the bogs would subside, and be more easily utilised for peat moss industries, 57566.

MILLING.

Mills should be subsidised by the Agricultural Department, as their presence would encourage the production of wheat and oats, 57566.

AGRICULTURAL BANKS.

The question of Agricultural Banks was one of extreme importance, for when the farmer became the tenant of the State he could expect no abatements in bad years, and must therefore be able to borrow on reasonable terms; he had now either to go to urban banks, which demanded high interest and excessive security, or to the money-lending shopkeeper who exacted usurious interest and eventually seized the farm; this could be avoided by the establishment of co-operative banks, several of which had been started in the West; at these banks money could be borrowed at 3 or 3½ per cent. for periods of six months to several years, 57566, 57567.—These banks got their capital from joint stock banks, 57568-9.—The joint stock banks would be able to lend them money at less than 3 per cent., 57570.—The Provincial Bank, or National Bank, and other joint stock banks might charge 5 or 10 per cent., 57571.—The class of people who patronised Agricultural Banks would not be the same class as the patrons of joint stock banks, 57572.—Wealthy patrons might also put money into the Agricultural Banks, 5753.—Witness did not think there would be many philanthropists among these, 57574.—Since people who lent money to agricultural banks must have some interest, witness thought the interest charged by the banks should be 3½ per cent., 57575.

CO-OPERATIVE DEPOTS.

The witness recommended the formation of co-operative depots connected with the railway stations by a motor service, a plan which would enable the farmer to sell in the dearest market, and obtain feeding stuffs and implements at the lowest rates, and would also reduce cost of transit and extinguish middlemen's profits, 57566.

NATIONALISATION OF RAILWAYS.

Railways should be controlled by the State, as in Australia, and though this might not pay the State directly for its capital outlay, its influence on the development of the country would eventually increase the national revenue and ease taxation; in Australia no profits beyond working expenses were aimed at, but if they were realised they were expended on bonuses to officials and the extension of railway lines, and the relief of rates for the benefit of the travelling public; State control of railways had been recently advocated by Lord Brassey, 57566.

AGRICULTURAL INSTRUCTION.

The rudiments of agricultural science should be taught in rural National schools, for Ireland could never hope to be anything but a country depending on agriculture and its dependent industries, consequently agricultural instruction was of the first importance; National schools should have a farm of an acre or so for practical illustrations, and the teaching should be given by itinerant instructors, or else the teachers sent for six weeks every year to Glasnevin or some other agricultural college; on leaving school the boy could complete his education in a higher school, of which there should be one in each county, 57566.

THE DECLINE OF BALLINASLOE.

Ballinasloe forty years ago was a prosperous town, having a market for wool, wheat, oats and rape; it had four mills (one flour and three corn mills), three tanneries, one brewery, and two large buildings for meetings and agricultural shows; one of these

WARD, Mr. JOHN F.—*continued.*

was the finest building of the kind in Connaught, and cost £9,000, but for thirty-seven years it had not been used for its original purpose, and at the October fair horses were sometimes stabled in it; the decline in the town was owing to the clearance of the Galway and Roscommon grazing lands, and a contributing cause was the passing of the Relief Act; the town was badly off for land, and there were hundreds of acres of town parks which, if divided, would give two acres to every large householder, who would then be able to supply his family with milk and vegetables, and would employ some of the labourers who now could not get work; Ballinasloe, which was situated on one estate belonging to Lord Clancarty, should have been included in the 1903 Land Bill and scheduled as congested; the provisions of the Labourers' Act should have been extended to towns where labourers were huddled together in filthy slums, 57566.

THE RELIEF ACT.

The Relief Act of 1838 encouraged evictions, and gave rise to much suffering, since landowners, afraid that the poor would become chargeable to the rates in their locality, evicted them, and drove them into the towns, where they could find little employment and suffered great want; Mr. J. Walsh, J.P., in 1845 destroyed, near Belmullet, an entire village with the exception of six houses; this was in mid-winter, and forty miles from the nearest workhouse; the Act, as passed by the Commons, made the union the area of chargeability, but the Lords charged the division with the maintenance of those who had resided in it before they became dependent on the rates, with the intention of inducing ratepayers to provide employment, 57566.

INSANITY IN GALWAY AND ROSCOMMON.

Insanity increased in Galway and Roscommon in spite of the decline of population; in 1890 there were 731 patients in Ballinasloe Asylum, and in 1905 there were 1,340, an increase of 83·3 per cent.; between 1891 and 1901 the increase in insanity all over Ireland was 41·5 per cent. of the population, while in Galway and Roscommon it was 54·6 per cent., or 13·1 above the total for Ireland; the primary cause was that the flower of the population had emigrated, leaving those weak in mind and body behind; another cause was the want of nutritious food, and the loneliness and monotony of the people's lives; if isolated persons were removed to villages, and variety introduced into their lives, a fruitful source of insanity would be removed; if peasants were given good land, and had games and libraries, insanity would have declined considerably at the end of ten years, 57567.

"ENGLISH TENURE."

When witness said land was held on an "English tenure" he was referring to Mr. Hardy's property, 57576.—The land belonged to Colonel Mitchell, who set it on the eleven months' system to another man, and then on a ten months' tenancy to Mr. Hardy, the present occupier, 57577.—"English tenure" meant a yearly tenancy, 57578.

FEENEY, Mr. THOMAS.

See pp. 189-9.

CONGESTION IN ATHLONE.

Witness was representing the district of Athlone, 57598-9.—The district was not scheduled, 57602.—It contained 838 holdings of under £5 valuation, and about the same number under £10, 57602.—Some of the holdings of £10 valuation were as low as £5 (in actual value), and in that union a valuation of £8 or £9 might represent £5, 57602.—Poor law valuation was no test, 57612.—The holding of witness, which was thirty acres, and the rent less than £5, 57609.—Was of a poor law valuation of £11, 57610-1.—There was not a decent holding between this union and the mearings of Roscommon, thirty miles from the River

FEENEY, Mr. THOMAS—*continued.*

Suck, 57612.—If three of the holdings were put together it might make a holding on which it was possible to live, 57613-6.—The people always lived on money earned in England or America, 57614.—A holding of £8 or £10 valuation would not be economic, 57602.—Thirty acres of fairly good land might be economic, 57603.—This would be valued at about £15 if good land, 57604.—And that would be valued at £15, 57604.—The quality of the land made a great deal of difference, 57606.—It might be all sand and bog, 57605.—It was possible to have a holding of thirty acres and not be able to live on it, 57607.—The valuation of an economic holding of thirty acres might be £8 or £10, 57605.—To make the holders economic two out of three must be migrated in some cases; Kiltoom consisted of 230 small holdings of inferior land, of which ninety were under £5 valuation, 75 between £5 and £10, and 65 over £10; the soil was bog or sandy upland; the tenants lived by sowing conacre potatoes or oats at £6 or £8 an acre, and buying conacre hay from a considerable distance, by lime-burning and turf-selling, and by money sent from America, 57617.

GRASS LANDS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

There were 2,000 acres of grass lands within the parish boundary, some of which would be sold in the near future, 57617.—In Ballyforan there was grass land, and in Derrycahill, which was a populous district, 57618.—The following lands could be acquired for distribution:—Rockhill farm (residential), Mrs. Wilson, 300 acres; Carrodlohan (non-residential), Mrs. Connell, 300 acres; Moyvannon (non-residential), Mr. Smyth, 200 acres; Ardmullen (non-residential), Mr. Pim, 400 acres; Kiltoom (non-residential), Mr. H. Strevens, 500 acres; Newpark (non-residential), Mr. Levinge, 300 acres.—The landlords were willing to sell, but they demanded twenty-one to twenty-four and-a-half years' purchase, which prevented purchase by tenants; some other properties in the parish had been sold under the old purchase Acts; the prices asked in Kiltoom were from six to ten years more than those obtained for neighbouring estates under the Ashbourne Act; the Watson Estate had been sold twenty years ago at thirteen years' purchase, the Bailey Estate ten years ago at seventeen years' purchase, and the Hudson Estate four years ago (under the 40th section in bankruptcy) at from eight to seventeen years' purchase, estates should be inspected before purchase; compulsory powers were the only solution to the difficulty of providing the young men of the district with home and livelihood; definite action should be taken to prevent emigration and improve the position of uneconomic holders, 57620.—Negotiations were pending between the following landlords and their tenants:—Mr. Waithmore, 21 years' purchase; Mr. Mitchell (Curramore Estate), 22 years' purchase; Mr. Lloyd, 24 years'; Mr. Levinge, 21 years'; Mr. Goff, 24 years; Mr. Hamilton, 24½ years', 57620.

INDUSTRIES.

The small holders had few industries, 57620.—If a factory could be established near Ballyforan it would be a great advantage, since it was a remote place, twelve miles from Athlone; the rents were high, and the landlords unwilling to sell, 57619.—A wool factory would be best; a crochet or lace-making industry would arrest emigration among the girls, 57620.—The tenants used to make money of turf, lime, and cabbage-growing, but the turf and lime now brought in but little, 57620.—And since the Department of Agriculture had distributed information about cabbage-growing all over the country the growing of cabbage in the district had declined, 57620-1.—The Kiltoom cabbages used to be first in the market, 57622.—The Department had done good to some and harm to others by interfering, 57623.—The grass lands were formerly under tillage, and grew wheat; this accounted for the greater value of land fifty years previously, when the valuations were made, 57624.

MIGRATION.

Congests would be willing to migrate if it were made clear that they could live in comfort in their new ones; but so far as witness knew no pains had been taken to give them this information, 57624.

RYAN, Mr. JAMES.

See pp. 190-3.

Unsuitability of Grass Land for Tillage.

Witness was a member of the Grazing Farmers' Association, 57625.—Much of the grazing land in Roscommon was quite unsuitable to tillage, 57626.—It was deep, heavy, and cold, hard to till, and producing a poor crop when tilled, 57627, 57632.—Some of it bore marks of having been previously tilled at a remote period; some was now occupied and cropped by small farmers, 57628-9.—They tilled a very small proportion; a man having a holding of thirty acres might till 1½ acres, 57629-30, 57632.—The return on this was small, and the labour great, 57631.—The small tenant used the land chiefly for breeding young cattle or sheep, and the larger people might breed a few horses, 57632.—The tillage of the land had been discontinued, because it had been found unsuitable for the purpose, 57705.—The best tillage ground was quite different from the best grazing land, 57706.—The discovery that the land was unfit for tillage was made by the men who farmed it, 57694-5.—They were fairly intelligent, and if it paid them to till, would naturally do so, 57695, 57697-8.—One of witness's own tenants with a five-acre holding did not till half an acre, 57696.—This man owned his land, 57696.—On another farm the tenant had no tillage at all, but let the land to witness for grazing, 57698.—It was impossible for tillage farming to pay when carried out on a large scale under present conditions in that district of Ireland, 57699, 57700.—Witness had no experience of other countries, 57691, 57701-3.—The soil there might be lighter or sandier, 57702.—This evidence was with reference to the centre of Roscommon to Ballinasloe, 57633.—The land about Strokestown was more suitable to tillage, 57633.—That was the land from Knockcroghery to Ballinasloe, 57634-5.—Some was suitable, 57635.—And this should be separated from what was not suitable, 57636.—In farms near Knockcroghery of 100 acres not more than one-third would be suitable, 57637.—Taking the whole district from Roscommon to Boyle less than 50 per cent. was suitable for cultivation, 57638-40.—Perhaps 30 to 40 per cent., but the suitable portions were scattered, 57641.

Possibility of Grazing by Small Owners.

Witness had 600 acres of grass land, 57642, 57644, 57706.—This was in several holdings, of which the largest was 300 acres, 57644, 57646.—If this was divided into six fifty-acre holdings the tenants might use them in the same manner as witness, 57646, 57655.—But with a holding of fifteen or twenty acres there would be a difficulty, 57646.—A man with twenty-five acres would be principally a breeder, 57647, 57713.—Witness himself bought cattle at two years old, 57648.—But breeding was more profitable, and small breeders could breed cattle more cheaply than it could be done on a large scale, 57649.—A man who grazed a twenty-five acre farm would get so small a profit that he could not live on it; witness did not think he could live on a fifty-acre farm entirely devoted to grazing, even if his profits were proportionately larger than at present, 57651.—If he had an acre or two suitable for tillage, and could thus provide for the wants of himself and his family it could be done, 57652-3.—If all the small farmers were to start breeding there would be no market for their stock, 57650, 57712.—And if they depended on grazing alone they could not live, 57651.—Witness had seen one or two of the farms that had been split up, and they were carried on just as the graziers managed their land, 57654.—Whether a man with forty acres could do the same depended on the effect that division of land would have on the price of stock, 57656.—The abolition of the grazier would lower the price of stock, 57657.—Large graziers were necessary to carry on the stock trade of Galway, 57682.—If a man was under an annuity for improvements made on his farm by the State he must meet that annuity, and therefore, unless he had capital, must often be forced to sell at a low price, 57679.—Nothing could be done in grazing without capital, 57678-81.—In comparing the small and the large holder the difference was that the larger man had capital, which would enable him to hold on, instead of being forced to sell; witness did not say a large part of the grass land might not be divided profitably, 57682, 57714.—But that larger graziers were also essential, 57682.

RYAN, Mr. JAMES—*continued.*

Co-operative Grazing.

If four men got twenty-five acres of grass land each, there was nothing, from a trade point of view, to prevent their knocking down the fences, and renting the 100 acres as a joint holding, 57661-2, 57668, 57660.—But it would be unworkable, 57661-2.—It would be difficult to adjust the number of cattle put on by each owner if they were of different ages, 57663-7.—If this plan were adopted you would have six graziers instead of twelve, 57676.—The sons of the graziers would probably get the right to put cattle on the farm, 57683.—It might lead to one man with a considerable amount of capital getting all the land, 57684.—This might happen with the present graziers, 57685-6.—But as a fact it did not, 57687.—Because they stocked their own land, 57689.

Common Grazing.

Witness objected to grazing in commons, 57690.—Every man should have control over his own holding, and work it separately, 57691.—The plan was followed in Roscommon at present; many grass farms were let for six months' grazing every year, and no one had difficulty in getting grass at a reasonable price.

Rents of Grazing Land.

If the price of stock were cut down it might not extinguish the graziers, as rents would go down in proportion, 57658.—Rent was a very important factor, 57659.—For the last ten years Roscommon graziers had held their own, 57716.—They were content with paying the present rents, and were able to live and support their families, 57717.—There may have been applications for reductions; some rents were higher than others, 57718.—Rents had gone down within the last twenty years, 57669.—But for the past ten years they had been steady, 57670-1.—New rents were too high, but the rent of land that had been in the same occupation for twenty or twenty-five years was fairly reasonable; witness only spoke from his own experience, but he thought good land was dear; people might give too much for land taken by the year, or on the eleven months' system, 57719.—Witness had his own farm for the same price he had paid five or ten years ago; the farm he occupied was large; it was taken in 1883, and had gone down since then a pound an acre; it was taken at £2 5*s.*, and was now at £1 6*s.* or £1 7*s.*; no reduction had been made during the last ten years, 57672.—He had held the land as a yearly tenant, 57673-4.—There was no judicial rent, 57675.—He paid less than 30*s.* an acre now for his land, but it was only for six months in the year that he gave that; in the winter it would probably be half that amount, 57710.—He did not pay less in the winter, but it took less stock in the winter, 57711.

Stock Grazed by Witness.

Witness had no rule as to the number of animals an acre would maintain, 57707.—The best part of the land would probably have a beast for every two acres, 57708.—It was difficult to make an average for the year; changes of stock often took place, 57711.

Payment of Herds.

Witness paid his herds in kind, 57721.—He gave them so many "sums"; a sum of cattle was a cow and a half; the usual thing in Galway was to give grazing and hay for a cow, an acre for every fifty acres of land that the man minded, 57722-3.—One man who put in no stock had cash in lieu of grazing, 57724.—The herds rented their land, 57722.—Witness thought they were very well off, 57725-6.—They had calves and poultry, and many of them young stock and a pig, 57726.—When these animals were saleable they sold them for cash; the herds worked practically on the same lines as the small farmers of Roscommon, 57727, 57730.—Witness never heard that they went to shopkeepers for long credit, 57728-9.—The herds sold stock in May and November, and generally had pigs to sell, 57730.—Witness thought a herd on a good farm was just as well off as a small farmer, 57731.—

RYAN, Mr. JAMES—*continued.*

The herd was not occupied all day on witness's business, 57734.—His family was there, 57733.—The herd employed by witness, and who had four acres of land, cultivated half an acre and grazed the rest, 57732.—If the land were divided the grazier would lose his occupation, and was entitled to compensation, 57735.—He had nothing else to fall back on, and would be ruined by the change, 57735-6.—It was quite possible that a man now having 600 acres of land might be left without any land at all, 57738.—Witness had a farm that had been held by him for twenty-five years; owing to the Land Acts the landlord had changed the agreement, so that the tenants were to take no advantage of Land Acts, and at the same time gave a substantial reduction; so long as the landlord retained the land his tenants were no worse off than judicial tenants, but if the land was sold they were excluded from benefiting by the Act, 57737.—Witness would not be prepared to purchase his land on the sixty-eight years' system by paying for that time an annuity equal to his present rent; it would be too long to look forward, 57739-40, 57744.—The question as to whether the grazing rent paid now was a fair basis on which to found a purchase agreement depended on the number of years' purchase, 57741.—Witness would not pay 27-30 years' purchase, 57742.—Twenty years' purchase of an ordinary grazing rent would be fair, 57743, 57745, 57750, 57752.—As a typical grazier of Roscommon, he said anything like thirty years would be absurd, 57746-7.—Graziers did not like being left without a livelihood, but if they were left to purchase up to the limit in the Act, say, £7,000 worth of land, they would be prepared to surrender the rest of it, 57748.—They did not object to fair division of grazing lands, and would be satisfied to purchase what was not suitable for tillage, 57748-9.

ESTIMATES FOUNDED ON VALUATION.

Witness's rent in one case was slightly over the valuation, and in the other slightly under, 57751.—Valuation was but little test, 57754, 57756.—The purchase price should be based, not on valuation, but actual rent, 57755.—If there were any rule for arriving at the fair price of land they had an interest in, many graziers would be prepared to sell that interest, 57756.—In the case of grazing land the tenants and landlord's interest were not both concentrated in the landlord; in the case of a leasehold farm occupied by a grazier he would have an interest he might wish to sell to the Board or Commissioners; there was no way of arriving at his interest; if a farm of 200 acres at a rent of £300 a year were purchased by the Board and then sold to the grazing tenant his rent would be reduced one-third (to £200), and he would have £100 more interest in it than before the operations of the Act; if he were to sell his interest he would calculate this additional interest on his farm, 57758.

CROSBIE, Mr. DAVID TALBOT.

See p. 194.

THE RIVER SUCK DRAINAGE CHARGES.

Witness had given evidence in London with regard to the heavy charges on occupiers for drainage of the River Suck; it would be a great incentive to purchase if the drainage charges could be written off where landlords sold to tenants, 57759.—The charge was very heavy; the landlord paid a portion, 57762.—And the tenant paid a share in addition to his annuity, 57760.—He had to pay as a tenant, and if he became a tenant-purchaser the drainage charge should greatly increase his annuity, 57661.—The charge had been paid for eleven years, which witness thought was long enough, 57664.—It was in the nature of a sinking fund to pay off the original cost of drainage into the River Suck in forty years, 57763.—The Royal Commission on Drainage had reported that though the estimated cost of draining this river was £106,481, the actual cost had been £200,000, of which £50,000 was a free grant; £13,000 charged on county cess, and £67,000 represented the increased value of the lands, while over £70,000 was unfruitful expenditure, falling on owners of land in the district; thus only one-third of the expenditure was reproductive,

CROSBIE, Mr. DAVID TALBOT—*continued.*

the remaining two-thirds yielding no return, and representing an annuity of £6,000 a year on the inhabitants of a poor district, 57764.—This expenditure, having failed to benefit the people, should be borne by the State, as under the old codes of 1842 and 1863, 57764-5.—The people during eleven years had already paid off the annuity on the part that was reproductive, 57766.—Further payments should cease, as an incentive to purchase of land by tenants, 57764, 57767.

SATCHWELL, Mr. HERBERT.

See pp. 195-7.

PLAN OF CATTLE RAISING FOLLOWED BY WITNESS.

Witness was a member of the Irish Cattle Traders' and Stockowners' Association, giving evidence at the request of the Commission, 57768-9.—He resided at Creggs, in County Galway, just outside Roscommon, and had some farms in Roscommon, 57770.—He tilled a large amount of land, and stall-fed cattle, 57770A.—Witness's farm consisted of over 500 acres Irish, and he tilled sixty to ninety acres every year, according to the size of the fields which fell in; with the produce he fed cattle and sheep on his farm, 57771.—He sometimes had 200 beasts stall-fed in a year, 57864.—And fattened them till they were ready for the London or Dublin market, 57772.—Witness had some cattle on his land, and all his sheep, 57781.—But also bought cattle at any age from six months to three years old, 57773, 57782, 57853.—The earliest age at which the cattle were ready for the butcher was 2½ years; some were not ready till three years, 57774, 57856.—Witness when he bought calves did not sell them again, but kept them till they were ready for store feeding, 57854.

GENERAL PRACTICABILITY OF THIS PLAN FOR SMALL FARMERS.

Three or more other men in Roscommon followed the same system as witness, 57862.—It was not general, and witness knew no one in Roscommon who stall-fed as many as 25 beasts, 57863.—It would not be suitable to the average small farmer in Ireland, for the farmer of twenty acres, 57865.—A man with thirty acres might be able to keep his stock till it was ready for the Meath buyer, but it was unlikely, as he would have a succession to keep up, 57857.—As the acreage of the farm was increased this system was more suitable, 57858.—But a man with forty acres would only be able to practise the system in a very small way, 57777.—On twenty-five acres it would be impossible, 57784-5.—It could be done in a small way on fifty acres, but the farmer would require more capital than on an ordinary farm, 57787.—A tillage farmer had to invest much money on implements, etc., 57788.—If a man had a thirty or forty-acre farm he would have a horse or two, and some sheep and young cattle, 57778-9.

NECESSITY FOR LARGE GRAZING FARMS.

A large grazier was required to buy up store cattle from the smaller farmers, 57779.—The Scotch and English buyers would not buy cattle direct from the farmer in small numbers, 57780.—If the graziers disappeared there would not be the same market for store cattle, as the graziers commonly bought young cattle in small numbers, kept them six months to improve, and then sold them to the Scotch and English buyers in lots of twenty or twenty-five, which gave the buyer less trouble, and ensured a more uniform class of cattle, 57780, 57794.—If buyers could not get Irish cattle in suitable numbers they would make an effort to get Canadian cattle, which would ruin the small holder, 57780.—Buyers did sometimes take cattle young and in small numbers, 57795, 57797, 57810.—But some buyers would take them at 1½ years old, 57796.—And some at 2½ years old, 57798.—Scotch buyers said that cattle at 1½ years old, which still had their calf teeth, fattened best, 57881.

BREEDS OF CATTLE.

Witness preferred cross of the Roscommon heifer with the Aberdeen-Angus breed, though practical

SATCHWELL, Mr. HERBERT—*continued.*

men were divided as to the merits of the polled Angus and the cross of the Hereford, 57814.—He sometimes got good calves from Kerry, Cork, and the South, 57844.—Witness could not compete with the Scotch finisher, 57812.—If he bought his calves, 57818.

Graziers' Profits, &c.

Witness thought that the grazing trade had been more steady for the last ten years than previously; it had been better especially during the last four or five years; but the graziers had never recovered from their losses in 1879, 57845-6.—Witness could give no opinion as to whether Roscommon graziers were much in debt, 57847-9.—Any prospect of the admission of Canadian cattle created a kind of panic; of this there was an example eighteen months previously; the price of wool also had been better the last three years, and the market steadier, 57851.—It was uncertainty as to the Government regulations as to import of cattle which produced uncertainty as to price, 57852.

Letting of Grazing by the Board.

With regard to letting out of grazing by the Congested Districts Board, witness thought it a good temporary measure, as it was an advantage to the poor to get grass for their cattle, 57860.—Witness was sure the Board gave it always to the deserving poor, but there was always a good deal of complaint, 57859.—Grazing was to be had more cheaply from the Board than from private individuals, but it would be better to divide the lands as soon as possible rather than let them out as grazing, so that every man should own his own part, and know what to do with it, 57860-1.

Classification of Lands—Burning Land.

Witness had not heard Lord Ashtown's evidence as to the classification of lands, 57799.—But he thought some of the lands in Roscommon were unsuitable for breaking up, not being very suitable for tillage; the deep clay soil was best suited for grazing, 57800-1.—While better crops could be grown, "lively" light soil was generally the best; this soil was in mid-Roscommon, at Strokestown, Elphin, and Boyle, and round about Tulsk, 57802.—The plains of Boyle were rich feeding land, 57804.—And where the subsoil was gravelly it would not be too damp and heavy to break up, 57805.—These lands were formerly cultivated, 57806.—Burning land, as formerly practised, ruined the soil, 57807-8.

Land Held by Witness.

Witness took his farm yearly, and also had some land on the eleven months' system, 57821.—He now held some farms his father had sixty years before in yearly takes; if such farms were taken from graziers they should have compensation, 57822.—He could not have had a twenty-one years' lease on the Scotch system, whereby land taken from year to year is on lease, as the owners did not like the plan, 57824.—There was some leasehold land in Roscommon, 57825.—Witness had no tenant-right at present, but was to be treated by the Estates Commissioners in the same way as judicial tenants, 57826.—If witness got a lease of his grass land for twenty-one years he would not be willing to give his present rent, 57834.—It would not be so valuable to him, since lands in Roscommon were not so valuable to a man with a residential holding as to one who must buy stock in May and sell in October, 57835.—If witness had the offer of a twenty-six years' lease at 25*s.* an acre of the land he now had for 30*s.* he would take it at that rent for fifty years, 57838.—If witness were able to purchase the farm he lived on and also one of his outside farms to work in connection with it, he would be willing to give twenty or twenty-one years' purchase for the outside farm, 57827, 57833.—As working the two farms together would save a good deal of stall-feeding, 57827.—The home farm being land of a middling class only, 57776, 57828.—And the outside farm good enough to fatten stock, 57776, 57828.—Witness took the farm on which he had his cattle, 57830.—And on which he lived twenty-four years ago, and was still paying the same rent as at first, 57829, 57832.—He was also paying the same rent as always for the grazing farm, but not so much as was paid by his father, and witness himself had not had it so long as the grazing farm, 57831.—The present rental of the grazing farm was 30*s.* an acre; witness had had better land at £2 an acre, which proved to be the cheapest land he held; but it had been bought by the Congested Districts Board, and witness had at once relinquished it; witness had had it from Sir Nicholas O'Connor, who was a middleman, when it belonged to Captain Caulfield French, 57837.—Witness had been well treated, and allowed to keep the land for grazing for six months; it was now set for grazing to the poor of the neighbourhood, 57837.—Witness's rent on the property of the Board was much above valuation, 57840.—He paid rates and taxes on the home farm, but not on the outside farms, 57842.—He did not know what was the valuation of the outside farms, 57841.—Therefore, when he said he would be willing to give twenty or twenty-two years' purchase on the outside land, if he could also buy the home farm, he meant twenty or twenty-two years' purchase without deduction for rents and taxes, 57843.

Land Tenure Discouraging Building—Advantage of Resident Owners.

Witness would like to see land broken up and divided among industrious young men, 57779, 57789.—Land of all kinds, but especially that which was suited for tillage, 57791.—Good grass land should be divided if it could be put in the hands of residential owners, 57791.—If people lived on their farms, even large farms, things would be better for the country, and the labourers would be attracted back from the towns, 57866.—If land tenure had been different in the past, and farmers could have built houses for their sons, there would have been more residential holdings, and all parties would have been benefited, 57776.—The agreements as to letting being from year to year discouraged building, 57776, 57822-3.—Witness was anxious for such a system as should produce the residence of owners under economic conditions, 57792, 57866-7.

GLYNN, Mr. THADDEUS.

See pp. 197-8.

Position of Witness.

Witness was nominated by the Ballinasloe District Council and by the Fohanagh branch of the United Irish League; he was the son of a tenant evicted in 1852, though there were no arrears of rent; his uncles also were evicted, 57868.—To make a grass farm, 57870.

Divisions of Annagh, Clonbrock, &c.

In the division of Annagh, in the union of Mount Bellew, there were ninety-eight families on holdings of £5 down to 5*s.*, and nearly 2,462 acres of untenanted land; in the parish represented by witness there were eighty families, having on an average eight or ten acres at a valuation of £2 to £7; in these parishes all land was held in conacre, and paid for by money from America, sent by children of tenants; in the Clonbrock division there were 215 tenants at valuations of £5 and under, and only eight to the value of £20, also held in conacre, 57870.

Applications to Purchase.

Several applications to purchase under the Act of 1903 had been made in the district, but these were refused, unless on condition that the tenants should buy their own small holdings, and no sales had been made; several branches had met, and had petitioned Lord Clonbrock, Mrs. Johnstone, and Mrs. Mahon to sell to them through the Commissioners at any price approved by the Commissioners; the Commssioners, however, had refused unless the tenants could make their own bargain with the landlords; Lord Clonbrock had offered, through the parish priest, to sell if he got twenty-two years' purchase for the holdings, but he would not sell the grass lands except to the Commissioners, and then, only at a sum bringing him in his net income; the tenants believed that any bargain made by the Commissioners would be an equitable one, 57870.

GLYNN, Mr. THADDEUS—*continued.*

LISNACREENA.

The tenants in the village of Lisnacreena had bought holdings under the Ashbourne Act in 1899 at 18½ years' purchase; the holdings were of valuation from £2 to £6, and in three cases out of the seventeen tenancies over £10; in the same district were three farms, which, if compulsory purchase were in force, could be bought and distributed among the congested tenants, whose ancestors had been evicted about 1855, from an estate of 1,100 acres; the tenants could not live on holdings of £2 to £7, 57871.

THE USHER ESTATE.

In 1899 Mr. Usher offered sale to his tenants at 18½ years' purchase, but when the Act of 1903 came in he wanted twenty-five years' purchase; it had now been in the hands of the Commissioners for eight months, and Mr. Arthur Taylor, the arbitrator, had a letter from the Estates Commissioners, and also from the agent of Mr. Usher, stating that the sale was not yet complete, and this report was given by the Inspector to the Board; the tenants could not account for the rise of 5½ years between 1899 and 1903, 57871. —The tenants did not buy at 18½ years because they were expecting increased holdings; they were congested, some of them having valuations as low as 5*s.*, and thirteen under £5; these were tenants who in 1850 and 1855 were evicted from good land, and driven to the bog and the river banks; the river constantly destroyed crops, and the landlords would not clean the rivers; witness thought the Commissioners should take action with regard to drainage, 57873.

COMPULSORY PURCHASE.

Witness wished the Commissioners to report that there was no remedy against landlords' unwillingness to sell except compulsory purchase, 57871.

HIBBETT, Mr. T. B.

See pp. 198-202.

EVILS OF THE GRAZING SYSTEM.

Witness lived at Kilconnell, County Galway; was a shopkeeper with a licence, 57874, 57877-8.—He had eighty-five acres of land, 57938.—He farmed 100 acres of land, 57875, 57880, 57909, 57938.—And managed 2,000 acres for a friend, 57876, 57884, 57909.—Witness wished to give evidence as to the evils of the grazing system and its consequence, congestion, 57878-9.—Grazing land for the raising of store cattle was only suitable to a sparsely populated district, 57878. —And letting or hiring of grass lands wanted for cultivation was politically immoral; congestion always followed grazing in Ireland where former owners of land had been evicted from good land, which was now used for grazing, and transferred to miserable patches of worthless land, 57879.

CATTLE.

The grazing system produced cattle inferior to those raised by small holders; they were badly fed and housed during the winter, and taken to market in poor condition, with the result that they were left to be sold at low prices at the end of the fair or market, while the small holder's cattle were sold immediately at from 3*s.* to 4*s.* per cwt. live weight more than the grazier's stock; the Connaught grazier was content with a very small profit for his six months' keep of cattle, 57879.

DETERIORATION OF LAND.

The greater number of graziers failed to repair fences, clean watercourses, or effect drainage; in many cases they received money from the landlord for these purposes, but the landlord was indifferent as to the expenditure of the money, 57879.—Graziers allowed weeds, thistles, and furze to spread over the land, 57879, 57917.—There were many more weeds on untenanted than on tenanted land, 57917.—Consequently more than five per cent. of the grazing farms in Connaught were useless to king or country, 57879.

HIBBETT, Mr. T. B.—*continued.*

HARD BARGAINS BY GRAZIERS.

The grazier's one idea was to work the land with as little outlay as possible, 57879.—And to drive as hard bargains as he could, 57879.—Everyone tried to drive good bargains, 57919.—But graziers more than other people, 57920.—Shopkeepers made hard bargains, 57921.

LABOUR—DETERIORATION OF LABOURERS.

Graziers hardly gave any employment to the labourer, 57879.—The example of graziers had to a large extent altered the habits of the peasantry from thrift and industry to sloth and negligence, 57879, 57913A.—This characterised all classes, shopkeepers among others, though there were individual exceptions, 57915-6.

GRAZING DESTRUCTIVE OF TRADE.

The worst towns for business were those situated in grazing districts where the finest store cattle were fed; Templemore and Loughrea were examples of this; except on fair days these towns were almost deserted, being without trade, labour, or traffic, and troops of Irish Constabulary in Loughrea guarding the Clanricarde rent offices made the town like a camp, 57879.—Ballinasloe was not exactly a grazing centre, 57933.—Though grazing prevailed round it, 57934.—But it was not a good business town since the evictions, which had virtually ruined it, 57935.—The graziers, since they made very small profits, if they were to continue in business must economise in every way, and could therefore be of no benefit to the country, 57979.

GRAZING IN THE BARONY OF LONGFORD.

The barony of Longford, in East Galway, was the least remunerative district in all Connaught (and possibly in all Ireland); though it was the most fertile and the highest rated; its soil was rich, and suited for any agricultural purpose, yet its 99,000 acres were all grazed or in the hands of graziers; its population at the present time was 13,000 or under, while in 1841 it was over 33,000; the decrease in the number of houses since 1841 was 58·75, or 3,283, and the number of evictions had been greater than in any barony in Galway; after the evictions trade disappeared from Eyrecourt and from the market of Ballinasloe; agriculture ceased, and labour was but little employed; this was true of Connaught in general, 57979.

ABOLITION OF GRAZING WILL NOT INJURE STOCK-RAISING.

It was stated that if the ranches were acquired by Government, and the eleven months' grazing system abolished, that the number and value of cattle produced would decline; this was absurd; if a farm of 100 acres were grazed it would carry thirty cattle and eighty ewes; if this were divided into four holdings of twenty-five acres, each holding would carry one horses, two cows, three two-year-old cattle, three calves, and twenty sheep, while the holder would till five acres and meadow five acres; thus the number of cattle would not be diminished by the change; on the five acres of tillage each holder could grow two acres of oats, two acres of potatoes, and one acre of turnips; whatever the price of store cattle the small holder would find it most profitable to store-feed his cattle; his two acres of oats would produce two tons of oatmeal for this purpose, and one acre of potatoes, seventeen tons of food for stock; this with a ton of turnips and a ton of hay would supply food for fattening eight cattle and some pigs, 57879, 57930.—Any beast in fair condition could be fattened with three stones of turnips and meal cooked, together with a stone of turnips and a stone of hay daily for ninety days, 57879, 57921-2.—This, allowing £5 5*s.* for fattening each beast, would bring the profits of fattening eight beasts to £42 8*s.* 4*d.*; two tons of oatmeal were worth £18, seventeen tons of turnips £22 13*s.* 4*d.*; one ton of turnips 10*s.*; one ton of hay £1 5*s.*, 57879.—The fattening would continue from November to April, during five months, 57926-7.—A beast would consume varying quantities of food per

HIBBETT, Mr. T. B.—*continued.*

month, according to the nature of the food, 57927.—Witness would not give them turnips, 57928 9.—But three stone of potatoes and meal cooked with turnips daily for five months, 57932.

CAPITAL NEEDED FOR STALL-FEEDING.

Witness thought a forty-acre farm could be furnished with buildings and implements for cattle-finishing for £150 to begin with, 57890.—If a tenant's son got a new farm his father would give him some money, and possibly he might get a ten-pound note from America, and for the remainder might borrow from the bank, 57888.

LAND SUITABLE FOR TILLAGE.

Witness did not agree with Mr. Doran or Mr. Taylor about land suitable for tillage; Mr. Doran said that some lands in Meath were too good for tillage, 57891.—In Galway he would recommend tillage of any land which would grow wheat, 57892.—He would utilise clay land, 57892, 57893.—Heavy clay would give good crops if properly tilled; tillage made land more porous, 57894.—Witness himself, from his experience, knew that to till land made it more easy to handle, 57896.—No soil in Ireland was incapable of tillage, 57897-8.

LAND AVAILABLE FOR TILLAGE.

Witness thought that there was quite more than enough land now let on the eleven months' system for all congests in Galway, 57879.—But he only knew from observation how many acres were available in Galway, 57901.—Nor had he figures as to the applications from congests in Galway, 57901A.—Nor the number of tenants' sons wishing for land, 57902.—But it was possible to know these things without going into figures, 57905-8.

GRASS LAND HELD BY WITNESS.

Witness himself managed 2,000 acres of grazing land and held 100 acres of grass, 57875-6, 57909-10.—He himself made money out of a system he condemned, 57912.—He and his friend were as bad as the others, 57883-4.—Witness did not till his land, since it was not all fit to till, 57882.—And because he was waiting for the new era, 57883-4.—Also because there was not sufficient labour available, 57887, 57922.—And because he and other graziers did not understand tillage, 57886.—He did not say he knew nothing about tillage, 57925.—Until the new era came it was more profitable to keep land under grass, 57885.—If the land were broken up and house built there would soon be sufficient labour, 57887.—Witness, though he owned grazing land, was not a grazier, 57937.—He had bought eighty-five acres, which he grazed, but he was not an eleven months' grazier, 57937-42.—He was a tenant, and had bought under the Act, 57943.—He thought land should be taken from large owners and striped and cut up, 57946, 57947.—His eighty-five acres was a small piece, compared to the land available, 57961-2.—A man with 2,000 acres should be bought out, but not one with 100 acres; uniformity was not possible, 57963.

GRAZING BY RESIDENT OWNERS NOT AN EVIL.

The difference between a yearly tenant and an eleven months' man was that the yearly man, having a tenancy, had an interest in the land, while the eleven months' man only cared to make what he could from the land, 57957-8.—Any owner who grazed his own land should be allowed to retain it, 57949.—The eleven months' land should be first taken up, 57948.—And the lands occupied on tenancies, or by their owners, if necessary, 57949-50.—Owners living on these grass lands usually employed labour, and often were interested in the improvement of stock; their living in the country tended to harmony among different classes; but if they held land to an unreasonable extent, or if there were unusual congestion in the district, their land must be acquired by the State, 57879.

PRICE OF GRASS LANDS.

Witness thought the price at which grass lands should be acquired by the State should be fixed by

HIBBETT, Mr. T. B.—*continued.*

persons knowing the land, and appointed by the Commissioners, 57951.—Witness would have to be satisfied with the decision of such persons, even if the price fixed were less than the value of the land, 57952.—This might or might not be fair, 57953.—He would not give an opinion as to whether it were fairer than for a man to fix the price of goods in witness's shop, 57954.

FINNERTY, Mr. MARTIN.

See pp. 202-8.

WITNESS'S HOLDING.

Witness lived about seven miles from Athenry, 57964.—And farmed about 60 acres, 57965-6.—Of which he had had 30 acres always, and 30 had come to him from the division of a brother's land, 58000.—Of this he tilled sometimes three and sometimes four acres, 57967-71.—Of the original 30 acres he used to till sometimes four or five acres, 58001.—A man with 15 acres might till as much as a man with 60 acres if labour was scarce in the country, 58003.—Witness's land was fairly good, 57967.—He grazed the remainder of his farm, 57972.—And had his own cattle, selling them at two or three years old, 57973.—Witness did not till more of his own land, because it was especially good for grazing, 57999.—He intended to till more, and admitted himself wrong not to till more, 58009.—A man who had to live out of his holding could not break much land at a time, 58009.

COMPULSORY POWERS.

Witness believed a proper settlement of the country could not be effected without compulsory powers, 57974, 58040A.—For dealing with unreasonable landlords, such as Lord Clanricarde and Lord Ashtown; if a landlord here and there refused to sell it caused great discontent among the tenants who were thereby debarred from purchasing their holdings, as their more fortunate neighbours on other estates had done; thousands of tenants had been settled by Estates Commissioners, and large areas of untenanted land acquired and distributed, but much remained to be done; the peasantry, seeing their neighbours settled in holdings, would no longer be content to see their sons emigrate, 57974.

PRICES OF LAND FOR DISTRIBUTION.

Even landlords who were willing to sell often asked exorbitant prices, being encouraged in this by competitive prices given for land after satisfying the uneconomic holders, witness perling to sell often asked exorbitant prices, being encouraged in this by competitive prices given for land by rich shopkeepers, who, nevertheless, often ruined themselves by land speculation; if tenants were given land at excessive prices, their position would be worse than it was without the land; tenants in Galway would be willing to leave the questions of price and purchase in the hands of the Estates Commissioners, who had won their confidence, 57974.—The land should be acquired for the tenants at a fair price, whether the landlord were left in a financially worse position than before, or no, 58041, 58043-4.—Witness did not think that if the land were secured at a fair price to the tenant the landlord would, in fact, suffer loss, 58045, 58048.—A fair price could be arrived at by calculation, 58049.—It would not be fair that landlords should obtain more than their net income, 58047.—But witness would not say he should get less, 58049.—It must be calculated on the number of years' purchase that would bring the landlord a fair income, 58050.—The people were there and must have the land and the landlord must bear a certain loss, 58044.

DISTRIBUTION OF GRASS LANDS.—MIGRANTS FROM A DISTANCE, ETC.

If a fair price were offered by the Commissioners for the grass lands of Galway witness thought that it should be distributed to local applicants with experience of farming, 58010.—Firstly, to uneconomic holders in the neighbourhood for the enlargement of their holdings, 58011.—If there was large land enough

FINNERTY, Mr. MARTIN—*continued.*

after satsfying the uneconomic holders, witness personally would not mind the introduction of migrants, but he thought there would be a tendency to oppose the inroads of outsiders, 58012.—There would be little room for migrants after enlarging uneconomic holdings in the locality, 58013-4.—On Sandford-Hill's Estates there was only five or six acres left after enlarging the small holdings, 58015.—If land were available witness would not be averse to bringing in congests from Connemara if they knew how to work the land, but a fisherman from Donegal was not suitable for a holding in Connaught, 58016.—A Donegal man, who was not a fisherman, might be a good tenant, 58017.—A man coming from a distance to a hostile territory would be much handicapped; it would be easier for a man who had brothers in the neighbourhood to make a start, 58018.—Other people might object to these migrants, 58019.—They had witness's sympathy, 58020.—Something must be done for them, and he would not advocate emigration, 58021-24.—There were selfish people everywhere, 58025.—He could hardly say whether local hostility to migrants would be sufficient to prevent the Estates Commissioners relieving congestion in the western areas by introduction of congests into Galway, 58027.—He would not blame the man who, by opposing their introduction, should condemn the poor of Western Galway to remain in their wretched holdings, 58039.—Farmers' sons who would have to go to America if they got no land had as good a claim to grass lands as anyone, 57974, 58026.—Farmers' sons who wanted land for themselves would object to migrants from Connemara, 58082-3.—It would naturally be felt that the farmers' sons should be satisfied first, 58085.—And the welcome of the migrants would, at any rate, not be warm, 58085.—An argument in favour of breaking up grass lands was that uneconomic holdings must be enlarged, 58032.—This view was held by all fair-minded persons, 58033.—But everyone could not have enlarged holdings, and witness would give them first to uneconomic holders and then to young people from the neighbourhood, 57974, 58035.—All uneconomic small holders must first be supplied, 58038.—From whatever locality they came, 58037.—Witness himself would not draw any line between local applicants and migrants, 58036, 58089-90, 58015.—If the needs of local uneconomic holders were fairly satisfied, 58091-3.—And the migrants not too numerous, 58091, 58107.—Witness, if he were satisfied there were room for them, would use his influence to discourage hostility towards migrants, 58106-9.—If land were given to sons of tenants it would only be a temporary remedy, for when their sons grew up there would be no land for them, 58028.—But when the land question was settled and the country settled there would be more openings for young men in trade and manufacture, 58029, 58031.—If the land question were not settled this progress would not be made, 58030.

Action of the Congested Districts Board.

The transactions of the Board in Galway had not won the approval of the public or the interested tenants, who would be slow to have dealings with them in future, though the landlords had good reasons to like them on account of the high prices they gave, 57974, 58100.—The Board was hampered by being unable to enlarge holdings of over £5 valuation, 58095.—If this difficulty were got over witness still would not wish the Board to operate in the district, as the price they paid was exorbitant, 58095, 58100.—It was a hardship that tenants of the Estates Commissioners who had uneconomic holdings should have enlargements and their neighbours, under the Board, be differently treated, 58096.—If the Board gave satisfaction in Mayo and other counties it was very likely because the Mayo people were no judges of land, 58102-3.

Action of the Board with regard to the Benmore Estate.

The Board purchased the Benmore Estate over the heads of the tenants, and, without consulting the tenants, gave the landlord three years' purchase more that the tenants had been prepared to offer, 57974, 58042.—The Board bought without the approval of the tenants who had been bargaining direct with the landlord, 58053-4.—And paid an exorbitant price not

FINNERTY, Mr. MARTIN—*continued.*

only for tenanted land, but for grazing land, 58054.—Moreover they grazed the land for three years, contrary to the wish of the tenants, 57974, 58057.—And mismanaged the divisions, so that a man paid £23 for an enlargement to an uneconomic holding; the land was not worth half that price, and the holding, when enlarged, was not suitable for a man to live on at any price, 58054.—There were many uneconomic holdings on the estate, 58055-6.—But there was room for new holdings, 58056.—The Board, after a fight with the local committee, improved some holdings, 58057.—And increased some, but they also increased the cost to the tenants, 58058.—The holdings were improved at the tenant's expense, and they were charged £2 an acre for land little more than half that value, 30 per cent. too dear, 58058-9.—The home holdings on which the tenants lived and on which they paid the extra three years' purchase were not improved, 58061.—The prices on the grazing farms were too high, 58062.—The prices of the tenanted land were not so extravagant, but it did not matter how things were mismanaged if tenants had to pay too much for the divided untenanted land, 58063.—No one was satisfied but the landlord, 57974.—Witness inspected the holdings and found them much too dear, 57974, 58051, 58094.—The tenants were anxious to meet their liabilities, but would find difficulty in so doing, and bad times might drive them into bankruptcy, 57974.—It was said that prices on the Kenny and Longworth Estates were even higher, 57974.

The O'Farrell-Don's Estate.

The O'Farrell-Don's Estate was purchased by the Commissioners, and within six months the land was divided, houses built, the tenants taken from the congested village of Cahernagarry and given compact holdings and decent houses on untenanted lands; the old holdings, which had been divided into small plots, miles apart, were re-divided, and the tenants remaining in Cahernagarry, were benefited almost as much as those who were migrated; the tenants were grateful and hopeful for the future; witness would like to see the district between Ballinasloe and Portumna settled in this manner, 57974.

The Tyaquinn and Colmanstown Estates.

Both the Tyaquinn and Colmanstown Estates were near Dunsandle, and were purchased under the Ashbourne Act; in Tyaquinn, a Mr. Richardson, of Dublin, divided the grass land among his three sons for the purpose of a purchase; in Colmanstown, 900 Irish acres had been purchased by the Smythe Brothers, of Cootehill, Co. Cavan; all these were absentee landlords, who expended no money in the locality; Richardson said he was willing to sell, but declared himself unable to do so until legislation was enacted to facilitate the sale of lands paying an annuity to the Irish Land Commission; the Smythe Brothers held 300 acres in Dunmore, and also large tracts of grazing land in County Cavan; the tenants at Colmanstown were almost confined to pieces of cutaway bog, and other estates adjoining had no hope of enlargements except from a division of the Colmanstown lands; the position of the Tyaquinn tenants was even worse, 57974.

The Dunsandle Estate.

On the Dunsandle Estate, on which witness lived, 58086.—There were no difficulties about division, it was carried out by arrangement between tenants and landlord, 58088.—There was no question of appropriating land to evicted tenants from another estate on the Dunsandle land, 58097-8.—The Dunsandle tenants purchased the grass land on that estate, 57974.

The Woodlawn Estate.

Witness thought his evidence should gain weight from the fact that he had been appointed by the tenants of Lord Ashtown's Woodlawn Estate to state their grievances; Lord Ashtown had said he was willing to sell, but had assembled his tenants only to trifle with them; he held, outside his demesne lands and near Woodlawn, near 3,000 Irish acres of grazing land and the demesne consisted of about 1,000; Lord Ashtown had stated that these were grazing lands of ancient standing, 57974.—But within the memory of

FINNERTY, Mr. MARTIN—*continued.*

men of sixty there had been 160 evictions on the property, 57974-5.—Later on there were seven subsequent evictions, six of which were recent; the 160 evicted families were taken in by Lord Clanoarty, whose estate was recently sold but their holdings were uneconomic, 57975-6. —And no grazing land was available for their enlargement, 57975.—The holdings were £7 or £8 valuation, but where the land was not good even £10 valuation was not sufficient, 57977.—They would not, in any part of the country, be considered sufficient unless the tenant got help from America or England, 57978.—Witness thought that if Lord Ashtown's ranches were acquired these Clanricarde tenants should have a share in the distribution, 57975.

THE WOODLAWN ESTATE.—CONGESTION, ETC.

There were, on Lord Ashtown's Estate, forty-seven tenants whose Poor Law valuation was less than £15, of these, thirty-eight were under £10 valuation, and seventeen were under £5, all these were working their own land, 58004.

EMPLOYMENT.

There were only fourteen of these forty-seven uneconomic tenants who were employed by Lord Ashtown, 57983-4 , 57986-7, 57993.—Lord Ashtown had stated that the tenants derived great benefit from employment given by him, 57983. —And witness did not deny that he employed others of his tenants who were not sons of uneconomic holders, 57986.—But only fourteen persons living on uneconomic holdings were employed, 57984-7.—Witness could not say how many sons of an age to work these forty-seven uneconomic tenants had, 57987A, 57988.—The holders themselves would have no time to work for Lord Ashtown, 57989.—If a man had an economic holding of £500 it would take all his time, if he were a good worker, to cultivate his own farm, and he would require a man to help him, 57990.—A man who had an uneconomic holding and also worked as a labourer would be better off if he were a labourer since his position as an uneconomic holder with occasional employment was so insecure, 57991-3.

WAGES.

These men employed by Lord Ashtown, with the exception of a few tradesmen, earned only 10*s.* a week, 57983, 58006.—This was reduced to 7*s.* a week by "broken time," 58006, 58064.—Witness had this from the tenants' statements, 58065.—Witness believed it, and several persons were present yesterday to corroborate his statements, 58067.—Lord Ashtown paid 10*s.* a week, but a man must be very successful to earn a full week, 58067.—If a man did not go to work in bad weather he was not paid, 58068.

DAMAGE BY GAME.

The crops of Lord Ashtown's tenants were much injured by the game he preserved, 57978, 57983.—By rabbits and preasants, 57930.—By big vermin, 57980. —By hares and pheasants, 57981.—The tenants could not kill the game which came up in the night to eat the crops, 57982.—They had not sufficient indepen dence to kill game, as they knew it would anger Lord Ashtown.

DESTRUCTION OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS.

The lands round Woodlawn were poisoned, and sometimes the tenants' pigs and dogs and cats were poisoned, and if they escaped poison they were sometimes shot by gamekeepers, 57994.—Witness had known a gamekeeper shoot a poor man's cat at his door and cut off its tail, 57991, 57993-4.

DAMAGE BY DAMMING A RIVER.

Lord Ashtown had built a concrete wall across the river flowing through the estate, quite close to Woodlawn mansion, and this caused constant flooding of tenants' holdings, making them almost valueless, 57993.

FINNERTY, Mr. MARTIN—*continued.*

EXACTION OF "HANGING GALE."

Lord Ashtown had ordered the fourteen sons of uneconomic tenants who were employed at 10*s.* a week to pay up the "hanging gale" or be instantly dismissed; similar threats had been used to induce payment of hanging gale by nearly all his tenants, lest they should be deprived of their ownership; the tenants felt their position very insecure owing to the number of evictions on the estate, 57993.

THE WOODFORD ESTATE AND EVICTED TENANTS.

There is an estate called the Woodford Estate, 58070.—Where there was a proposal to settle evicted tenants, 58071, 58079.—Witness knew the estate and that evicted tenants were there, 58076.—He was not aware of a proposal of fix up evicted tenants there, 58073, 58075.—The estate belonged to Lord Clanricarde, 58078.—There were objections to this by the planters, 58081-1.—Witness was not aware of the tenants evicted from the Clanricarde Estate fearing any opposition from any quarter to which they were sent, 58072.—There must have been difficulties on the Woodford Estate, since the evicted tenants were not settled yet, 58077.—Witness thought evicted tenants should have the first claim before uneconomic holders, and Plan of Campaign tenants, who went out on principle, should come first of all, 58069.

LACK OF LABOUR AND OF EMPLOYMENT.

If a Galway man became a general labourer he was much in demand for a few months in the year and could get no employment for the remainder; three months' employment in the year at 10*s.* a week was not sufficient inducement for a man to marry and settle in Ireland, 5807.—The men, sons of uneconomic holders on Lord Ashtown's Estate, who could not get employment from their landlord could not get employment from witness (though he needed labour), because he lived seven miles away from them, 58006.—Nor from other men in his position, because they could not afford to go anywhere; they wanted economic holdings, and when Lord Ashtown had asked them whether they preferred labour to purchase they, thinking they were to be dismissed, told him they wanted the land, 58006.

DRAINAGE, ETC.

Witness thought large tracts of low-lying lands in Galway were in need of drainage, and remote bog and mountain should be planted, thus benefiting the country by remunerative work and keeping the people at home and employed, 57974.

SUITABLE LAND FOR TILLAGE.

Witness thought no land in Galway too heavy for tillage, though heavy land was not so good as other qualities; no holding could be cut out of the grazing lands which was not fairly suitable for tillage; if it was not best for one crop it would grow another; by attention to spraying a fairly good crop of potatoes could be grown on almost any land; a farm might be very good for tillage and yet not very good for certain crops.

EDMONDS, Mr. LESLIE.*

See p. 208.

THE BENMORE ESTATE.

The Benmore Estate was bought as part of a bargain, the landlord having refused to sell his estate in Mayo, unless the Board also bought his Galway Estate; this the Board did, taking possession in May, 1904, but were prevented from dealing with the estate at once, owing to the opposition by tenants to grazing being put on; when witness met the tenants he told them that every tenant on the estate (there were only two under £5) would be enlarged to £25, and the remainder of the land would be used for migrants; this was vehemently opposed, and for a long time nothing was done, finally a certain number of tenants were promised holdings; under the existing rules, opposition to grazing prevented the Board from dealing with the estate at once, 58112.—Benmore

* See also p. xiv.

EDMONDS, Mr. LESLIE—*continued.*

was not a scheduled area, 58113.—The law that if the Board bought grass land outside a scheduled area it could only do so for the benefit of a poor estate in a scheduled area did not apply to the Board's own tenants; Benmore was the only case in South Galway where tenanted land had been acquired, except for three tenants on Dr. Kenny's Estate.

Causes of Delay in Dealing with Estates acquired by the Board in South Galway, &c.

The delay in South Galway in the work of the Board was, to a certain extent, due to the fact that when it acquired grass lands it had not also control of the tenanted slum estates in which were the people who were to be removed, 58114, 58116.—Otherwise it is necessary, in order to get the migrants the full value of their occupying interest, to get cash fines from their neighbours, and induce the landlord to amalgamate the holdings; this plan, which was unsatisfactory, was adopted in the case of migrants from Derrydoun, a poor estate, held in rundale, and belonging to Lord Clanricarde, 58114.—In other districts the Board had had control of the estate from which migrants were to be removed, but not in South Galway, 58115.—Another difficulty was the necessity of satisfying local needs; in Patfield there were tenant purchasers, and the surrounding farmers were all expecting to get land, but the Board had no power to enlarge any tenant purchaser over £5, 58116.—It was desirable, but not essential, that lands for relief of congestion should be near the congested areas; a distance of twenty miles would not matter much, 58117.

REIDY, Rev. THOMAS.

See pp. 208-10.

Congestion in South Roscommon—The Moore District.

Witness tendered evidence as to the unsatisfactory condition of No. 2 Rural District of Roscommon, at the extreme south of County Roscommon, 58118-9.—Within five English miles of Ballinasloe, to the south-east, 58119-20.—Lying on the Suck and the Shannon, towards Shannon Bridge, and to the north of it, 58120.—This district of Moore contained the only scheduled electoral division in South Roscommon; witness thought the other districts should be scheduled, 58121.—There were 106 tenants under £5 valuation, 58121, 58130.—And 190 between £5 and £10; some of the tenants paid a rent of £2 5*s.*, some £1 5*s.*, and some paid nothing, and were probably asked for nothing; nearly all of these were living on sandhills, or plots once covered by the Shannon, 58121.—They were hardworking, and cultivated barley almost exclusively, working night and day to thrash it; they were not much in debt, 58131.

A Typical Landlord in the Moore District.

Mr. Mather, one of the three landlords in witness's parish who, between them, owned more land than all the 400 tenants, had six or seven farms at his home in Scotland, and in witness's parish had eleven large farms, but otherwise lived in Scotland; the farms he held were—Cappontogher, 179 acres, valuation £50; Coolderry, 228 acres, valuation £81 5*s.*; Coulderry, 140 acres, valuation £46 15*s.*; Rathpeak, 550 acres, valuation, £178 10*s.*; Hillsend, 71 acres, valuation £28 10*s.*; Failte, 548 acres, valuation £257 12*s.*; Cloonburren, 864 acres, valuation £353 10*s.*; Cloonabrack, 81 acres, valuation £42; America, 290 acres, valuation £76 5*s.*; Rooty, 132 acres, valuation £66; and an eleventh farm of 80 acres, making a total of 3,163 acres; witness wrote to the landlord on behalf of the tenants (of whom there were only seventeen of an average valuation of barely £5) asking him to sell some of this grass land to the Board or the Estates Commissioners; he replied that he did not know what to answer, as to break up the Rathpeak and Coulderry farms some of the men there must be dismissed, which would create a grievance; the number of labourers employed was twenty-two or twenty-three, at 9*s.* a week; Mr. Mather also stated that nothing could be done just then, as the place was fully stocked, and

REIDY, Rev. THOMAS—*continued.*

the crops down, and that it would be difficult to estimate the value of Rathpeak and Coulderry, as thousands had been spent on improving them, and both the landlord's and tenants' interests must be compensated for; in the last letter of the correspondence Mr. Mather stated that he could give no definite answer, as the working of the farms was so dovetailed in, that re-arrangement would cause considerable loss, and take time; the lands held by Mr. Mather in this district were held in fee, and were once old demesnes, for the most part held by tenants, who were evicted sixty or seventy years ago; before the evictions there were 800 families, but now only 400, 58121.

Another Typical Landlord in the Moore District

Mr. Potts, of Correen, had seven farms in the district, and six outside it; in the parish, Correen Demesne, 300 acres; Killegley, 200; Culliaghmore, 180; Culliaghbeg, 80; Cloonfad, 50; Raherabeg, 50; Creggan, 90; outside the parish, in Moate, County Westmeath, 160 acres; in Drum, County Roscommon, 300; Scregg, County Roscommon, 400; Belfield, County Roscommon, 300; Cloonascragh, County Galway, 200; Clooncannon, County Galway, 500; in all, 1,760; witness wrote to Mr. Potts, who replied that he had no intention of selling any lands he farmed himself, but that if the tenants agreed to buy their present holdings, with a certain amount of turbary, he would let witness know the terms of sale; these tenants, of whom there were sixty, were very poor, twenty-four of them paying under £5 in rent, and thirteen having valuations of under £5; eleven paid from £1 to £3, and five paid no rent; Mr. Potts tilled sixteen to twenty acres, and employed twenty-five to thirty labourers, at an average wage of 7*s.* or 8*s.* a week, 58121.

Action of the Congested Districts Board in Roscommon.

Witness had arranged for the tenants to purchase on the Lane Estate and the Kyle Estate, one at nineteen years' purchase and the other at eighteen years' purchase on first-term rents, but when witness thought the matter was settled, the Board had said it could purchase no land; again, he had offered them the Materley Estate, with six tenants, 58122.—Of whom one, Mr. Harty, had 800 acres, 58122-3.—Harty cultivated only a small quantity, and set some in con-acre, and took in con-acre cattle; witness, at the request of the people, opened communications with the agent, who offered the estate to the Board, but the Board shelved the purchase; witness thought the Board should take up these lands at once; he could have gone to the Estates Commissioners, but he had more experience of the Board, 58123.—The Board, as at present equipped, seemed to be unequal to the task of benefiting South Roscommon; witness recognised the amount of good done in Connaught, but South Roscommon was overlooked and neglected, 58121-2.—Witness personally had sympathy with the Board, which had done a great deal for him, 58121-2.—Now witness must fall back upon the Estates Commissioners, 58123.—Witness understood that the Board had lately received a large sum from the Treasury, which they had resolved to spend on Roscommon, 58123-4.—The Board was authorised to purchase grass lands in Roscommon, but not elsewhere, 58125-6.—But the Board would not purchase these grass lands mentioned by witness; witness had no objection to Mr. Harty continuing to live in his house, and being considered in a reasonable manner by the Commissioners; witness was anxious for the Board to deal with estate, since there was so much rundale in the district; he also suggested that they should acquire and use the fortress or barracks which existed in the district, 58126; and make new roads, 58122.

Compulsory Powers.

Witness considered that congestion could not be remedied without compulsory powers, 58121, 58122.—These must be "severe," giving absolute power to the Board or Commissioners to deal with landlords of Mr. Mather's type, who held large ranches, and refused to sell, 58122.

REIDY, Rev. THOMAS—*continued.*

Drainage.

Witness thought the Board should undertake arterial drainage in this district, five or six miles inland, leading towards the Shannon, 58122, 58126, 58128.—Draining the country, not through the Suck, but directly into the Shannon, 58129.—In years gone by much money had been spent on drainage, 58127.—Witness thought there was no objection in the district to pay whatever was assessed on account of drainage; whatever drainage was effected was of little use with the Suck near the Shannon; it could not be drained any lower, as the larger river was not sunk, 58127-30.

REILLY, Mr. THOMAS.

See p. 210.

Attitude of Witness.

Witness resided at Lismakeague, Kiltormer; he wished to give details of some estates in the parish, to show the necessity of enlarging holdings, 58132.

Quansbury Estate.

On the Quansbury Estate there were seventy-seven uneconomic holdings, with rents from 6*s.* to £15, and five grazing farms, two occupied by the landlord and three by grazing tenants, and amounting to 700 acres; the landlord had offered to sell the grazing lands to the Commissioners, provided the tenants made direct bargains for their holdings, at twenty-three years' purchase of their present rents, including two or three years' arrears; three of these farms are situated conveniently to the small holdings; it would be a useful public work to drain 300 acres of bog on this estate, which greatly needs it, 58132.

Gartymadden Estate.

The Gartymadden Estate belonged to John Smyth; it was sold to seven tenants five years ago at eighteen years' purchase of the valuation, but all these holdings are uneconomic; about 200 acres on the same estate are occupied by Smyth as a grazing farm, and this was a great hardship on the small tenants, 58132.

The Adragole Estate.

The Adragole (Ryan) Estate, which adjoined Lord Clonbrock's, consisted of 300 acres, and was now in Judge Ross's Court; adjoining estates were sold under the Ashbourne Act at fourteen to seventeen years' purchase, 58132.

The Dillon-Broune Estate.

The Dillon-Broune Estate, purchased under the same Act, had two uneconomic holdings; seventy acres of the best land were sold to the grazier in possession at eighteen years' purchase, 58132.

Other Estates.

The Trench Estate had five uneconomic holdings; the O'Sullivan Estate, five; and the Drumatubber grazing lands, of 350 acres, were convenient to this; there was one evicted tenant on the Trench Estate, 58132.

Mulla—Population, etc.

The population of the district was 579, of whom three-fourths lived on remittances from America and elsewhere; there was in the parish of Mulla 2,780 acres of grazing lands, with 134 uneconomic holdings, and 450 acres of bog, which required drainage and roads, 58132.

CAHILL, Mr. THOMAS.

See pp. 210-1.

Position of Witness.

Witness was a commission agent, 58134.—A president of the New Inn Branch of the United Irish League, a member of Ballinasloe No. 1 District Council, and of Ballinasloe Board of Guardians, 58138.—He had formerly been a herd in the employment of Lord Ashtown, and had taken some part in the management of the farming, 58136.—He was herd and estate manager, 58137.—And had practical knowledge of farming, agriculture, and horticulture, 58133.—He had been evicted by Lord Ashtown on account of his being a Catholic, 58133, 58135.

CAHILL, Mr. THOMAS—*continued.*

The Woodlawn Estate—Evictions, etc.

There were constant evictions on the Woodlawn Estate—in one instance a man and wife and eleven children were evicted while the children were in bed with whooping-cough, 58139, 58140.—This man was not a tenant of Lord Ashtown, but the herd of a grazier whom Lord Ashtown threatened with dispossession if he did not dismiss the man; Lord Ashtown was almost the only employer of labour in the district, and his staff was almost entirely from Scotland, though at one time he had employed Irishmen, and was very popular, and took an interest in local sports, 58139.—Witness considered that the change in Lord Ashtown's attitude was caused by external pressure, 58141.

Lord Ashtown and the Trench Estate.

The sale of the Trench Estate to the tenants was completed but for the game rights when Lord Ashtown bought it at an enormous price, for the purpose, it was supposed, of defeating the sale; this disturbed the neighbourhood, and brought odium on Lord Ashtown; one of the Trench tenants, named Doolan, had a flaw in his tenant-right, and was dispossessed by Lord Ashtown of everything but one acre of marshy callow, though he had formerly held sixty acres, 58139.—This case caused much discontent, 58141.—Doolan had eleven motherless children, 58139-41.

Eviction for Arrears.

Lord Ashtown had an old tenant who, with his three sons, had employment from Lord Ashtown, and got into arrears with his rent for three years, 58141-3.—Lord Ashtown served a process upon him, and his friends helped to pay the rent; the holding was in a bog, and was small and uneconomic; Lord Ashtown said he would give the man employment for himself and his sons if he would relinquish the land, of which he was unable to pay the rent, 58141, 58144.—The man refused, whereupon Lord Ashtown dismissed him and his sons, "processed him for the hanging gale," and persecuted him for five years afterwards, 58141, 58144.

Land in Ballinasloe.

In the twenty electoral divisions of Ballinasloe there are 1,041 holdings of £5 valuation and under, 806 of over £5, and under £10; the number of acres under grass, 50,983; population in 1901. 19,279; inhabited houses in union in 1841, 7,646; in 1901, 3,412; valuation of union in 1841, £64,817; in 1901, £77,851; in 1906, £79,469; on Lord Ashtown's Estate were 3,557 acres of good grass lands, almost all owned and occupied by Lord Ashtown, and without one acre of tillage, and very few cattle and sheep; almost entirely stocked with rabbits, 58139.—The population of Killean had diminished by half in the last twenty years from emigration caused by landlordism, 51838.—More than 100 young men in the district had no prospect but emigration; though there was so much grass land, many had to buy condensed milk, because they could not buy milk nor the grass for a cow; compulsory purchase alone would put an end to this state of things, 58139.

RAFFERTY, Mr. JAMES.

See pp. 211-2.

Land Prices, etc.

Witness was a farmer, shopkeeper, and valuer, residing at Athlone, 58145.—He had a licence, 58146.—Witness had made sales on behalf of the tenants of Waitman's Estate, 21½ years' purchase, all arrears of rent wiped out; the arrears had averaged 1½ years;

RAFFERTY, Mr. JAMES—*continued.*

Sproule and O'Malley Estates, 19¼ years' purchase, about two years' arrears wiped out, 58146.—Witness had failed to effect the sale of other sales, since landlords would not take a fair price, but asked sums from 25 to 100 per cent. above those accepted by neighbouring landlords under the Ashbourne Act, 58148.

Congestion.

There were a large number of small holdings, so small that with the help of industries the people could hardly live on them, 58148.—There were many holders between £1 and £5 valuation, 58157.—The average size was 2½ acres, 58149.—The people should be migrated to the grass lands, and given fair-sized holdings, 58150, 58153-4.—If farms could be found for the farmers' sons they need not emigrate, 58148.—If the grass lands were divided into new farms the original holdings of migrants could be used to relieve congestion, 58155.—The Congested Districts Board should have power to buy and remodel the district, 58155.—Congests from the district of Athlone No. 2 could be migrated, 58156.—There was not quite enough land for the people in the district, even were it all divided, 58157.—There were 1,665 holdings under £15 valuation, and 10,872 acres grass lands, 58157.

Industries.

Labour was scarce, there only being work for two months' in the year, at low wages; the only existing industries were lime and peat selling, and the people had to go long distances for a market, 58155.—There were formerly weaving and tannery businesses in the district; local industries could now be established, such as peat, brick-making, iron-ore, quarries, mills, breweries and distilleries, 58157.

Drainage.

The War Office used a bog as a rifle range, but it was feared that they would move if it were not drained; the Shannon also required drainage; some persons had to migrate every winter to Athlone, as the floods covered all their lands, 58157.

Migration.

The congests were willing to migrate if they were told where they could go, and what would be their annuities; but hitherto the visiting inspectors had given no information; when buying lands, farmers should remember that the opening of the ports to Canadian and Argentine cattle would lower the value of cattle 30 per cent., and land would fall in proportion, 58157.

HARDY, Mr. WILLIAM.

See p. 212.

Witness's Holding.

Witness resided at Dromalgagh, Ballinaslee, 58158.—His holding was 800 statute acres, consisting of 300 acres of second-class grazing, 100 acres of plantation, 100 acres of bog, 200 acres of rough bog and moor grazing, 58160.—Only 300 or 350 acres of grazing land out of the 800; a fair rent was fixed on the place in 1899, and the Commissioners estimated the carrying capacity of the place as 125 collops, 58161.—The holding was on Colonel Malesley's Estate, 58158.

Contradiction of Father Reidy's Charges.

Witness wished to make a statement relating to his holding, since Father Reidy had said that he held 800 acres of grazing land in the parish of Moore, and that he con-acred hay, and took in grazing cattle; this was not witness's usual procedure, but on May 1st, in consequence of many applications to take in grazing cattle, he had taken in eight to oblige his poorer neighbours, not to make a profit, as would be shown by the prices charged, 58158.—Witness set some meadow for his neighbours at their request, and also fifty acres for his own use; he had forty tons of hay remaining from last year; the hay and corn were both ready at the same time, and as witness could not manage both, he allowed neighbours to have seven acres that he had been keeping for himself, but he had never con-acred hay before this year, nor did he intend to do so again, 58159.

TRENCH, Mr. PHILIP CHENEVIX.

See p. 212.

The Ashtown Estate—Evictions.

Witness wished to make a statement with regard to Lord Ashtown's Estate; Father Pelly had stated that Grady, Sheridan, and Feeny were evicted; Sheridan, who owed eight years' rent, was evicted; Grady was there still, in possession of Feeny's holding, he having bought Feeny out; the owners of the estate had paid Feeny to go out; except Sheridan, there had been no recent evictions; and all tenants who had left recently had been bought out; there had not been 160 evictions in the Famine times; witness had books going back to 1840, and only thirty tenants appeared to have left at that period; it is noted against nearly all the names, that they were assisted to emigrate, and in some cases the sums of money given are stated; one tenant had £60, 58162.

Wages, etc.

The wages at Woodlawn were 10*s.*, 15*s.*, and up to £1 a week, 58162.—All through the year, whenever the men came to work, 58163.—They were given steady employment almost whenever they came, though sometimes they went home to their own farms; thirty-three tenants and tenants' sons were employed, instead of fourteen, as stated, 58164.—Twenty out of the thirty-three would be uneconomic holders, 58165.—It was stated that nearly all the men employed were Protestants, 58166.—But the proportion was about seventeen Catholics to one Protestant, 58165, 58167.—The man Dolan, who was mentioned, had been an eleven months' tenant under a grazing contract (Dolan, interposing, stated that he had leave from the former tenant, Mr. Trench, to till the farm); the farm had been bought from Mr. O'Hara Trench; witness had seen the agreement, in which was no mention of permission to till; Dolan may have had a private arrangement with O'Hara Trench; he broke up the farm, and tilled it, in contravention of his agreement with Lord Ashtown, 58167.

HAYDEN, Mr. JOHN P.

See pp. 213-22.

Decrease of Population.

Witness was a newspaper proprietor, residing at Westmeath, a native of Roscommon, and representative in Parliament of the Southern Division; and gave evidence on behalf of the Rural District Council of Roscommon; the population of Roscommon in 1841 was 260,000, and in 1901 it had sunk to a little over 100,000; the present estimate was under 100,000; these figures were prepared at the County Council Office, from the rate-books and Census returns, population had decreased all over the county, but particularly where the land was good; in Castleteeheen, where the land was good, valued at 16*s.* per acre, the population had fallen 80 per cent.; while in Ardagh North, where the valuation was 6*s.* 6*d.* per acre, the population had fallen only 3 per cent.; this showed that the people had gone from the good lands, not voluntarily, but because they had to, 58168.

Small Holdings in Roscommon.

60 per cent. of the agricultural holdings in Roscommon were under £5 valuation, and 85 per cent. under £12, 94 per cent. were under £25, and only 3 per cent. over £50, 58168.

Grazing Land in Roscommon.

The 3 per cent. of holdings over £50 valuation amounted to 160,000 acres, and were almost all composed of large grazing farms, 58168, 58293.—Not more than 60,000 acres being held by *bona-fide* farmers, 58293.—The population of these lands were chiefly herds and the families of herds, 58168.—If all the people in Roscommon had land in the same proportion as this 3 per cent., it would take seven counties as large as Roscommon 58168, 58293.

Compulsory Powers.

This congestion could only be relieved by purchasing good, untenanted land, enlarging existing holdings, and migrating people from the poorer districts

HAYDEN, Mr. JOHN P.—*continued.*

on to the grazing farms; the limit with regard to scheduling congested districts should either be removed or greatly enlarged, and powers of compulsory purchase given to the existing authorities; compulsion was necessary both for acquiring the land and arriving at a fair price, 58169.—These powers should be extended to the purchase of both tenanted and untenanted land, 58204.

Distribution of Grazing Lands—Delay, etc.

In distributing grass lands priority should be given to those lands which required re-settlement and enlargement of holdings; these should have priority over other properties, because they were more urgent, 58169-72.—Irrespective of the date of purchase, 58173.—Delay often occurred in the negotiations of the Board or Commissioners after the landlord had agreed to sell and the tenants had agreed to a price; this delay sometimes extended to years; and when the bargain was concluded, no public authority was in a position to pay the money immediately, 58173.—This delay led to landowners who had made an offer to the Commissioners, and discovered that they would have to wait for the money, putting the land up to public auction; in these cases the Commissioners should have the right of pre-emption, for the land, once sold, might not again come into the market for a number of years, 58173.—There was a case of a grazing farm of Lord Tumblesden, where this happened, but Mr. Fitzgibbon, who bought it, afterwards sold it to the Commissioners, 58173.—In another case, at Tontagee, near Tourmilehouse, there was a farm which was bought by public auction by a business man, Herne, of Ballinasloe, who already held much land in Roscommon and Galway; who resided twenty miles away, and grazed the farms, thus giving no employment, 58173-5.—This caused public dissatisfaction, and gave rise to the first case of cattle-driving in Roscommon, and, witness believed, in Ireland; this estate was extremely suitable for the purpose of relieving congestion which prevailed in the district, and, owing to this defect in the law, and the lack of powers of pre-emption, the people were exasperated, until they broke the law, 58174.—The land had been purchased under the Land Act, 58173, 58175.—The small holders, who should have been enlarged, were living on the same estate, 58176.—On the estate of which the farm had originally formed a part, 58178.—The Board would not have been able to enlarge uneconomic holdings in the vicinity of the estate in question, 58179.—An increase of the schedule of the districts would remove this difficulty, 58180.

Auction of Fee-Simple and Sale of Land subject to Annuities.

Auction of fee-simple was not now common in Galway and Roscommon, but were becoming more frequent, 58182.—This Tonlagee case was a sale of fee-simple, subject to annuity under the Purchase Acts, 58182.—There was a law providing against the advancement of a loan in respect of land already subject to annuity, 58173.—Until the amount advanced had been redeemed, 58184.—As a matter of fact it was informally done, by the Estates Commissioners advancing purchase money, 58185-6.—In a case like Tonlagee, two powers were really required, the power of compulsion, or pre-emption, and the power of the Commission to use its discretion in these cases, 58183.—In Lord Tumblesden's case there was no annuity, 58182.

Land Re-Sold to Landlords.

Land required for the use of the public was re-sold to the landlord by the Commissioners, 58186-7.—In the case of the Bermingham Estate, near Roscommon, over ninety acres were re-sold to the owner, a clergyman, living in County Meath; witness was informed by the Chief Secretary, in the House of Commons, that this was demesne land, and a residence, but there was no residence, but a herd's house; the owner had never lived there, nor could he live there, unless he were to build a house; Mr. Bermingham afterwards asked the District Council of Roscommon £25 an acre, more than he had paid to the Commissioners, for a portion of the land they wanted, under the Labourers' Act; no land should be re-sold which was not strictly demesne or home farm, 58187.—Witness raised no point against the selling of demesne or home farm, but wished these terms to be more strictly defined, 58188.

HAYDEN, Mr. JOHN P.—*continued.*

The Essex Estate.

Lord Essex's estate comprised most of the town of Roscommon; Lord Essex was an absentee landlord, who had only once spent a day on his estate; the agent lived in County Meath, and never visited the district but to collect rents, twice a year; witness was not sure whether the tenants had applied to the landlord, but they had applied to the agent for terms of purchase, and since the agent visited the property so rarely there was a difficulty in dealing with the estate, 58188.—Lord Essex had property outside the town of Roscommon, 58189.—And had agricultural, as well as urban, land in Roscommon; the agent had informed the tenants that Lord Essex was willing to sell, 58190.

Tenancies in Rural Towns.

The Commissioners should have more power than they had now for the resettlement of land of, and sale to, town tenants where an estate with a town upon it was sold for resettlement, 58190-1.

Fictitious Leases—The Ballintubber Estate.

An obstacle to the acquiring of untenanted land was the recent creation of leases of grass land; at Ballintubber a farm on the Hughes Estate had been let on the eleven months' systeam for many years, and a few months ago a lease was made to a man named Payne, for which Payne paid either nothing or a small sum, 58191.—The matter was a friendly arrangement between Payne and the owner, 58195.—There was collusion between Payne and the owner, though collusion was a harsh word, 58199, 58200.—Witness did not refer to Payne's taking the lease of Ballintubber as anything exceptional, 58192.—If he had not taken the lease someone else would, 58193.—It was a speculation on his part, 58191, 58197.—There was a difference between a man who in the ordinary course carried on a business by which he made a living and a man who speculated, as in this case, in the sense of gambling, 58198.—The Ballintubber farm was sold to the Commissioners, and Payne received £1,000 as compensation for his lease; this did not diminish the price paid to the landlord, but was simply a present to Payne, 58191.—Witness would not admit that Payne would have a claim for compensation if he had held the farm a long time, 58195.—A man who had a lease for thirty years and had to relinquish it at the end of ten years would have a claim to compensation, if the granting of the lease were a *bona-fide* business transaction, but not if it were a speculation on his part, 58196-7, 58211.—This case had caused much bitterness and trouble in Roscommon, as the people felt that once the lease was granted the land was taken away from them absolutely, while, when it was let on the eleven months' system, they had hope of buying it at some future time, 58200.—Witness was not satisfied simply by compulsory power to acquire land of this kind, but wished leaseholders such as Payne to be turned out without any compensation, 58202-5.—Payne had interest in another farm, on another estate, 58191.—Payne held one farm on the Ballintubber Estate and his brother-in-law the other; between them they had 500 acres of grazing land; all such leases as Payne's should be voided; any such leases obtained since the Act of 1903 should be declared void by legislation, 58201.—The question of the *bona-fides* of a lease would come before the public authority, when the authority possessing compulsory powers proceeded to purchase the land, and took the evidence of the parties as to their interest in the land 58213-4.—It would be sufficient that there should be an instruction under compulsory purchase that in all cases of untenanted land enquiry should be made as to whether the lease were genuine, 58215.—This could be proved by examining the amount of consideration which passed for the leases, 58216.—Witness was not referring to land in towns, but to grazing lands, 58217-8.—In the case of a shopkeeper buying land in a town as a business speculation, the transaction would take place in the ordinary way of business, and would assist the development of towns, whereas the cases to which witness objected might be due to collusion, 58219.—Witness was in favour of applying to grazing lands principles that he would not apply in other classes of business, 58220.—The Act of 1903 prevented advanced on tenancies, created a certain number of years before the passing of the Act (before 1900, as witness believed); the Act had

HAYDEN, Mr. JOHN P.—*continued.*

been promised in the King's Speech of 1900, and the landlords, and a certain class of tenants, foreseeing what would happen, created tenancies for some of the grazing farms; the Act also forbade the advance of more than £500, except in the case of small holdings; this was a precedent for the alteration in the land, proposed by witness, 58210.

CATTLE-DRIVING AND AGITATION.

The first case of cattle-driving in Roscommon was in consequence of the Tonlagee land sale, 58174.—The Ballintubber lease affair also caused much irritation, and the place had been occupied by a large force of police, numbering from 80 to 300, 58200.—For a considerable time the number was 100, 58201.—Many agitators were prosecuted and imprisoned, and even that day four women were released from Castlebar Gaol, after a month's imprisonment, in consequence of agitation about this farm, 58201.—The persons punished had not complained; they were well aware that they were breaking the law, but they had learned that, in Ireland, the way to change the law was to break it, 58206.—In the case of the Crichton Estate, also, there had been considerable disorder, not in the case of the people but of the police, who batoned the persons who had been attending a meeting (at which witness was present), and on their way home passed the farm in dispute; the police may have imagined that intimidation was threatened, but, as a matter of fact, no one was on the farm, the owner being miles away in the town from which the people were returning; since that time the place had been occupied by the police; at a meeting attended by witness at Tourmilehouse eighty policemen were present, most of them armed with revolvers and bayonets, 58220.—Witness knew of no case of cattle-driving immediately following such a meeting, 58223.

LEASEHOLDERS IMPEDING SALE OF LAND.

The trouble at Strokestown about the Crichton Estate, was on account of a Strokestown shop-keeper, who had bought a lease of a grazing farm of about 100 acres, on the estate, 58220.—This lease had been bought for a nominal sum from a former tenant, and had only a few years to run, 58220, 58230.—The landlord was willing to sell both tenanted and untenanted lands, but the sale was stopped by this one tenant, 58220, 58225.—Who refused to sell; the people in the district did not wish to do this leaseholder any injustice, and were willing he should be paid for his interest, 58220.—Witness thought that there should be compulsory powers to acquire land of this class, 58220, 58225, 58230.—The name of the shop-keeper was Owens, 58226.—The case could not be dealt with by the Board since it was outside the scheduled area, but was a case for the Estates Commissioners; there was no power under existing law, to deal with minorities, 58228.—The law providing that where three-fourths of the tenants wished to purchase, the one-fourth should be deemed to have purchased would not meet the case, as witness did not wish the tenant to be deemed to have purchased, but to be turned out, 58229-30.—The tenant was non-resident, and his lease had almost expired, 58230.—If the district were scheduled, the Board could buy the estate, and give this tenant notice to quit, 58231-2.—Witness wished for the same power as in congested districts, 58232-3.

DRAINAGE.—THE RIVER SUCK.

Much of the land could be greatly improved by drainage, many uneconomic holdings could be made economic by drainage, without enlargement; in two electoral divisions of Roscommon which would be benefited by the drainage of several small rivers, which ran into the Shannon; the River Suck, which ran between Roscommon and Galway, and some years previously the drainage had been undertaken by the landlords, and the money was advanced by the Drainage Board; the original estimate was exceeded, 58233.—And a free grant of £50,000, was procured by the Treasury, 58233-4, 58256.—The whole sum expended was £160,000, of which £50,000 was a Treasury grant, £60,000 was borne by the landlords, and £50,000 by the tenants, 58256.—The tenants, who, according to Act of Parliament, were to bear a large

HAYDEN, Mr. JOHN P.—*continued.*

share of the expenditure, were not consulted, 58234-5.—But when the Bill referring to the free grant was going through Parliament, after a considerable amount of money had been wasted, the tenants obtained representation on the Drainage Board, 58233, 58235.—When the assessment was made, the tenants were charged with a sum representing the improvements made on their respective holdings, and the balance fell on the riparian owners; the grievance of the tenants was in the allocation of the amount; improvements were, no doubt, effected, but the tenants held that an excessive value was placed upon them; in some instances the assessment on the tenants for improvements exceeded the rent of the land, 58235.—Of the capital expended, about £70,000 was really ineffective, 58256.—Witness suggested that the Commission should recommend that some portion of the cost borne by the tenants should be wiped out, or the time for repayment extended, 58235, 58254.—The time for repayment varied from 20 to 25 years, 58255.—Witness did not know the rate of interest, but could ascertain it, 58256.—The heavy burden of this drainage assessment on the tenants had discouraged other tenants from carrying out necessary drainage works, and impeded the purchase of land, since the landlords had to redeem the amount laid on them, and tenants would not buy, while they had a burden on them, 58235.—The works were of benefit to the district, 58243.—And were now maintained in a state of efficiency, 58244.—The river was kept dredged, and the drains leading into the river to be kept open, 58245.—The work had included deepening the river, 58246.—It was not being deepened now, 58247-8.—The Drainage Board levied and collected the rate for maintenance, 58249-51, 58253.—It had nothing to do with the repayment of the original money, 58252.—This was collected by the Board of Works, 58251, 58253.—Witness did not admit that the Government was not responsible; the Irish Government might be so, 58236.—The landlords had made their estimate from plans prepared by their engineer, which plans were submitted to the Government and the Board of Works, 58237.—Witness did not question the statement that the Government and the Board of Works took no responsibility for the professional accuracy or character of the plans, but merely saw that they were such as might be passed; and they advanced money on certificates of work done; the work was often suspended for years and had to be re-done; the Irish Government had taken no responsibility for the efficiency of the schemes, 58238.—But he imagined the Board of Works submitted their plans to experts or their engineers, 58239.—They were to blame if they advanced public money without taking any responsibility, 58240.—A Board of Work's engineer visited the district, 58241.—If no engineer of the Board visited the place before the plans were sanctioned they were greatly at fault; since the tenants had been consulted and represented there had been very little wasteful expenditure, and this representation had been the price paid for their co-operation in obtaining the free grant; this was a plea for some mitigation of the burden on the tenants, 58242.

THE BOARD, THE COMMISSIONERS, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Witness agreed in general with Mr. T. W. Russell, that the Estates Commissioners should be the sole purchasing authority, and that any estate which required re-settlement should be immediately handed over to the Board, which alone should undertake such work as re-settling it, splitting up grazing farms, and carrying out drainage works; the work of agricultural instruction should be entrusted to the Department, and there should be no clashing of authority between the three bodies, 58257.—The work of the Commissioners would be temporary, as would that of the Board, which would leave as soon as they had re-settled the estates; while the Department would remain as long as the law left them in existence, 58263.—The Board should operate all over Connaught, Donegal, Clare, and Kerry, and the Commissioners should have similar powers with regard to congested districts in other parts of Ireland, 58264.—Outside Connaught the Commissioners would be not only the purchasing but the settling authority, as congested estates elsewhere than in Connaught were more

HAYDEN, Mr. JOHN P.—*continued.*

easily dealt with, 58265.—It was a bad place to have public authorities carrying on business in rivalry, 58266, 58275.—Witness knew of no case where loss or inefficient work had resulted from the clashing of the three bodies, 58261.—There was a general spirit of dissatisfaction on account of the rivalry of the bodies, 58262, 58266.—The difficulty would be met by an allocation of areas, 58277, 58280.—But witness also desired to relieve the Board as much as possible from other duties, that they might more thoroughly devote themselves to their own work, 58276. 58281.—Witness did not suggest that the Commissioners had purchased more economically than the Board, as he had no means of forming an opinion, nor did he attach importance to the opinion of those who made the statement, 58267, 58275.—There would be a danger of friction if the Board had to fix annuities on estates purchased by another body, if the Commissioners did not take the same economic interest in their purchases in congested districts as elsewhere, 58282.—The advantages of the plan would more than counterbalance the disadvantages of possible friction between the bodies, 58283.—Though witness would prefer to see the work of the Board limited to improving estates; he would not, if rivalry between the authorities were prevented, lay much stress on the Board discontinuing its purchase as there was a certain disadvantage in the possible delay caused by the Commissioners being unable to purchase everwhere simultaneously, 58284.—The Commissioners, having an up-to-date Departmental organisation, were likely to arrange purchases more rapidly than the Board, which depended practically upon the personal activity of Mr. Doran, and was obliged to delay operations in consequence of the smallness of their staff, 58285-6.—The question was one of staffing, 58287.—And if the staff of the Board were enlarged, it need not be slower than the Commissioners, 58284, 58288, 58289.—Witness could give no instance of delay having been occasioned by the Board, 58292.—If the Board purchased in congested districts, and the Commissioners outside, there would be no tendency to create a double standard of land value, since the standard in congested districts was naturally different from the standard elsewhere, 58290, 58290A.—Though there was much land of the same character as the Connaught land, in other districts, the altered circumstances would affect the price, 58291.

Land Prices under Compulsory Powers.

If compulsion were resorted to, the purchasing body would arrange the machinery by which the compulsory price would be arrived at, 58263.—If the precedent of the Evicted Tenants Bill were followed the right of appeal would be given with the extension of compulsory powers, 58269.—And the judge or body to whom the apeal was made would sooner or later lay down the basis on which the price of land should be estimated, 58270.—But even then it would still be necessary to relieve the Board of the work of purchase, as even under compulsion there would be negotiations, 58271.—Land prices would not be stereotyped, because there was always uncertainty about going to law, 58272.—By the operation of compulsory law in England, numerous cases were arranged without going to court, for the purpose of avoiding the uncertainties of law, 58273.—Though certain principles might become known, as for instance, that good land would produce from the court a higher price than bad land, there was always the case of untenanted land, which had not been in court at all, and a considerable time would elapse before principles were laid down, 58274.

Representation on the Congested Districts Board.

There should be on the Board representatives of the people, either by direct election or by selection by by the County Councils of each county, that the Board might be in touch with the people, and responsible to them, 58257.—And there should be at least one paid member who would have a certain amount of authority, and be responsible between the meetings of the Board, 58257, 58259.—This would follow the precedent of the Board of Commissioners of National Education, 58257.—The meetings of the Board should also be more frequent than once a month, 58258.—Special meetings of the Board, as occasion arose, would be sufficient, 58259.—Whenever meetings were called for the purpose of dealing with a particular district, they should be held in that district, 58257.

Maintenance of Improvements.

The improvements effected by the Board and Commissioners should, when these bodies no longer existed, be inspected, so that the improvements should be maintained, 58304.—There was no provision for such inspection now, 58304-5.—Occupiers must maintain improvements on their own holdings, so far as they were security to the State; the Board could not remain for ever on the Dillon Estate, 58304.—As a rule the fact that occupiers would obtain the whole benefit of the improvements would be sufficient incentive to their maintenance, 58303.

Migrants and Sons of Tenants.

In the relief of congestion, the bounds of the county ought not to be the limit to the relief of congestion in that county, 58294.—Witness would not obect to migrants from other places being brought to Roscommon, 58295, 58297.—But the people of the county should have the first claim, 58295-7, 58299.—The ratepayers were, as the law stood, responsible for the repayment of purchase annuities, and should have a voice as to the allotment of the land; they might think a young man from their own district more suitable, solvent, and reliable, than a migrant from a distance, 58296, 58298, 58318.—If a grazing farm in Roscommon were cleared and a migrant settled on it who failed the liability would be on the ratepayers; this liability would not disappear if the tenant were a farmer's son, but the presumption was that a farmer's son, prepared to make his way in America, would do better, 58311.—The liability was likely to be less, 58312.—The sons of tenants in Roscommon had a greater claim than migrants from other counties, 58299.—If there were but little margin for migrants after tenants' sons were satisfied, it was still best to prevent these young men emigrating, 58298.—Roscommon men, who were able to work a farm, had a certain claim to land, as descendants of the original occupiers, 38300.—Persons in Kerry and Donegal might be relieved by drainage of holdings and establishment of industries, rather than by migration, 58297.—Some regard must also be paid to the popular feelings in the district if migration and distribution of grass lands were to be effectual; the grass lands of Roscommon were much needed by the people of the district, and migrants could not be forced upon them without danger to the public peace, 58318.—If this was granted the argument that the grass lands were necessary for the relief of distress in the West of Ireland must fall through, for the grass land would be used to provide land for those who had none at all, 58321.—And the demand for the acquisition of these lands had always been put forward as justified by the need for relieving congestion, 58320.—The Commission had been appointed to inquire into methods of relieving congestion, 58319.—If the policy of providing tenants' sons with land would only put off the evil day for another generation, witness still thought that they might relieve the existing state of things without looking so far forward, 58301.—Nor did he admit that his plan would fail to relieve congestion in the West, 58302.—If a migrant failed it was open to tenants' sons to buy his holding, if they had the ready money, 58305.—The land would be put up to auction and the purchaser must pay cash for the tenant's right, 58306.—In the meantime the arrears on the annuity would have been levied upon the local rates, though they were always collected from the occupier, 58306.—And there was some loss and inconvenience, as the ratepayers were not only the guarantors but had to lend the money; for example, they had to pay this year arrears incurred up to the 31st of March last year, and this might be repaid by Government by March next year; in the meantime, the ratepayers were out of pocket, and they were poor men; 60 per cent. of the holdings were under £50 valuation, 58307.—The sum falling on the rates was small, but it would grow with larger operations, 58308.—A year's annuity, if left unpaid by a considerable number of tenants, would be a serious matter

HAYDEN, Mr. JOHN P.—*continued.*

for the county; even before the land was sold the amount due would have been levied off the rates, 58315.—If all, or a considerable number, of the thousands of occupiers failed, the ratepayers would be liable, 58316.—Some might fail one year, and some the year after, and it might not break the ratepayers; they had already a fair share of rates to bear, 58316. —An annuity came on the rates immediately it was overdue; this year £70,000 had been collected, being two years' arrears, and was stopped from the grants in relief of local rates; the arrears so far had been very small, so that Government, till this year, had not troubled to collect them from local ratepayers; next year the ratepayers would be credited with the amount of arrears paid, 58317.—Witness's objection would not cease if the failure of the annuity would not come on the rates until the Government actually failed to sell the holding, 58318.—The difficulty as to migrants was not so great as some persons thought; it was largely imaginary, exaggerated, and to some extent created by the debates on the Commission and elsewhere; the feeling had grown lately; five or six years ago there would have been no objection in Roscommon to importing migrants, 58309-10.

Documents put in by Mr. J. P. Hayden.

	Page
A.—Reduction in Number of Habitations in County Roscommon between 1841-1901, .	288
B.—Valuation of Agricultural Holdings in certain Rural Districts, ...	289
C.—Special comparisons as to Agricultural and Grazing Land, ...	289

POË, Lieut.-Colonel WILLIAM HUTCHESON.

See pp. 222-3.

GOOD AND BAD LAND—PRICE DIFFERENTLY ESTIMATED.

Witness wished to comment on evidence given at Cookstown and Newry by Canon Quinn and Mr. John Doris, and produced tables showing prices given in the last five years by tenants on the estate of Mr. M. A. Poë, and also cases in which witness had exercised the right of pre-emption; these figures were assessed by the Estates Commissioners, 58322.—Witness thought Canon Quinn's evidence was directed to show that it was unjust that the landlord should ask the same number of years' purchase for bad land as for good; witness held that rent was fixed according to the quality of the land, and that the landlord was entitled to get even for bad land a price which would produce his second-term net rental, 58323.—Witness admitted that the inherent recuperative properties of good land were much greater than those of bad land, 58324.—If two men were selling land, one in Meath, and one in Connemara, both bringing in £100 per annum, it might be fair that the Meath man should be capitalised at a lower rate of interest than the Connemara man, 58324.

HIGH PRICES OF LAND.

Witness gave as an example of pre-emption a bad farm which had much deteriorated; the mortgagee had sold his interest, and the Estates Commissioners fixed the price to be given by witness at twenty-five years' purchase, 58324.—In another case witness paid forty-four years' purchase for a small holding, of which the rent was £2 per annum, 58324.—This was not a town-park or accommodation park; witness had during the past five years paid 25, 35, 42, 43, 44, 63, and 72½ years' purchase for holdings, 58325.—One was a farm of which the valuation was £4, and the second judicial rent £2 8*s.*, which witness bought in 1900 at 44 years' purchase; in another the valuation was £10 10*s.*, and the rent £8 10*s.*, second term, and witness, in 1905, had to pay twenty-six years' purchase; in this case forty acres were arable, but had greatly deteriorated, 58332.—In this property the rents were collected without any trouble, 58325.—The arrears had been £1,600, and they were reduced without any trouble to £400; in such a case the landlord, as his rental was secure, was entitled to a sum, which, invested in ordinary securities, would bring in his rental, 58328.—To ask 24½ years' purchase was not

POE, Lieut.-Colonel WILLIAM HUTCHESON—*continued.*

exorbitant when one considered the high prices the tenants were willing to give, 58325.—The purchasers were not returned Americans, but the man who bought at the greatest number of years' purchase had had a large sum of money sent from America, 58326. —In estimating the capital sum to be received by the landlord you must be guided, not only by the judicial rent of the holding, but the price one tenant was willing to pay to another, which represented the true market value, 58329.—The security for the State would be the inherent agricultural value of the land, but the market value in open market was the real criterion of value, 58328.—To a certain extent the price must be influenced by considering whether the rent was well or badly paid, 58330. —The market for slum holdings might collapse; if industries made progress, and the poor had other resources than agriculture, 58329. —In the case of the twenty-six years' purchase, taking the landlord's interest at 24½ years, the interest of the occupier was shown to be greater than that of the owner, 58333.—A dual interest existed in untenanted land, as the owner was both owner and occupier, 58335.—The dual interest of landlord as owner and occupier illustrated the value of grazing land, 58334.—In the case witness had in mind, he had bought out the tenants' interest, so that the interest became one, 58336-7.—So it could not be deduced that where there had never been a tenant there was a tenant's interest, 58338.

Documents put in by Lt.-Col. Wm. Hutcheson Poë.

	Page
A.—Notes of Evidence, ...	290
B.—Sales of Tenants' Interests on Estates of Witness, ...	291
C.—Area and Valuation of certain Holdings on same Estates, ...	291

FITZGIBBON, Mr. JOHN.

See pp. 223-5.

SELECTION OF MIGRANTS AND ALLOCATION OF LANDS, &c.

Witness wished that representatives of the county should have a voice in the selection of migrants, since the success of the scheme would depend on the kind of tenant selected for the new holdings, 58339.—There should be a nominated or elected representative from the county on the body responsible for selection, 58340.—It should be their business to inquire about the character of migrants, 58341-3.—Evidence should be taken from the holdings from which it was proposed to migrate them, 58339.—The representative would make an inquisitorial investigation into each holding from which migration was proposed, 58344.—He should not be solely responsible for the selection of migrants, but should share the responsibility with the Congested Districts Board, 58339, 58345.—If migrants were approved they should be brought into Roscommon after the needs of the county were settled, 58346.—There was a difference of opinion as to whether a member of the Board would be more likely to recommend a policy for the relief of congestion which offended local prejudices than one who was not a member of the Board, 58347.—He might, but outside the Board his influence might be equally great, 58349.—Witness would not go into the question of his own attitude if nominated, 58350.—He thought one of the duties of the representative would be to see that resources in Mayo were exhausted before migrants from thence were introduced to Roscommon; otherwise the introduction of migrants would be resented, 58348.—The balance of the grass land available in Roscommon after relieving the local congestion might be held over till it were ascertained whether it were required by congests from other counties, and not claimed by farmers' sons till the matter were settled, 58351.—The entire problem of Roscommon should first be dealt with, for there were thousands of holdings in the county under £5 valuation, 58352.—The holdings on the estate purchased should first be dealt with, 58352.—Then uneconomic holdings outside the estate, 58353.—Whether scheduled or not, 58354.—And if

FITZGIBBON, Mr. JOHN—*continued.*

land were left over would hold it, and not earmark it for migrants, 58355, 58357.—There were parts of Roscommon to which migrants would be unwilling to go, 58356.—The Board and Commissioners should have powers to make additions to holdings in close proximity to untenanted lands, even when the valuation exceeded £10, or sometimes where it was over £14; he knew many cases where the area did not exceed sixteen statute acres at these valuations; all congested townlands should be similarly treated where they had been sold to tenants, no matter under what conditions they had been purchased, 58358.—It would not be advisable only to buy grass lands for specific cases of congestion already decided upon, 58359.—All should be purchased which was obtainable at a reasonable price, 58360, 58365.—The land the Board had now on ite hands was useful for accommodating the cattle of congests, and supplying them with cheap hay, 58360.—The settlement of Roscommon, however fast it was proceeded with, would take five years, 58366.—If the loss on the flotation of stock necessary to buy £5,000,000 worth of grass lands in Roscommon would be very great; it might be sufficient to put a pre-emption clause in future legislation, securing the land to the people, 58361.—By this he meant that land should not be sold except through the public bodies appointed for the purchase of lands, 58363.

THE BOARD AS PURCHASERS.

Witness disagreed with Mr. Hayden as to the body appointed to purchase, and would give the Congested Districts Board the purchasing of lands with which they must afterwards deal, as this would be likely to work better; the Board would deal with Connaught and other congested counties, and would not class with the Commissioners dealing with other classes of estates, 58363.

EVIDENCE OF THE O'CONOR DON.

Witness differed from parts of the O'Conor Don's evidence, for though there was no doubt that the O'Conor Don's father was a kind and indulgent landlord, he should, if he wished to consider his tenants, have sold his Clonallen Estate to the Board, for now nothing had been done for the tenants, except four, who had been migrated, 58367.—The O'Conor Don had said that congests were not anxious to migrate, 58367-8.—But in this case they were prevented from migration by the offer of land in insufficient quantity, and at too high an annuity; the Commissioners had told them they would get cheaper land if they waited, and they now occupied land on the Balfe estate, thirty per cent. cheaper than those obtainable on the Ballinger Estate; if the tenants had taken what was first offered they would have had small additional patches far from the road, and two miles from their homes, only suitable from their position for grazing or meadow, 58368.—The O'Conor Don had also stated that the disappearance of the grazier would be a misfortune, but the grass lands were deteriorating, not producing thirty per cent. of what they did thirty or forty years ago; a man with twenty acres of good land could manage it better than graziers could; some of the new tenants, migrants, had supplied Castlerea butchers with beef; one of these men migrated from The O'Conor Don's Estate; it would be an advantage if (as The O'Conor Don stated) the market for hay would disappear with the grazier, since when the hay went to a good price the farmer did not as a rule take it to market, but gave it back to the land; witness agreed with the evidence of Father Kelly at Ballinasloe, 58368.

WATER SUPPLY AND FUEL.

Witness did not think it an insurmountable difficulty to supply new holdings with water, 58369.—Where there was only one well or river, as on the Irwin Estate or the Balfe Estate, the Commissioners arranged for all the tenants to have a pass to the same water place; the question of fuel was urgent, since the Board had houses ready for migrants, which must be supplied with fuel; the sooner a shortened route was made to the Arigna coal mine the better; the compressed peat fuel industry should also be encouraged, 58370.—Both peat and coal must be provided, 58371.—Bogs were closer to Roscommon than

FITZGIBBON, Mr. JOHN—*continued.*

coal mines, 58371.—Carriage on peat was greater than on coal, 58372.—It would be the cheapest fuel in a grass country, and people were more accustomed to it; migrants would prefer peat, 58373.—Witness had heard that the price of peat and coal would be the same if access to the Arigna coal mines were easier; witness agreed with Mr. Hayden as to the drainage question, 58374.

Document put in by Mr. John Fitzgibbon. Page

Statement as to Valuation and Area of Agricultural Holdings in County Roscommon (excluding Towns), ... 292

WILLS, Mr. E. W. SANDFORD.

See p. 225.

DISTRIBUTION OF GRASS LANDS.—OBJECTIONS.

Witness gave evidence on behalf of landlords; he resided in a congested district, and believed that the distribution of grass lands should be proceeded with with caution, 58375.—The people of his district were unwilling to migrate, though they were anxious that their neighbours should do so, 58375, 58380-1.—He could not say whether they would go in colonies, 58380.—They emigrated without compulsion because they had friends on the other side, 58382.—A man who had 14 acres of land in witness's neighbourhood had said he would not change it for forty of the best land elsewhere, 58375.—If he had had only 5 acres it might have been a different matter, 58375-6.—If the grass lands were cut up there would be little increase of tillage, as they were unsuited for this purpose, badly supplied with water, and a long way from turf; even where the best crops were now grown the tendency was to till less and less, 58375.—Migrants would not resort to tillage where the land was hard to work; in a townland in the vicinity of Castlerea, divided into 20-acre holdings, eighteen months ago, there was practically no tillage, but all grass, 58377.—This was not due to want of labour, but to the fact that it was more profitable and less toilsome to rear cattle, 58378.—Grass lands were not deteriorating at all events in the heart of Galway, 58379-80.—The tendency to till less was shown by the decline of Castlerea market, where less than half as much produce was sold than 25 years ago, 58375.—If the land were divided it would lead to continual meadowing and an increase in production of store stock; an increase in the production of calves and a diminished market for store stock of 1½ and 2 years old; the market for cattle would be restricted and the supply increased, which would seriously injure the small farmers, 58375.—The cattle trade was the mainstay of the country, and was conducted on lines shown by experience to be the best, and not to be inconsiderately distributed, 58376.

THE CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD.

Everything possible should be done to improve the state of the small farmer; the Congested Districts Board had assisted the farmers to improve their stock by providing good sires (bulls, horses, asses, boars, rams and goats); there was a depot for them at one time at Loughglynn; witness would regret it if the Board were disestablished and its work transferred to another department; much good work had been done and was still carried on by the Parish Committees under the Board; in his parish the grants in aid of building had led to great improvements; more might be done if the Board could grant funds to the Parish Committees for drainage purposes; though the people benefited should be compelled to maintain the drains in order, or the improvement would be only temporary, 58377.

CONCANNON, Mr. MARTIN.

See pp. 225-6.

CONGESTION IN BALLINTUBBER.

Witness was nominated by the Castlerea District Council, and the parish of Ballintubber, in which he lived, 58384.—This parish was congested; thirty-six

CONCANNON, Mr. MARTIN—*continued.*

families, numbering 136 persons, were living on 86 acres of bogland, and twelve other families were living on 50 acres of a by-road like tenants of a town-block, and holding their land in common; they had been repeatedly summoned on account of the way in which they lived, 58383.—It was not scheduled though very much congested, 58383, 58385-6.—Because it was contiguous to large grazing ranches, 58386.

Holding of Witness.

Witness was a small farmer, 58387.—Holding, 15½ acres, of a valuation of £14 10*s.*; of this, 3½ acres were arable land and 11 acres bogland, which would not grow anything, 58390.—He would rather have 16½ acres of the worst possible clay land than all his bogland, for even when the farmer was successful the produce of bogland was worth little, 58391.—In the last 13 years witness had spent £47 15*s.* for grass manures; he used formerly to have meadow land at poor house and to go to three conacre fields, 58388.—He did not break up his other fields, because then he would have had nothing with which to feed his cow and calf in winter; bog-hay was not good for animals, though it kept them alive, 58389.—If witness had 30 acres of good land he would require capital with which to work it, 58390.—He would enclose four acres for tillage, 58390-1.—And about the same quantity for meadow, and would pasture the rest; he had a conviction that Irish farmers could not live without tillage, but the land they had to till was bad, 58391.

COTTON, Mr. COX.

See pp. 226-8.

Agreements forbidding Tillage.

Grazing was prevalent in Roscommon because in most leases and agreements between landlord and tenant penal clauses prevented the occupiers from building or converting into tillage; grazing was looked on as a legitimate business, and laws were enacted to make agreements between landlord and tenant binding, 58392.—Witness was bound by one of his agreements not to till more than 10 acres where he resided, 58393.—The clause against building was also intended to discourage tillage, 58395.—Witness had an agreement made with his father in 1858, preventing more than four acres being tilled; this amount was allowed for a herd's garden, 58396.—There were 252 Irish acres on the farm, 58397.—The landlords were afraid the rich pasture lands should be broken up, as they were more valuable under grass, 58394.—Acts of Parliament made these agreements binding, and when the agreements were broken the penal clauses were frequently enforced, 58398.—If it had not been for these agreements many farms would have been tilled and houses built, 58392.

Lands unfit for Tillage.

Much of the land in Roscommon was deep, cold clay, deep in growth and unsuitable for tillage, similar land in England had been found unsuitable for tillage, 58398.—In Leicestershire and other counties where there was deep clay, witness could not locate it, but knew it for a fact, 58399-402.—In the district to which witness referred there was bad water and no bog, the potatoes grown were almost unfit for food, and witness had seen green oats nearly at Christmas time, 58402.—This was not between Athlone and Roscommon, but the road leading from Castlerea past the cross roads, three miles from the town and past Rathmoyne to Rathcroghan; the Board had acquired a good deal of land in the neighbourhood; the district of which witness spoke was bounded on the west and north by the road from Rathcroghan, through Tulsk, to Cloonaquin; the few occupiers only grow small patches of crops, finding it uneconomic to do more, 58404, 58406.—The land was between three miles of Castlerea, 58403.—The ripe oats the Commissioners had seen would be between Athlone and Roscommon; the best district in Roscommon for ripening crops, 58403.

COTTON, Mr. COX—*continued.*

Holding of Witness.

Witness was a grazier on a fairly large scale, holding between 400 and 500 Irish acres, 58413-4.—He had not a single acre on the 11 months' system, 58415-6.—But held some under a judicial lease, 58415, 58417.—And had purchased 130 statute acres 17½ years ago under the Ashbourne Act, 58415, 58417.—He had also arranged to purchase the land where he resided, 58415, 58417.—He was, as the land stood, pretty safe himself, 58421.—The farm 7 miles away was non-residential, 58421.

Land held without Formal Lease.

On some estates leases were not given, but there was an understanding that as long as a tenant paid his rent he was left in possession, 58406, 58438, 58439.—Some families had been in possession for forty years on this understanding, and if it had been in the North of Ireland they would come under "Ulster Custom"; when these estates were bought by the Board or Commissioners the occupiers had to go without compensation, which sometimes meant ruin to them; for an example, John L. Cotton, of Longford House, Castlerea, had held a farm on the Pollock Estate for 38 years, and since the expiration of his lease had been a yearly tenant; the agent of the estate had given him notice to quit, as the Commissioners wanted the land; there was no mention of compensation, 58406.—The tenant had made no claim on the Commissioners, but witness thought it was due to him to obtain compensation, 58408, 58411.—The agreement was not a parole agreement, the lease had been for 21 years, and the land had been held from year to year for 18 years after this, 58409.—The landlord had no thought of evicting Cotton if he had not sold the land, 58410.—The mortgagees were the landlords and had given notice, stating that in the event of their not selling the land they should be glad for him to continue, 58142, 58433.

Compensation for Disturbance.

In many cases men who had held land during their lives had been induced by reduction of rent to sign agreements which made them 11 months' men, 58422.—Witness thought men whose leases had expired and who had since been yearly tenants and those who held their land by honourable agreements and had become 11 months' men, should get compensation for disturbance and be allowed to buy a portion of the land; the landlord was allowed to buy some of his estate; the agent was paid commission, and the herd got a portion of the land, but the grazier got nothing; it had been the practice of the Government to compensate, they had paid £20,000,000 to slave-owners in the West Indies, and if it were advisable to divide grazing lands the State should compensate the occupier, bearing in mind when fixing the amount that there was no open market for the sale of land since the Act of 1903; if compensation were given it would tend to maintain peace in the country, and more land would be available without compulsion, 58422.—The Small Holdings Allotment Act of 1907 stated that when a labourer had been regularly employed on any land acquired by the County Council for small holdings and proved that he was deprived of employment and could obtain no equally suitable work in the locality, the Council might compensate him, this, witness thought, was a precedent for compensating the occupier, 58432.—The landlord should not pay compensation, as it was for the benefit of the community, it should be paid by the State, 58434.—There was a kind of compulsion, because the Commissioners might refuse to buy the estate unless they got the grazing land, 58436.—Not even the United Irish League would say the grazier should be refused compensation, they did not think a man should be sent to the workhouse, 58436.—The incoming tenant should not lose, 58434, 58437.—There should be a Treasury grant, 58437.—If the landlord should pay compensation it would be reasonable that the total amount paid by the tenants in their purchase prices should be increased, 58438.—Witness had no doubt some landlords objected to sell, because they thereby would injure tenants with whom they had an honourable understanding, 58439.

COTTON, Mr. COX—*continued.*

MIGRATION.

Migrants should not be introduced into Roscommon until local needs were satisfied; each county should relieve its own congestion; there was more grazing land in Mayo and Galway than in Roscommon, it was more suitable for tillage, and fuel was more abundant, while in Roscommon migrants would have no chance of getting turf; witness believed that Mr. Doran must have been carried away by enthusiasm when he recommended migration on so large a scale; witness had compared the crops in Roscommon with those in Mayo when, in 1891, he was sent by the Land Commission to report on the potato crops of both counties, and was struck with the yield of all kinds of crops in Mayo compared to Roscommon, 58423.

GRAZIERS AND THE CATTLE TRADE.

The quantity of land which would be given to tenants if the grazing lands were distributed would not be sufficient to enable them to hold their young cattle for beef in the English or Scotch markets; it took from four to five statute acres to feed a sum of cattle summer and winter, so that unless food were bought the tenant could not keep up the succession; it was possible that the occupier might have to part with some of his stock to meet his engagements; if no graziers remained to buy the young stock it would be impossible for the tenant to support his family and pay his instalments, and even more so if Canadian stores were admitted; the graziers and small holders had been a mutual benefit to each other in the cattle trade; any change in the grazing farms would tend to the extinction of the high-priced Roscommon rams which had been placed by graziers at the disposal of small holders, free of charge; horse-breeding would also be checked, and hunters and army remounts become very scarce, as it would not pay a farmer to breed foals when there was no grazier to buy them, and young horses needed a wide run; the graziers had been accustomed to buy foals at from £12 to £20; in all these ways the grazier had been useful to the community. 58423.—When the country was more populous the prices of cattle were much lower; witness had among his father's papers a fair book dated May, 1850, giving the prices of cattle at the fair at Strokestown in that year, 58422-3.—Among the cattle bought at Strokestown for the farm of Carnagat were 25 two-year-old heifers at £4 each; one three-year-old, £5; yearlings, £1 7*s*., £1 3*s*. and £1 10*s*. to £1; the highest price for yearlings seemed to be £2, and the lowest, £1; according to this record thirty-eight beasts were bought for £121 6*s*. 6*d*.; at the fair at Frenchpark, which was a more congested district, fifteen yearling bullocks, the highest price paid being £1 2*s*. 6*d*., two were bought for 17*s*. 6*d*. each, and the whole fifteen for £19 16*s*., 58423.—No two-year olds were bought at Frenchpark, the highest price was £5 for a three-year-old heifer, 58424.—Witness was statistician for the Agricultural Department and had all the statistics for cattle prices this year in this district; the price of two-year-old heifers at Strokestown would now be £11, 58425.—The prices in May were from £12 10*s*. to £10 and £9 10*s*., and the average about £11, 58426.—The statistics had been collected by Government for the last twenty years, 58424, 58426.—Witness was born in 1844 and had been early acquainted with the grazing trade; his father had told him that calves were sold when newborn; they were sold at prices from 5*s*. to 2*s*. 6*d*.; the population was then very large; the price of stock rose by degrees; 58427.—The rent of the farm on which these cattle were fed was then 28*s*. per Irish acre, 58428.—It was now 32*s*. per Irish acre, 58439.—This was an exceptional case, as his father had had the farm in 1858, when things began to rise, and the landlord (to whom he gave £500) gave him a long lease for a slight rise, 58429.—The farm had for a good part of the time at £3 or more, 58430.—Rents had fallen in 1878; in seven or eight years the rents of these lands fell from enormous prices to nearly half, and since 1882 or 1883 had been fairly steady, 58431.—There had been a rise in rent proportionate to the rise in stock, 58430.—And the graziers had not made large fortunes in consequence of land increasing 50 per cent. while stock prices rose 300 or 400 per cent., because the price of store cattle went up in proportion; sometime ago witness had gone over fifteen years of the statistics in the witness box and had shown Judge Fitzgerald that year-old cattle were a good deal out of proportion to two-year-old cattle now, 58432.

COTTON, Mr. COX—*continued.*

WEBB, Mr. PATRICK.

See pp. 228-32.

ALLEGED COMPETITION BETWEEN BOARD AND COMMISSIONERS.

Witness lived at Loughglynn, and thought that competition between the Board and Commissioners should be abolished; he had had experience of estates where both Board and Commissioners had approached men of influence to have estates transferred to themselves, 58440-1, 58443.—They wished County Councillors and other persons of influence to sanction them as purchasers, 58441-2.—This competition raised prices, particularly on the De Freyne Estate, 58442, 58449.—Witness and others were asked to memorialise the Board, 58444-5.—In a case where the Board wished to buy, a member of the Board approached witness to induce him to influence the tenants to memorialise the Board, 58446, 58468.—And a member of the Estates Commissioners also approached witness, 58447-8, 58461.—Both were referring to the Murphy Estate and to the De Freyne Estate, 58449-50.—The person was not an Estates Commissioner, but one of their representatives, 58451.—Witness would not give the name. 58452.—But if the Commission would guarantee it should not injure the official he would do so, 58457, 58459.—The man in question was still a prominent official under the Board, 58460.—It was not Mr. Doran, 58458, 58469.—The man came to Loughglynn to witness's own house, 58470.—He did not say he had been deputed by the Board to consult witness with regard to the sale of the De Freyne Estate, 58471.—He said the Board was anxious to purchase the estate, and knew the Commissioners were also anxious, and if witness could induce the tenants to sanction the Board it would place him in a very responsible position, 58472.—This was three months previous to the announcement of the sale, 58463, 58473.—It was not the same person who asked for both, 58474.—The representative of the Board and of the Commissioners approached witness simultaneously, 58466.—But not on the same day, 58467.—They knew that Lord de Freyne had made witness an offer of a reduction of 7*s*. in the £ on first, and 5*s*. in the £ on second-term, rents on behalf of the tenants, 58467.—Witness was then a County Councillor and a District Councillor, and one of the foremost men in the agitation, 58464.—Witness had replied that he would not interfere, 58465.—It might be that the person who approached witness had no influence with either Board or Commissioners, 58477.—He advocated persuading the tenants to sanction the Board on account of its great improvements on the Dillon Estate, 58478.—Witness was not labouring under a misapprehension, 58456, 58462.—It was on these grounds he wished to have only one or other of those bodies, 58462, 58475, 58478.—Witness would not be surprised to hear that Lord de Freyne and Mr. Murphy both proposed to Sir Antony MacDonnell to purchase their estates, 58453, 58468.—Sir A. MacDonnell never wrote witness a line on the matter, 58454-5.—With such a keen market for land the prices should be good, 58476.

SUGGESTED DUTIES OF BOARD AND COMMISSIONERS—FAVOURITISM OF THE BOARD.

Witness wished the Commissioners to be the purchasing body, and approved their fixing the rents and apportioning the lands, leaving the Board to carry out improvements, 58478.—The Commissioners might restripe the land, 58479.—Witness made these distinctions because he thought the Board showed favouritism, 58480-6.—On the Dillon Estate large holders had received land, while tenants with one to three acres had not been enlarged, 58480.—In the village of Aughalower Mrs. Crighton, who held sixteen acres of the best land, got, in addition, six or seven acres, 58487-8.—While Peter Gilligan, Michael Brady, Thomas Fitzpatrick, and Francis Duigenan, who held only one acre of arable land and one acre of bog were overlooked altogether, 58489, 58488,

WEBB, Mr. PATRICK—*continued.*

58490.—Duigenan got a holding, 58491.—He did not hand it over to witness, 58492, 58493-4.—One of the officials of the Board had also received twenty acres of land, and a mansion formerly used as a police barrack, 58495.—This was Mr. O'Connor; the land he was said to have given the Board in exchange was a plot he grabbed in Loughglynn at the eviction of Mr. Hussey, 58496.—A new police barrack was being built in Loughglynn at a cost of £1,000 to £1,200, 58494.—The old barrack could accommodate twelve or thirteen policemen, 58495.—If witness had not brought this before the Commission he would have taken it to the House of Commons, 58497.—The witness had been sent to express this, the opinion of the district, 58498.—The witness showed the authority of 1,400 persons when he won the game question for the tenants on the Dillon Estates; he hoped the game would be vested in the tenants, 58501.—He gave his word that he had authority from the tenants to make the above charges, 58502-3.

GRIEVANCE OF WITNESS.

Witness had holdings on the De Freyne Estate and the Dillon Estate, and for the first year, 1902, he got the reduction of 6*s.* 8*d.* in the pound like all the tenants, 58503, 58525.—Four widow women who thought they had been badly treated by the Board, complained to witness, and he wrote to Mr. Doran, who replied that the Board could manage matters without his interference, 58503.—The women were Mrs. Duigenan, Mrs. Rush, Mrs. Moore, and another Mrs. Rush, since dead; witness wrote to Mr. Wyndham, with the result that the widows got their land, 58504.—And after that he was refused the reduction which all the other tenants had, 58504.—Everyone on the estate had the reduction, 58525.—The Department explained that owing to his attitude towards Mr. Doran they could not see their way to interfere, 58506.—Witness then refused to pay, 58507.—And was served with six processes of ejectment, and decreed for the whole amount, 58507, 58549.—Mr. Doran then said witness had refused to sign his purchase agreement, but he had signed it, and lost it; he signed a document, but the assignment was cancelled, and witness was processed for the old rent, 58507.—He was made pay the full rent with costs, because he had asked for justice for the widows, 58549.—Witness had written to the Board on two occasions, and had offered Mr. O'Connor a signed cheque to fill in for the rent, minus the deductions, 58507, 58508.—This had been done at the suggestion of the Judge last October, that if he paid up he would get his purchase agreement, 58549.—Consequently he had gone to Dublin, and offered the cheque to the Board's Solicitor, who had promised to lay the matter before the Board, but had subsequently returned the cheque to witness, and had him served with six processes of ejectment and a writ, 58508, 58549.—And refused his purchase agreement, 58549.—Witness was not to appear on October 5th, 58520.—He was with the Board on Friday, and left a cheque with Mr. O'Connor on certain conditions, and had a wire yesterday cashing the cheque for the full rent, 58515, 58522-4.—He only paid the rent when the writ was issued, 58517-8.—He would not have paid if he had not been forced by receiving a notice to quit another holding, and also a writ, 58526.—This was only a move in the game, but it ought to be exposed, 58526-7.—Witness had originally offered a cheque for the rent minus the reductions, 58511-2.—He was entitled to reductions, 58519.—Witness did not think Mr. Doran would have gone to such lengths if he had not been prompted by others, 58559.—He was now paying the old rent (Lord Dillon's rent) to the Board, 58545-6.—He could not redeem his holdings, as the Board refused to put his purchase agreement before him, 58547.—He had paid his rent in full for the De Freyne Estate holding two months ago, 58508.—Witness had nine or ten holdings, 58250, 58529.—He had had one holding on the Dillon Estate and one on the De Freyne Estate, 58528.—He had held them all himself; when his wife was ill he had taken in a brother from Manchester, but as the Board refused to accept him for a tenant, he returned to Manchester, and witness took the holding again, 58530.—Witness had purchased the holdings from occupying tenants in open market, and built the houses himself; he had built four houses in Loughglynn, 58531.—He was a farmer and cattle-dealer, 58532.—And a shopkeeper

WEBB, Mr. PATRICK—*continued.*

with a licence, 58533-4.—He did not lend money, but people sometimes owed him money for shop goods, 58535-6.—None of the holdings which came into his possession had anything to do with his shop debts, 58538.—He had opened a shop only lately, 58537.—That was about eight years ago, 58539.—And had had all the holdings but one for twenty-three years, 58540-1.—He had had a portion of this for thirty years, and the rest for five or six years, 58542.—The persons who had formerly occupied the holdings had died, and the relatives had sold the holdings; a man named Mangan had held some, and the parish priest had had one, 58543.—It was a usual thing for persons to sell holdings in this way; witness would sell them now if he got a fair price for them, 58544.—Witness farmed his seven holdings himself, 58550-1.—He had two or three tenants in the cottages on the holdings, 58552.—They had a good house and garden for 2*s.* a week, 58553.—Witness had thirteen or fourteen men working summer and winter, and paid them 12*s.* 6*d.* and 9*s.* a week and support, 58554.—They were ordinary labourers, weekly tenants, who could be turned out at a moment's notice, 58555, 58557-8.—Witness had offered to sell his houses to these tenants, and had signed agreements to be sent to the Board; one holding was enough for witness, and he was prepared to sell even his lands on the De Freyne Estate to the Board if he could get what he gave for them, 58558.—He was not a landlord, 58558A.—He had signed agreements, and would leave the valuation to the Board or even to Mr. Doran, 58559.

DIVISION OF GRASS LANDS—MIGRANTS, &c.

Witness did not think the cattle trade would suffer if the better lands in Galway were divided; it would rather be an improvement; witness did not agree with Mr. Fitzgibbon as to earmarking the land after certain persons were supplied; he thought they should not be too particular in selecting tenants, as this would put off the final settlement indefinitely; the small farmers were the best farmers witness knew, and he thought an agricultural tenant who was suited to farming and understood agriculture should have a holding whatever part of Ireland he came from, 58559.—Congests should have the preference before the sons of tenants, 58560-1.

THE DILLON ESTATE.

There was more enterprise and activity on the Dillon Estate than there used to be, 58563.—Before the estate was dealt with there was hardly a bag of oats to be bought in Loughglynn, and now the farms all had two to four acres of tillage, and thousands of barrels of oats came into Loughglynn, many of which were bought by witness; and persons who used to fatten one or two pigs reared six or seven, 58561-2.—There was now a good pig fair in Loughglynn on the last Thursday in every month, 58563.—Witness was of opinion (barring the difficulties which he personally had with the Board) that its action in the Dillon Estate had been successful, 58564, 58565.—Though there were some tenants overlooked, 58564.—The people on the estate owed witness only a few shillings or a pound as a rule, 58566.—He had not had four processes since he kept a shop, 58566.—If they bought a bag of flour they might pay next week, or not for five years; witness gave them a pass-book, 58567.—He made up for lying out of his money, because the people generally dealt with him; he charged no interest, as his books would show, 58568.—The people were getting to be good payers since they got an enlargement of holdings from the Board; before that they were not so good; as a rule the shop-keepers in Castlerea and Ballaghadereen bore with the tenants, and did not press them for money while they were stocking the land or making improvements, and now they were trying to pay off what they had owed for four, five, or six years; witness thought there was a general improvement, 58569.

DORAN, Mr. HENRY.

See pp. 232-4.

MR. WEBB'S ALLEGATIONS AS TO COMPETITION BETWEEN THE BOARD AND THE ESTATES COMMISSIONERS.

Witness had heard Mr. Webb's evidence, and had made notes on the points he mentioned, 58570-1.

DORAN, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

He did not think it necessary to go into the question first touched on, since Mr. Webb did not allege that he had been approached by any member of the Board or Commissioners, or by Sir A. MacDonnell, but by a subordinate, who exceeded his duty; witness himself had never spoken to Mr. Webb about any estate, 58572.

ALLEGED FAVOURITISM OF THE BOARD.

Crighton, of Aughalower, was a rival cattle dealer, which accounted for Webb's mention of him; his case was in the 13th Report of the Board, at page 182, on which there was a list of all migrants up to date, with particulars of their old and new holdings, 58573.—Crighton had a holding of twenty-five statute acres, with a rent of £10 17*s.* 7*d.*, 58576.—Mr. Webb's figure of £16 was inaccurate, 58574-5.—It was necessary to alter his holding for the purpose of re-arranging boundaries, 58576-8.—And the Board enlarged his holding to the extent of £15 12*s.*, 58576.—The Board did not think the £10 holding was sufficient for a man of his kind, 58577.—He was one of the most respectable, hardworking men in Castlerea or Loughglynn, 58576.—The holding was enlarged partly on account of the boundaries, and partly on account of Crighton's character, 58578.—The other holdings were enlarged, but not to the same extent; they were £3, £4, and £5, and were brought up to £10 and £12; in the case of the four tenants at Loughglynn who had no land, Gilligan had refused to take the land offered him, but the Board still had land held over for him; his reason for refusal was that he occupied on his brother's holding, a mile from the village, a small portion of reclaimed bog which he had had for a number of years; he and his brother were on bad terms, and before the Board sold the holding to the brother they insisted on this Peter Gilligan giving up his portion of the holding, and the brother paying him £10 compensation; this the brother promised, but Gilligan refused to give possession, and the Board had to proceed against Peter Gilligan, and put him out by legal means, after which he refused the land offered him; Thomas Fitzpatrick was an old man of over eighty, partly blind and deaf; he had never been a landholder, but a blacksmith by trade; he had been living in a wretched cabin, and the Board built him a house, but gave him no land; no member of his family lived with him except his wife, who was between 70 and 80; Francis Duigenan was given a piece of land, but after a month or two witness found Webb's cattle on the place, and was told by Duigenan that he had arranged to hand over the land to Webb; as the land was wanted for other people the land was taken from Duigenan and given to another person; it was Webb who had prevented Duigenan having land; the fourth man, Michael Brady, was not a regular tenant, but a postman at Loughglynn; his claim was not so strong as that of several others, and he was not provided with land; the Board still had a small portion of land, and if Gilligan would not take it, it could be given to Brady, 58580.—Witness could not recognise the case of the widows, but every person in the townland of Ballyglass who was able to manage land had an enlargement; there were two old women who had no help who might be the persons referred to, 58580.—There was no person in Ballyglass with a family who did not get an enlargement; Fitzpatrick's son lived in London, and was a man with one leg, 58580.

LOUGHGLYNN POLICE BARRACK.

Mr. Webb had complained that a police barrack was being built at Loughglynn, while a substantial house formerly used for this purpose was to be given to an official of the Board; this official, Thomas O'Connor, had been clerk to Lord Dillon for 22 years; he was living in a small house in Loughglynn village; when the Board took the estate they took O'Connor on as rent-office clerk, as he was familiar with the tenants, and they had employed him in different capacities ever since then; before disposing of the demesne of the Dillon Estate the Board looked into his case, and decided to give him the building which was used as a police barrack; at this time the building had been unoccupied for three or four years, since the police were living in a house owned by Mr. Webb on the De Freyne Estate; the house was given to O'Connor in consideration of his long service, and in exchange for the house in which he lived, which was a mile outside the village; everyone would admit that this was the best thing for the Board to do, 58580.—O'Connor was charged an annuity for it, to be sold at a price agreed on, 58581.—The police at this time had notified the Board that they would not resume the house for a police barrack, since it was too far from the village, and it was desirable to have the police near the publichouses (of which Mr. Patrick Webb's was the principal one), since there was no police trouble except in reference to drunkenness; there was to be no barrack unless the Board would build one in the village; the Board negotiated with the Constabulary, and agreed to build a house on an approved plan on the Constabulary agreeing to take the house for thirty or forty years at an agreed rent; the rent was agreed on, and the plan approved before the Board began to build, and Mr. Webb could not fix any responsibility upon witness, since everything was done under a minute of the Board, 58581.

MR. WEBB'S GRIEVANCE.

With regard to Mr. Webb's grievance that he was persecuted, and not allowed to buy his holding, the holding alluded to could not be sold to Mr. Patrick Webb, as he was not the holder, and this had been explained to him more than once; in October, 1903, without the knowledge of the Board Webb had assigned to his brother, James Webb, of Manchester, the principal part of his holdings in Loughglynn; under an agreement sent to the Board's solicitors by Messrs. Field and Cunningham, solicitors, of Manchester, six out of the eleven holdings of Patrick Webb, were assigned to James, 58581-2.—Quite lately Webb had got rid of two holdings, 58582.—The six assigned to James Webb were the most valuable, including the publichouse, where he still carried on business under the name of Patrick Webb, and valuable agricultural holdings in the adjoining village; the Board was unaware for a considerable time that the assignment had been made, but when the bankers required the approval of the Board to the assignment the Board declined, hearing that the object of the assignment was to avoid paying debts; since no action was taken, the assignment became valid, and then Webb refused to pay his rent; he and his brother had refused to pay rent for three years, and the Board had had to serve writs or to process them each year; witness had a file to show this, 58382.—Webb said he did not pay his rent because he did not get the reduction which was given to the other tenants; the reduction was only given, pending the fixing of the purchase price of their holdings, and the price of Webb's holding was fixed at the same time as that of the adjoining tenants; he applied to come and sign his agreement, but did not do so, and about this time assigned his holding to his brother; the Board were willing to sell to him, but he did not sign the agreement or pay his rent, and was sued for rent at Quarter Sessions; when after that he applied to sign his agreement the Board had heard of the assignment to his brother, and could not allow him to sign; when the brother asked to sign he was refused, because he was in Manchester, and not in possession of the holding; thereupon James Webb left his business in Manchester, and went into possession of the publichouse at Loughglynn, and of all that Patrick Webb seemed to own in the neighbourhood; witness told James he could sign his purchase agreement when he had paid the interest he owed, but the brothers then quarrelled, and James returned to Manchester; the Board did not know which was the owner of the land and publichouse; their solicitor did not know who to sue for rent; Patrick Webb had written to the solicitor stating that he had never assigned any property to James Webb; but the Board had the bankers' notice of the assignment, and a copy of the registration of the assignment, under which James paid Patrick £1,050 on account of the purchase money; Patrick Webb had now paid all rent and costs due, 58583.—The Board had no difficulty in accepting from Patrick rent due on property belonging to James; Patrick Webb was a dangerous gombeen man, who had much influence with the people at Loughglynn, 58584.—It had been suggested that it was desirable to prevent shopkeepers from acquiring tenants' holdings through their business, and in all these cases but three, Webb had acquired the land in this undesirable way, 58585.

DORAN, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

[Mr. Webb here interposed, stating that at the time he assigned his holdings to his brother the De Freyne dispute was at its height, and that he and Mr. Fitzgibbon, Mr. Redmond, and Mr. O'Brien were served with a writ for their shares of £20,000, and it was suggested to them that each member served with a writ should make an assignment of his land to a relative to save himself from the consequence of the writ, 58586-9.—The necessity for the assignment had passed away, 58590.—Witness had not received any money for lands, and had not known the assignment was perfected, 58589.—Mr. Doran would not let him purchase, 58591.—For the last five years he had asked to have his agreement perfected, but was refused, even for the holdings for which no assignment was given, 58592.—There was no need for the Board to be careful in their dealings with him, in view of his admission that the assignment was made to evade payment of debt, for the Board had known nothing of the assignment till that year, 58593-4.—Witness continued to pay the rent all along, 58596.—He assigned the lands to defeat Lord De Freyne, but remained in possession all along, 58597.—His brother had never entered into possession, but was in another house belonging to Patrick Webb, 58599.]

The Board got notice of the assignment in October, 1903, 58595.

NEARY, Mr. JAMES.

See pp. 235-7.

Valuation, Acreage, and Population of Strokestown District.

The valuation of Strokestown Union was £51,800, the acreage 90,000, and the population last year 15,560, showing a decrease of 6,174 in twenty years; of the twenty electoral divisions five or six were very poor, the valuation of holdings seldom exceeding 30*s.* where there were no grazing farms; in seven or eight divisions some of the best land was held by graziers; some of these big farms were held on the eleven months' system; some under yearly tenancies; others had fixed judicial rents, while others again had been bought, 58600, 58637.

Gradual Acquisition of Land Proposed.

A great many of these farms should be acquired for distribution amongst small holders; from some, at least, tenants had been evicted sixty years ago, compulsion being resorted to in certain cases; those held on the eleven months' system should be taken first; then any other 200 acres held by graziers, then those of the shopkeepers and professional men with other means of living; these last held a great deal of land, mostly on the eleven months' system; adequate compensation should be given, except in the case of eleven months' men, 58647-8, 58600, 58603, 58625-7.—Farms would have to be acquired simultaneously if all applicants were to be supplied with land, but only men with some capital should be considered, 58628-33.

Question of Priority of Claim in Distribution of Land.

Uneconomic holdings in Roscommon should have priority of claim over those in other counties, and witness would like to see any surplus land given to sons of tenants, in order to stop emigration; these men would have every prospect of being able to pay their rent if given lands like some of those taken up by the Estates Commissioners, where £30 or £40 were allowed for building and so much paid for making fences; it would be just and reasonable to allow a prior claim to congests from a distance if these could be induced to migrate, but middle-aged men with families would prefer to stop on their little holdings, 58600, 58634-46.

Amendment of Land Purchase Act Proposed.

The Land Purchase Act should be amended; £7,000 was too much to give one man for purchase of holdings; £3,000 or £4,000 would probably be sufficient, 58600.—There should be a Government supervision in regard to land purchase, for the landlord

NEARY, Mr. JAMES—*continued.*

sometimes induced tenants to give him the price he demanded by pressing for arrears or for payment of the hanging gale; probably, too, the addition of a year's rent to the purchase money had the same effect, 58600.

Grazing *v.* Tillage—Labour Difficulty.

Witness's farm of sixty or seventy acres was all meadowed pasture, except for three acres, which he tilled; the soil, like most Roscommon land, had a limestone bottom; it was fairly light on the whole, though part was sticky and heavy; it could not be worked very well in the wet season, and was not well suited for tillage, though a little more might be cultivated if labour were not so scarce; this difficulty would exist if the farm were only twenty acres; the majority of people preferred grazing to tillage for the above reasons, 58606-19, 58623.—More land would be cultivated when there were more labourers' cottages; there were 300 applications for these; many young people hoped to have five acres of land under the Labourers Act, and to become small farmers themselves; it was very difficult to obtain land on which to build the cottages, 58600-1, 58620-4.

Lack of Railway Accommodation.

There was no railway within eight or nine miles, and the district suffered in consequence; a scheme set on foot years before by the Grand Jury to have a branch of the Cavan, Leitrim, and Roscommon Light Railway built from Dromod had been abandoned; an attempt to revive it last year had been without any result at the time; there had been a grant to make part of it on the Leitrim side of the Shannon, and the Leitrim County Council had refused a grant of £29,000 from the Irish Development Fund, 58600.

Fairs.

Fairs were rapidly going down, the October Fair of Strokestown, once the largest in Connaught, having been the worst of the season, 58600.

Drainage.

The arterial drainage was not so good as formerly, and the district greatly suffered through the flooding of the low-lands in winter, 58601.

IRWIN, Mr. JOHN.

See pp. 237-41.

Land in Roscommon unsuited for Tillage.

Witness had been superintending for nearly 50 years the management of between 1,600 and 1,700 acres and held 3,000 to 4,000 acres himself; in the sixties from 5 to 10 acres of the land of Rathmoyle or Kilmurry had been kept in tillage, but this had entailed heavy loss because of the unsuitability of the soil; the working horses had eaten practically all the oats raised, and there had been little profit except from the straw used to feed cattle; no grain had been sold off the land, though agricultural prices had been higher then than now; a man had refused as a gift a rood of ground, with manure, because he did not think it worth the labour of cultivating potatoes, 58649-50, 58674-5.—On the above estate, now Colonel Irwin's, from 1879 up to the date of sale to the Estates Commissioners, the farms had been let in grazing-tenancies; the rents had been paid punctually, and there had been no loss except in one case where the farm had been unlet for a time owing to the death of the tenant; there was no kind of tillage for which heavy land was suited, and for this reason the best lands in Roscommon were uncultivated; small holders and big graziers found stock more profitable, 58650.—Apparently in England this kind of land needed stern cultivation, which could not be adopted by men with less than 300 or 400 acres, 58650, 58664-71, 58673, 58680-2; some of the lands now being divided into small holdings were not in witness's opinion adapted to tillage; one, a farm of 317 acres, was not likely to be satisfactory, as the herd said that on the portions formerly allowed him, potatoes had been poor while the oats had not ripened; on the west end

IRWIN, Mr. JOHN—*continued.*

there was a large tract of very wet land; the landlord had advanced money for drainage on the same terms as the Board of Works would have done, and had asked witness' father to undertake the matter, which had been easily accomplished; before being drained the land had produced sweet herbage, but when there was no longer evaporation due to water lying on the moorland pan, there was nothing but a few inches of organic matter forming on the soil, 58760.

Sub-soiling.

Sub-soiling, the only remedy, would be very expensive, 58760.—The cost per acre depended on the method used; witness' father had had the land broken into ridges, had taken every alternate place the full breadth of the ridge, throwing up any stuff there was over this moorland pan on the ridge, putting on manure and sowing potatoes; in the middle of the summer he had that dug up and broken, sub-soiling next year the unbroken parts; this had cost very little, but labour had been plentiful then; it was a troublesome process, needing care and economy, and though within the power of the small farmer who had strong help in his family, the land on which it was adopted should be very low-priced to compensate for the work entailed, 58761-3.

Land Suited for Tillage left Uncultivated after Division.

In May, 1906, the farm of Ballaghabaw Beg had been handed over to the Estates Commissioners; this contained 427 acres, 2 roods, 5 perches, the Government valuation being £386 15*s.*; this land, ancient pasture, had not been tilled within living memory, except on small portions which the grazier had given to herds for tillage and pigs; these parts had produced good crops, and as most of the soil was fairly dry, deep, and not too heavy or retentive, they would probably repay cultivation; the Estates Commissioners had immediately cut up this land into 24 or 25 acre divisions; a few small bits were set for potatoes, but practically no land was cultivated except that given to the former herds, and they tilled little or no more than the three acres, which was all that had been allowed them before for tillage, 58650-3, 58672-3.—One of these men now had 50 acres, on which he only kept his own beasts, and though both had enough capital for tillage, they apparently preferred stock-raising; it would probably be well if they cultivated one-fifth or one-sixth of their land; last year this had been impossible, because the farm had not been divided until the middle of May; most of the land had then been meadow; there was little of that now, but cattle and sheep were raised—the land being very good for these last, 58653-55, 58657-9, 58663, 58676.

Capital Needed for Stock, Houses, etc.

Capital was needed for putting stock on land.—Witness had recommended two men with capital to the Estates Commissioners, but neither had been given holdings, 58655-6, 58661-2.—Two men with two good 25 acre holdings between them, were putting up good houses and offices, another man was building a house, and in one place there was a little shed; one man had already built a two-storied house, but he had no office; given out-houses it would be at least a year before people could obtain the manure necessary for tillage and probably it would take 2 or 3 years to know what a tenant would do with his holding, 58655, 58673, 58676-9.

Breaking up Grazing Lands.

The cutting up of land which was bad for tillage and rich grazing would mean an enormous waste; the land would be injured and there was much loss on the fencing; when once tilled, it could not be put back into grass for several years, but the length of time depended on how the land was treated when broken, 58655-6.—The division of the grass lands on the Carrigalt Estate had resulted in an improved state of things, but witness did not think there was much tillage there; division would be useful whenever done amongst adjoining owners, whether the land were used in grass or tillage, 58763.—There should be mixed grazing and tillage, land suited to grass being given to graziers, that suited for tillage to be divided amongst small holders, if this could be done conveniently without too much expense, 58691-4, 58697.—Expropriation of the grazier would mean an irreparable injury to the sheep and cattle trade in this part of the country; the exceptionally good class of animals here was due to men holding large quantities of land; the first improvement in the cattle of the district had been brought about by Dean French, who had held the Palace land near Elphin, and who for years had imported very fine shorthorn bulls; great care taken over sheep-breeding had produced the Roscommon sheep; Mr. Teefe used to bring 40 or 50 rams every year to Ballinasloe—splendid sheep for breeding and not pampered, but fit to put on ordinary grass; the graziers were men with plenty of capital, intelligence, and industry, and made the most of grass-lands, 58689, 58692, 58697.—There was some waste-grazing now due to the agitation, and this had been a bad year in Roscommon, but though the grass ranches could, if better managed, etc., be made to carry more than they did at present, they would not carry all the surplus stock which would be raised if there were a large division of land amongst small holders; the smaller amount of land would have to carry the greater number of stores, unless the English markets came to the rescue; at present there seemed to be a slump in yearling beasts; a certain quantity of not very young stores was taken to England now, but people preferred cattle forward in condition, and would not buy them poor except at wretched prices, 58695, 58698-704, 58707-13, 58716-18.

Improvement of Grass-lands.

Grass lands might, however, be improved; one field was over 200 acres, and letting land in such large areas was a disadvantage here, because it more or less prevented the expenditure of sufficient capital on it, 58689-91, 58712.—Some people used a little slag, but the lands were top-dressed very little, and stores tended to exhaust the phosphates; for the last 20 or 30 years there had been no fertilising by blue gravel or marl, though this had had a better effect than liming; labour had been cheaper then—now it paid better to use artificial manures, 58695-6, 58704-6, 58714-15, 58720.—A great deal of land was used for stores both here and in County Meath, where instead of fattening cattle as formerly, they raised polly bullocks for the English market; more cattle might be fattened in Roscommon if the land were taken up well; for this purpose it should not be too heavily stocked in winter, as was now done, by small tenants with the result that it would not carry enough in summer; cattle did better on a large run where they found different sorts of pasture, than on small holdings, though much might be done on these with proper management, 58715, 59719, 58759-60.

Finishing Cattle.

There were not many farms in Roscommon where cattle were exactly finished, though this might be done if more time were allowed; they were put into fine condition, well skinned and ready for sale as soon as they came out, 58689.

Deterioration of Grass Lands

Witness did not think the grass-lands were deteriorating or were less well managed than formerly; they might suffer a little if the landlord neglected his duty of cutting thistles and maintaining fences, but they could be brought back to their former condition with very little expense, 58721-8.—Grazing-rents had been steady on the property managed by witness up to 1894, when there had been a little slump in grazing for 3 years; a considerable reduction had then been given on the Ballaghabaw Farm—some, not much, on the others—and since then rents had been stationary, 58683-8.

IRWIN, Mr. JOHN—*continued.*

Grass Ranches a Market for Young Stock of Small Holders.

A great many tenants in the Castlerea Union, with small holdings mostly adjoining bogs, kept a cow and a few calves which they fed with hay off the good lands during the winter solely to obtain manure for their moorland; these cattle were in such poor condition in spring as to be unsaleable, so they were brought to the grass lands in Roscommon, and sold at the end of six months; about 3,500 acres in the hands of the Congested Districts Board were now stocked with these cattle, shewing what a loss would be sustained by the people if deprived of these grass-lands, 58728-9, 58735. —It would be wise to give people grazing-lands adjoining their holdings, though not when 10 or 12 miles distant, as in this case; people with bog would not migrate, because pigs were the most profitable stock, and fuel was needed to cook their food; a large farm was being cut up by the Board, and certain emigrants home from America had said they would not take the whole of it if given them.—Nearly every one had upland on which they lived, 58730-43, 58750-5.

Cattle Driving.

Cattle driving was done by small tenants living close to land they wished to possess; witness knew nothing about it, and could not say whether any of the people on the bogs joined in it; there was land hunger all over Ireland, 58744-9.

Turbary.

The owner of the farm of Ballaghabaw said that none of them had a sod of turf on Sunday week; some people in South Park had no firing at all; this was a serious state of things; the turf was bad and cost 6s. a horse-crate; there was a large bog at Ballyglass on Mr. Mahon's estate, adjoining which the Board might buy, making a good pass into it so that the turf could be easily cut and carted home, and this would provide many with turf, though probably not everybody, if a larger population were brought into the country, 58763-4.—Turf would keep 2 or 3 years if properly ricked and covered on top.—It was an advantage to have a lot of old turf in case of a wet summer. Witness believed that the compressed peat industry would succeed, if capital and industry were put into it; there were many ways of doing it; Rev. Mr. Cobbold had taken out a patent for making compressed peat, and had been most successful.—The peat had been hard as yet and had burned splendidly.—Compressed peat was easily carried by rail or cart, and in that way could be brought cheaply to places where there was none.—A good cart of stone turf was very heavy for the horse, but the whitest turf did not weigh so much.—A horse could carry more if the weight were reduced, 58767-76.

Water Supply Difficulty.

Water was another great difficulty, because it went underground, and the pumps by which a little surface water was obtained, were not satisfactory, 58766.

WALPOLE, Mr. W. J.

See pp. 242-6.

Tillage in Roscommon.

The deep, strong land of Roscommon had practically always been in grass; corn-laws, bounties, or high prices, such as had existed during the Napoleonic wars, might have resulted in a certain amount of tillage, but with the removal of this artificial stimulus, the land had returned to its natural use; strong clay land might be worked profitably in a fairly dry climate, but certainly not in that of Ireland; land which might once have been cultivated because of its nearness to markets, would now, with existing means of communication, be beaten down by land more distant but better suited for tillage, 58778, 58782-94.—

WALPOLE, Mr. W. J.—*continued.*

The ridges and furrows on these lands were not universal, and were found less on deep strong soil than on that of a different quality, 58792, 58827-8.—One reason for this temporary tillage must certainly have been that absence of means of transport had necessitated the growing of grain in Ireland; the world-wide competition which had come in with improved conditions, had doubtless ruined the producer of grain, as it had been disastrous to all Irish industries; the fact that land had once been tilled was not a conclusive argument in favour of cultivating it now; witness believed Roscommon people were not as incompetent as was represented, but that they had good reason for using their land as they did, 58829-33, 58866-9.—Certain farms had been cleared after the Famine, but this had not happened on the plains of Boyle, which had been at any rate the name of a pastoral district before that time.—The difficulties in regard to fuel and water had existed on the grass-lands then, as now, but these had nothing to do with any clearances, except that people without these conveniences had been less able to stand the strain of bad times, 58795-800.

Fuel and Water Difficulty.

There was a considerable amount of lighter soil in Roscommon fit for mixed farming, but the difficulty in regard to fuel and water was a serious bar to the creation of small holdings out of grass-lands; even on the big farms, in dry seasons, people had to drive their cattle miles to water them, and if these farms were cut up, the difficulties of the small farmer would be very great; if the conditions as to fuel and water existing five miles round Strokestown obtained in other parts of the country, there would be no difficulty, 58788-82, 58802-9, 58826.

Disastrous Effect of the Breaking up of Grass-Lands.

The wholesale appropriation of the grass-lands would be disastrous to the cattle-breeders who, in three counties, were the small farmers; these men fed their beasts till they were a year old, then put them out to grass for six months; some were then sold to the store-farmer; others were tied in and sold later as two-year olds; the bulk of the good well-fed stock was bought for shipping to Scotland.—The cattle were tied in and finished before the next summer, 58778A, 58810-11.—If the store-farmer were replaced by the breeder, the fattener, as in former days, would reap the profit, while the small farmer would be dependent on his corn, the price of which was now reduced by competition, 58778A.—The reduction in price of cattle in a place where these could not be made ready for shipping at an early age, would affect even the small holders near Strokestown; apart from price, if there were no grass-ranches, these men would have to restrict their production of cattle so as to enable them to feed them a little longer; they could not sell them younger as there would be no demand; it would be a decided disadvantage if people were forced, as in Donegal, to sell younger than now; if they could not get rid of their young stock at a reasonable age, they would have to keep fewer cows, which would mean fewer pigs, and pig-feeding was the most profitable branch of agricultural industry, 58812-16.—Under the present system cattle could be most profitably sold at about 18 months old; if badly treated, a beast could not be sold till he was three, but if well-treated he could be sold at two and a half years, 58885-7.

Holdings near Strokestown.

The land about Strokestown was principally in small holdings, as it had been in the time of Arthur Young, who spoke of rundale; the greater part was in grass or meadow; a few holdings were 30 acres, others 10 or 5, the average might be 12 or 15; usually they were situated near bogs; many people tilled up to two acres, but seldom more, no matter if the holding were 15 or 60 acres; enlarging holdings, if done to relieve congestion, would not therefore result in more tillage, 58801-7, 58817-21.—The alteration in trade might force these people to cultivate more, but economic tillage—"horse tillage"—was a lost art in

WALPOLE, Mr. W. J.—*continued.*

Ireland; witness thought it would be well if this could be revived; most people had no horses, those who had used them for ploughing and harrowing; the others might plough if they had enlarged holdings, but it was hard to induce people on strong grass-lands to try tillage, 58821-5.—On these tillage-plots there was probably, as a rule, an acre of potatoes, used both for the family and for pig-feeding; cabbages were seldom sown outside gardens, but there would be turnips, perhaps half an acre, for winter feeding, and the rest would be oats; most of these were sold in Strokestown, though meal was made from some of them, 58847-53.—There was practically no export of oats; small farmers from the western part of the union bought, instead of growing oats themselves.—There was very little home-grown meal used now in families, 58853-7—Neither the rent nor poor-law valuation represented anything like the actual value of a farm where so much land had been reclaimed as in the congested districts of East Mayo and West Roscommon, as the valuation made sixty years ago was not a correct standard for the present day, 58778A.—Consolidating holdings up to £10 or £30,—much too high a standard—would mean letting land which was fairly good for tillage though poor for grass, go to waste, 58778A, 58845-6.—If the smaller-sized holding were properly striped, and there was at least a place for one cow—two if possible—and if the tenant could make the most of his land by good arterial drainage, there seemed no more hardship in his spending part of the year in England, than if he were a sailor or fisherman, while his children would be brought up under healthier conditions than prevailed in towns; the demand for unskilled labour was not likely to go down, and wages were not decreasing, 58778A.—Suitable grazing, even at a distance, would make the stock much more saleable than feeding them on the poor grass of an enlarged holding, 58778A.

Requisition of Commonage a better Remedy than Migration and Enlargement of Holdings.

Giving commonage would be a far cheaper method than migrating tenants; distance was not much of a difficulty; some people left their cattle altogether in charge of a herd or the owner of the grazing-land, and the Congested Districts Board had introduced a system this year by which on the owner of the beasts paying a small sum for insurance they undertook up to a certain sum to be responsible for the safety of the animals, 58778A, 58880-3.—The commonage acquired should be held either by the State or the Board; striping it would not be so practicable and there would be the difficulty of water-supply, 58882-4.—The willingness of people to migrate to the Balfe Estate, at Southpark, within 2 miles of Castlerea, and with fuel and water convenient, was no guide as to what would take place under other conditions; the £5 limit in the Act of 1903 should be raised to £10, 58778A.

Eleven Months' System.

Some of the non-residential grazing farms had been bought, some were held as statutory tenancies, many under yearly lettings or short leases, some on the 11 months' system, 58778A.—This last was not, in witness' opinion, nearly as prevalent as was made out in the press, and was often only a temporary expedient; the holders of 11 months' land were not so much the graziers who had been such for generations, but as a rule successful cattle-dealers and small farmers who had saved money by energy and good management, and found this a convenient way of extending their operations; if these were limited there would be a tendency to make such men send their capital out of Ireland, as it would be hard to better themselves at home, 58778, 58834-7, 58861-2.—The yearly tenancies were not often changed, and when they were, the landlord did not show much practical sympathy; the 11 months' system meant either change or a legal renewal at the end of the 11 months, 58858-65.—As to the possible treatment of these occupiers by landlords, though the former had no legal hold, there were recent precedents where it had been thought fair to give compensation for deprivation by the State of this temporary right; the State, apparently, acted on the just principle, that fair compensation should be given to any class or individual suffering loss through the carrying out of a general policy; if Government acquired an estate, it should only make small holdings of land suitable for tillage, and might reserve as compensation for disturbing the short lease-holder, grazier, or yearly tenant, a settled tenure on the lands only fit for grazing; the State would enlist the sympathy and co-operation of all classes for its policy, if a fair scheme of compensation could be relied on, 58873-9.—The claim of the grazier holding on a short lease was much stronger than that of the herd with his more insecure tenure, but the claim of the latter was recognised throughout the county; an instance had occurred on the Ballaghabaw Farm, 58878, 58888-92.

Willingness of Owners to Sell for a Fair Price.

Owners also who had land in their absolute control would be willing to sell at a fair price; not replying to circulars was no proof to the contrary; the State, by their passive action as regarded interference with the liberty of owners, had brought a certain amount of land into the market, and naturally owners did not wish to be troubled by inspectors, if the prices were insufficient; grass-lands held by statutory tenants could not be bought cheap enough to be re-sold at a price which would be at all just to the seller, 58778-8A.—It would not be unreasonable if the man refused to sell that he might not break an honourable understanding with yearly tenants who had held from him for many years, and whose occupation would be gone if the land were acquired by authority.—This reason, however, could not be urged universally, 58838-44.

Soiling System.

The Soiling system, suggested by some witnesses, would not suit this country, 58778A.

Sub-division.

The spread of education, the higher standard of living, and the willingness shown to emigrate, would prevent sub-division to any great extent in the agricultural parts of this county, 58778A.

Railway to Arigna Needed on Account of Scarcity of Fuel.

Lack of fuel would soon create a pressing problem for the whole of the district west of Strokestown, and that was a strong reason why Government should seriously consider the question of making the proposed railway to Arigna, where there was a coal-mine.—State assistance for railway communication was absolutely necessary, if the district was to hold its own as an agricultural community, 58871-3.

O'CONOR DON, THE.

See pp. 246-50.

Land Available in Roscommon: Compulsion Unnecessary.

There was a large quantity of grass-land available for division in Roscommon, and since giving evidence before the Commission, witness had communicated with 30 or 40 owners, a large number, though only a small proportion of the owners in the county, 58893-5, 58916, 58947.—As the result of his enquiries he had a list of about 12,000 acres which could be purchased from 21 owners, 58895, 58901.—A small proportion of the 12,000 acres might have to be struck out but since the list was made other replies had come and another 1,000 acres were available, 58901, 58944.—Owners of about 300 acres had refused absolutely to sell; they were smaller owners, 58938.—Under these circumstances compulsion was clearly unnecessary, 58895.—Only a few small owners wanted excessive prices and it was not worth while to compel them, 58947A.—And if

O'CONOR DON, THE—*continued.*

these 12,000 acres were taken now witness did not doubt that 40,000 could be obtained later, 58948.—The owners in question were willing to have their lands inspected, 58895, 58916.—But they made it a condition that their names should not be disclosed, 58895, 58897, 58942.

Class and Situation of Land.

The lands were all substantial grass lands, 58895.—Specially selected by the Board as suitable and where there were grazier tenants, terms could be arranged, 58946.—The lands were situated for the most part between Ballenagare, Castlerea, and Roscommon, 58947.

Terms Asked.

The terms proposed by the various owners differed widely, running from 20 years' purchase to capitalisation of net receipts at 3½ per cent., very few asking more than the latter terms, 58897.—Many owners said that the whole estate must be taken or none, 58898.—No. 3 wanted 28 years' purchase, No. 4, 20 years' purchase and bonus, the large difference being due to the fact that No. 3 was let at a low, No. 4 at a very high rent, 58898-9.—Small owners, shopkeepers, and so on, usually expected higher prices than large owners, 58899, 58900.—Nos. 5 and 7 were offering land to one of the purchasing bodies: No. 8 had offered to the Board some time ago but got no answer, 58899-900.—The Board had been short of money and might now be able to buy what they had before refused, 58900.—Major C. Constable (No. 9) said the price offered him would leave him nothing at all; others were negotiating; some asked lump sums, one a "fair price"; all owned tenanted land which would have to be taken as well, 58900-1.—The figures quoted were rough, 58944.—Some of the terms asked were high but in the majority of cases they were reasonable and probably the others would come down, 58945, 58947.—Owners as a whole would accept the average price of 2 years ago, during the last 2 years the Estates Commissioners and the Board had been short of money and not anxious to buy unless very cheaply, 58949-50.

Delay in Payment and Uncertainty as to Purchase, the Great Difficulties.

Nearly all the owners said they could not sell unless paid in a reasonable time; it was impossible to sell if they had to wait 4 or 5 or 8 years; one of the few who had refused to sell did so because he could not afford to wait, 58901, 58905, 58937, 58939-43.—The owner did not know what to do with untenanted land during the interval; if it were let on a yearly tenancy the tenant must have the statutory notice, 58902-4.—The Board's procedure was to send down a valuer and negotiate for some time, then the matter was hung up indefinitely; in fact there was no money and if Government was to raise no more than £5,000,000, they could not pay before 8 years, 58907, 58912.—The uncertainty was another objection; it was not fair to hand back the land when the negotiations had been going on perhaps for years, 58907-9, 58916.—The payment of interest during the interval between purchase and payment would not suffice unless mortgages, etc., were taken into account, 58910-1.—Many more owners would sell if these delays and uncertainties were done away with, 58914-6.—Government were communicating with a much larger number of owners but the replies they got were less favourable than those sent to witness, because there was this fear of delay in payment, 58917-8.

Occupation Interest in Untenanted Land.

In regard to the occupation interest of land in landlord's hands, it was admitted that there were two interests when the land was tenanted; the landlord originally had the whole fee simple; out of that tenant's interest had been carved by statute and where no such interest had to be carved out, landlord should get a larger price, 58918-20, 58925.—The fact that the legislature was not considering the landlords did not affect the question; in defining tenant's interest they had necessarily defined the landlord's interest, 58921-4.

O'CONOR DON, THE—*continued.*

—The fines paid for occupation interest shewed that it had a market value even when not legal, 58924-5.

Suck Drainage Proposals.

The proposal put forward by Mr. Hayden and Mr. Fitzgibbon in regard to the Suck Drainage was moderate and reasonable and could be accomplished without much legislation even by adding the unredeemed portion of the charge to the purchase money and then making the landlord redeem it out of the purchase money, an extension of the period of repayment to 68 years would be secured.—No expense was involved, collection expenses would be saved and the tenants would much prefer to make all their payments together; maintenance was another matter.—The landlord would not be affected and would not object, 58925-30.

Railway to Strokestown Needed.

Some little time ago there had been a great deal of correspondence about a railway from the Sligo line to Strokestown, which was a necessity if the land was to be divided into small holdings and the line need not be very expensive.—There were 2 or 3 schemes and the line had only just missed being made, 58930-5.

BRADY, Mr. THOMAS.

See pp. 250-1.

Cloonaquin Division.

Part of Cloonaquin division had been sold 10 years ago to the Land Commission and 3 years ago the Board bought the grazing portion; the tenants were all small holders, only a few having valuations over £20 and this grazing land should be used to enlarge their holdings; the Board in reply to tenant's application had said they were considering the case, 58951-9.

EGAN, Mr. MATTHEW.

See p. 251.

Condition of Workingmen in Elphin.

The workingmen (agricultural labourers) of Elphin claimed that if grass lands were divided they should be preferred to sons of tenants, 58960-2.—Such men would do more tillage and the land would pay better than under pasture, 58963-4.—And the division of the land would provide employment, which was now almost impossible to get in the district, 58971-2.—This claim was made on behalf of labourers in towns, 58973-5.—A number of labourers had applied for labourers' cottages, but there were many difficulties, 58968.—More cottages should be erected, but in some places planting was preferred, and in others a labourer holding an acre of land was opposed as being a farmer, 58976, 58981-7.—The adoption of direct labour on the roads had done something to provide employment; the system should be extended, 58976-80.

O'ROURKE, Mr. TIMOTHY.

See pp. 251-2.

Clooneyquin Division.

A number of non-scheduled townlands in the Clooneyquin division required to be dealt with as congested, in fact the whole union should be scheduled; there were 94 small holdings, valuation £5 to £10, very few having turf; the tenants had already bought under the Ashbourne Act, and if the French estate, purchased by the Board, were not divided among them there was no other land for the purpose near them, 58997-8.—Foxlors' farm, of 200 acres, now offered to the Board, would supply all the tenants with turf; witness had written and spoken to Mr. Doran, who had sent down valuers, 58998-9000.—The price under the Ashbourne Act was 20 years' purchase; it would now be 24½, 59000.

O'ROURKE, Mr. TIMOTHY—*continued.*

ELPHIN, ROSSMORE, CREGGA, AND ANNAGHMORE EAST DIVISIONS.

In Elphin and Rossmore divisions there was land enough at present held on the 11 months' system to supply a large number of small tenants; in Cregga, Mrs. G. P. Mahon owned a farm of 400 acres which would make good tillage land for small holders; in Annaghmore East the holdings were small and uneconomic, and the land was in great need of drainage and improvement; in Rossmore there were several untenanted farms and a number of small tenants needing more land; the Board should buy up these places and treat them as they had done the Dillon estate which was a credit to them, 59000.

TRIBUTE TO BOARD'S OFFICIALS.

The Congested Districts Board should be continued, for their officials, especially Mr. H. Doran, were superior and painstaking; Mr. Doran was the best official in Ireland, and there should be no amalgamation of the Board with the Estates Commissioners, or the Department, unless he continued to be the chief officer.—The Board needed more money and ought to have it, 59000-1.

TILLAGE.

Witness's 135 acres were partly tilled; it would be more profitable to till more if he could get labour, 58991-5, 59001.—All small tenants should till more, 59001.

KEAVENEY, Mr. JOHN.

See pp. 253-5.

BOYLE No. 1. RURAL DISTRICT.

The number of acres—9,257—given in Mr. Ginnell's Blue Book in regard to Boyle No. 1. Rural District was not quite accurate, as it included some mountain-land; five divisions were scheduled and the average valuation was £3 11*s.* 8*d.*—The remaining 16 divisions should also be scheduled, for though they contained ranches which raised the valuation above the limit, the congestion in them was as acute as in any of the others, 59004.—All the grass-lands could probably be tilled, 59016.

ARIGNA DISTRICT; RAILWAY NEEDED TO DEVELOP MINING INDUSTRY.

There was little land in the Arigna district for the relief of congestion, but experts of the first standing had said there were most valuable minerals, only needing development.—A number of men were employed in working these, but the industry could be greatly extended if help were given in making a small railway, to connect with the line two and a half or three miles from where the richest minerals were.—The Congested Districts Board, which had done nothing in the scheduled divisions, might assist.—The only relief possible for the extreme northern part was the opening up of its industries, 59004.

MIGRATION.

The other remedy for congestion lay in migrating at least half the people of the district to lands available for distribution, 59004.

ROSCOMMON AS A SHEEP-COUNTRY.

Witness believed that Roscommon as a whole was a good sheep country, but this particular part was not, 59004.—There might be a woollen factory in the south of Roscommon, but there was none here, 59005.

NECESSITY FOR IMPROVED ROADS.

From time immemorial these congested districts had been unrepresented under the Grand Jury System, and were consequently in such bad condition that it was impossible to cart what little produce was yielded by the farms, 59007.—One road was not more than six feet wide, and was so hilly that a cart must be empty in order to reach certain places, 59007.—One of the chief inconveniences was that lime could only be brought on the backs of donkeys, 59007.—Five or six hundred farmers lived in the district, and the Board had done nothing to improve these roads, though an attempt had been made since these new bodies had been in existence, 59007.—Any effort made in connection with them created some opposition from ratepayers, but this was a grievance needing the Board's attention, 59007.—Prosperity could not be looked for, if the ranches remained in their present condition, and the Commission should result in something beng done for the land, which was and would continue to be Ireland's most valuable asset, 59007.

KEAVENEY, Mr. JOHN—*continued.*

COMPLAINT THAT IN FIXING RENTS NO PRINCIPLE WAS FOLLOWED BY THE LAND COMMISSION.

The basis on which rents were fixed by the Land Commission was unjust to the tenants. The agent of the Countess of Kingston's estate, J. Garrett Tatlow, had, apparently on his own responsibility, raised the rents on certain holdings.—The people had, however, rebelled, and by far the best lands had not been rack-rented, yet those tenants on both townlands—Infarnagh and Greenaleevagh—had fared equally well under the Land Commission, 59008-9, 59011, 59032, 59034.—There were ten tenants on the rackrented lands, and in 1873 their total rent had been raised from £44 12*s.* 2*d.* to £93 9*s.* 8*d.*; after the Land Act of 1881, this had been brought down to £74 15*s.* 8*d.*—the first term rent, and later to £55 7*s.* 2*d.*—the second term rent; so that the present rent, after two judicial fixations was still £10 higher than when voluntarily fixed by the landlords in 1873.—The sudden rise in that year could only be attributed to greed for money, as the estate had not changed hands: the same might be said of all landlords in Ireland, 59009-14.—Since 1873, £1,247 18*s.* rackrent had been taken off this one townland, 20 or 30 acres of which would not feed a cow; anything on it was due to the energy of the tenants; unless they gave special attention to the land it produced nothing, and they certainly did not extract enough to pay their rent and so forth, but had to depend on migratory labour or on sums sent by relations, 59014, 59031, 59033.

The terms of sale now offered were 4*s.* in the £ on second term rents, and if these were accepted, the landlord's bonus must be added, and the tenants would have to pay for the next 68½ years practically the same as in 1873; on the next townland, after the Land Act of 1881, the landlord had voluntarily reduced the total rent from £42 to £34 5*s.* 3*d.*, and this had remained the same; two of the eight tenants had refused the 3*s.* offer and had gone into Court since 1896, obtaining a reduction on second term rents; this shewed that the tenants on the first townland would have been entitled to a reduction if they had not been rackrented at all, so that if they bought, £2,000 odd should be taken off the price, 59010-11, 59014-22, 59029.—The landlord had already 20 years purchase too much, but refused to take less than 27 years'—*i.e.*, 24 and the bonus.—If the rent were reduced to what it had been in 1873, the tenants would accept the terms offered, and even dispense with the 8*s.* in the £ reduction which had been given all over Ireland.—It would be a great boon to be a purchaser, 59022, 59028-30.—In cases like the above there should be both inspection and supervision by a responsible official, as there was a general tendency in Ireland to make improvident bargains.—The land-agent, assuming the tenants would be willing to buy, had stated that he would have nothing to do with the Congested Districts Board or the Estates Commissioners, as they would treat him unjustly, 59022, 59024-6, 59028.—Witness had not known a sale carried through, where consideration had been given for sums paid under a rack-renting system, but if these were not taken into account, a serious question would arise for the State and people; there was no sense in talking about "net income" when this could not be calculated in cases like that cited; the past experience should be considered as there was no reason to suppose people would be in a better position during the next 25 years.—When landlords had acted as described above, the whole matter should be sifted, 59023-4.—The tenants did not hope to receive all the money due to them, 59027.

SHARKEY, Mr. JAMES.

See pp. 255-7.

BOYLE No. 1. DISTRICT.

A few divisions of Boyle No. 1. District were scheduled, but practically the whole was congested,

SHARKEY, Mr. JAMES—*continued.*

from Strokestown to the mines of Arigna.—There was any amount of grass-land just beyond Strokestown, 59035-7.

NEED FOR ACQUISITION OF GRASS-LANDS.

There was urgent need for the redistribution of land in the County of Roscommon; near Elphin, within two miles of Boyle No. 1. District, were grass-lands which should be acquired; witness did not know whether the people of the district would object to these being given to outsiders rather than to sons of tenants, but to relieve congestion it was necessary to go outside the congested area, 59035, 59038-9.

MIGRATION.

Some people should be migrated and their lands used to enlarge the holdings of the rest; the abandonment of grass-lands had been due primarily to pressure put on the tenants; the difficulty of obtaining fuel and water being only a secondary cause; control might be acquired through the Board, over a certain amount of bog within reasonable distance, which some public authority could distribute; before migrating, a man should seriously consider the question of fuel, but he should take some risk; he would probably not go unless convinced of the advantage of doing so, and isolated cases should be dealt with separately; they did not affect the general principle that migration would be beneficial, 59040-9.

REASONS FOR LACK OF TILLAGE IN ROSCOMMON.

Witness considered that all the untenanted lands of Roscommon were fertile and fit for tillage, particularly for the first crops; potatoes were very good.—He believed these lands had once been cultivated, but the general opinion was that they had been allowed to go to grass in the interest of graziers, the small farmers having been driven away by landlord's oppression and rack rents, 59050-6.—Witness would have every hope of succeeding on a 40 acre farm, if he could stock at least half, and keep parts in meadow and tillage.—The only reasonable way apparently of obtaining the necessary capital to work these lands was by a cheap Government loan.—The tendency of migrants and others to keep their land in grass might be partly due to the difficulties which arose when enterprise was first started, but people would certainly go in for tillage when they found out its advantages, 59057-60, 59070, 59084.

NEED FOR ENCOURAGING TILLAGE.

No definite rule could be laid down as to how much tillage might be demanded by the Estates Commissioners or the Board.—There should be some guarantee that the improvements aimed at by them should be carried out, but when a man was convinced of the advantages of these, compulsion ought not to be needed; tillage to some extent was essential and should be encouraged, but the fact of their being so little in the country was due to long-continued misrule; the laws and system of Government had been such as to oblige people to emigrate and labour had become more extinct; farmers had done their best with the spade, not five per cent. being able to afford any other implements; the bad lands were tilled by small farmers who could not maintain themselves otherwise, and there was no ground for saying these men could not cultivate better lands if they had them, 59061-70, 59077-8.—Witness had 44 acres of both coarse and arable land and could only keep 2½ acres in tillage, owing to scarcity of labour and his inability to buy machinery; occasionally he was helped on his farm by the young son of a neighbour, but small farmers could not give the constant work or wages necessary to induce men, dependent on labour, to stay in the country, 59071-6.

NEED FOR SMALL HOLDINGS, PROSPECTS OF SUCCESS, ETC.

A man should have a holding of 20 Irish acres to maintain himself properly; the country should be dotted over with small farms, and if people found they could live on these with comparative comfort, they would, by degrees, become less anxious to emigrate; industries, too, would probably follow in the wake of successful farming; in Buenos Ayres Government

SHARKEY, Mr. JAMES—*continued.*

fostered agriculture by starting industries to employ people when not needed on their farms, and closed them during the harvest seasons; prosperity in the country would spread to the towns, population would grow, and the need for labour would, to some extent, be supplied; there should be no difficulty in keeping a man on the land when he was successful there, 59079-82, 59085-95.

NEED FOR DRAINAGE AND AN IMPROVED SYSTEM OF FARMING.

Both labour and manure were useless on insufficiently trained land; the people were too poor to attend to this or their own account, but the Government or some public body should see that the main rivers or outlets were drained at the expense of the State, the tenants being given a reasonable sum at a low rate of interest to encourage them to drain and improve their land; lack of drainage caused serious loss, calves dying from a disease believed to be the result of eating certain herbs produced by wet land; the general system of farming needed changing, and though the Board of Agriculture was doing something in that direction, they had not reached the root of the matter, 59082, 59096.

LACK OF ROADS.

The District Council had to face a difficult problem in regard to the lack of roads, as the heavily-taxed ratepayers could not face much additional expenditure, 59096.

DOYLE, Mr. JOHN J.

See pp 257-8.

VALUATION OF HOLDINGS OF CARRICK-ON-SHANNON.

In the 10 divisions of Carrick-on-Shannon, No. 2 Rural District, there were 143 holdings valued under £4; 701 under £12; 306 under £40; 63 under £100; 19 under £200; 4 under £400; and 4 over £400, 59099-100.

NEED FOR A BRIDGE AT HARTLY.

North and South Toomagh should be connected by a bridge over the Shannon at Hartly to enable about 200 families to take their produce to market more easily, 59098-9.

CLAIMS OF TENANT'S SONS PRIOR TO THOSE OF CONGESTS.

Tenant's sons now forced to migrate should be put on the 3,000 odd acres now held by one man, even if there were no congestion; those with uneconomic holdings had not a prior claim; problems of the future must be settled by the people concerned; any young Roscommon man could live on 20 acres of land, without any capital, a spade and shovel being the only tools needed, 59101-6, 59110-14.

TILLAGE.

Tillage paid better than grass, but lands could not be cultivated when tenants had been evicted.—Witness tilled by rotation only 6 acres, because the remaining 63 were incapable of cultivation, 59107-9, 59115-21.

BOWEN, Mr. EDWARD F.

See pp. 258-61.

THE NEEDS OF LOCAL PEOPLE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BEFORE THOSE OF CONGESTS.

A great many occupiers in the district between Ballinagare and Ballinarneen, paid a high rent for grazing their cattle on neighbouring farms; sometimes they obtained conacre hay there as well; there was grave danger of serious injury being done to these people by the Board depriving them of this means of living, for the sake of migrants; sufficient land should be reserved for them, and grass farms could be administered for the present by a central authority for the use of small holders; this could be done cheaply and would be a great boon; if the experiment failed, the farms could be divided later; the

BOWEN, Mr. EDWARD F.—*continued.*

Board should be empowered to deal with men over £5 valuation both on properties they had bought and on neighbouring estates; it mattered little, however, whether a man were just over or under that valuation, if those lands were to be given to Migrants, 59124-35, 59138, 59140, 59221.—Witness would not be satisfied with a £10 valuation limit, and did not think valuation a fair standard for determining what was and was not economic, 59135-9, 59142.

GRAZING *v.* TILLAGE.

The tendency shown recently to let land go into grass was largely due to scarcity of labour, though climate and foreign competition were also factors; Certain lands in Roscommon would be better tilled, and these should be broken up into small holdings and given to men to cultivate them themselves, 59142-5, 59166-9, 59219-20, 59222-4.—Generally speaking, land in Wexford was being constantly broken up, because it would not stay in grass, and the small farmers had been tillers for generations, but the soil there was different from that in Roscommon; even in Wexford, land capable of staying in grass was not broken up, and the same could be said of tillage lands in the north of Ireland; some grass lands in Roscommon might be deteriorating from bad treatment, but tilled lands would have fared worse, and drainage, not cultivation, was the remedy for rushes; if old grass lands in Roscommon were tilled and then needed for grass, it would probably take 50 years to bring them back to their present state; witness did not believe they would be broken up to any extent, as they were more profitable in grass, 59142, 59170-9, 59196-200.—Many of these grass lands had once been under tillage, 59242-3.

EFFECT ON THE CATTLE TRADE OF THE RE-DISTRIBUTION OF GRASS LANDS.

The Board should carry out their policy of cutting up grass lands on the assumption that these would remain in grass after division; a tillage farm might be 25 acres, but a grass farm should be from 30 or 40, though many people lived on less; the farms, too, should be given to a different class of men, as a practical knowledge of cattle was necessary to a grazier's success, 59142, 59201-10.—The doing away with big grass farms would deprive the small western peasant of a market for his beasts, and the repayment of millions of purchase money would be jeopardised; this latter evil might be substantially remedied by the State re-adjusting annuities, but the reduction would have to be very big, and the step would be a serious one, and would not save the man from ruin, 59142, 59146-50, 59212-3, 59238.—The elimination of the big grazier would certainly upset the cattle trade, and lower the price of the poor man's young stock; four men on a hundred acre farm could not be as successful as one; many more beasts would be put on the land, and while the supply would be nearly doubled the market would disappear; the grazier was a buyer, while the small man would simply be a producer, not a purchaser of the 10 acre man's stock; one hundred acres might now carry 50 cattle, but the small man would have a different class of beasts, not one-and-a-half-year-olds, but cows and calves which he could not possibly keep on his 30 acres until ready to be sent direct to the Leinstermen or shippers, 59212-8, 59225-41.

MAINTENANCE OF DRAINAGE.

The Board had done an immense amount of useful work, particularly in regard to drainage, but much money would be wasted, unless they were given powers to compel people to maintain the drains and other improvements made; Lord de Freyne had spent £6,000 on drains which had soon become useless, because not maintained; possibly a man's being allowed to keep his holding could be made conditional on good husbandry, but as this might be resented and enforcement would be difficult, it might be better to summon and fine him; there was absolute necessity for continued supervision by the authority that had effected the sale, and drainage should be inspected at least once a year, 59142, 59154-62.—A man could compel his neighbour to keep up his fence as this was necessary to prevent cattle straying, but the question of the

BOWEN, Mr. EDWARD F.—*continued.*

maintenance of arterial drainage could not be treated in the same way, as it would be the cause of constant quarrels, and the work would probably not be done well; it would be better to have some authority—preferably the Parish Committee—to make special laws, 59142, 59151, 59180-8.—The Parish Committees should be widely extended, and the enforcement of the maintenance of drainage put in their hands; this would largely increase their powers; The official character thus given them might possibly interefere with their work in other directions, 59142, 59151-3.

CUTTING DOWN TREES.

Witness knew a great deal of drainage was done by the ruthless cutting down of trees, but did not see how tenant purchasers could be prevented doing this as they were doing it except by a provision making it obligatory to first contain the consent of the authorities; he knew of no case where the landlord had cut down trees before selling, though possibly this had occurred, 59164-5, 15189-95.

ACQUISITION OF LAND, PRICE.

A large amount of land could be obtained by the Board, without compulsion, if a fair price were given. net income, capitalised at 3½ per cent., would in many cases be a fair basis; the Board sometimes applied for only the best bits of land, leaving the inferior parts on the owner's hands: this was strongly objected to, and was neither reasonable nor just, 59142.

WHITE, Mr. EDWARD.

See pp. 262-4.

OBJECTS AND WORK OF THE IRISH GAME PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

The Irish Game Protection Association was a purely philanthropic society, and its members were drawn from every class; its object was the protection of Irish game, now in danger of extinction; also, if possible, its increase; the Association worked in the interests of sportsmen, and of the nation at large; it tried to bring before tenant purchasers the necessity of combination and the monetary advantages resulting to themselves from game preservation; it gave them help and encouragement when, as often happened they asked for advice; it recognised the necessity of enlisting the support of owners and occupiers of land, and had to encourage a general conception of the importance of game and fish as an element in the national prosperity; in this connection the subject deserved the attention of the Commission, 59244-9, 59262, 59276-80, 59287, 59291-2, 59295, 59301.—The Association had prepared and distributed copies of the "Epitome of the Game Laws," and literature setting forth the value of game to owners and occupiers of land, and had prepared a memorandum on the importance of united action of the Congested Districts Board and the Estates Commissioners to disseminate amongst tenant-purchasers who had acquired sporting-rights; it had also had a form of deed drawn up by eminent counsel, copies of which had been supplied to both bodies, and such a deed should be signed by the tenants, 59249, 59290, 59302.—Father Kelly, of Innisboffin, had unintentionally given a wrong impression when referring in his evidence to an interview between the Association and the Board; the representatives of the former had only suggested that the tenants would be benefited by owning sporting rights if they combined for the protection of these; the importance of combination had also been chiefly insisted upon in a previous interview with the Estates Commissioners; the Association held strongly that in the accomplishment of sales through either of these bodies, steps should be taken to ensure united action on the part of tenants for the protection of game; a trusteeship should be formed by the purchasing body, the tenants signing deeds like those referred to above, combining to appoint trustees; on the Dillon Estate, bought by the Board, a combination had been formed, and three members of the Committee of the Association had gladly rented the shooting for

WHITE, Mr. EDWARD—*continued.*

£50, but the value of this had been practically destroyed by the refusal of three men in the centre of the property to join the others, 59249, 59261-6, 59286, 59302.—The transference of game rights was not a necessary consequence of the transference of land, but the old proprietor could only keep them effectively if he had the people's good-will, 59298-300.—Since its formation in 1891, the Association had done the work of Government in prosecuting poachers and people shooting without licenses, and its efforts had prevented the extermination of game in many districts, 59249.

REVENUE DERIVED FROM GAME AND GUN LICENCES IN IRELAND SHOULD BE USED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THAT COUNTRY.

People who had shot game, though only possessng a 10*s.* gun licence, were now taking out game certificates to avoid prosecution, and the increase of revenue derived by Government from licences and game certificates since the formation of the Association in 1891 amounted to £300,000; in the last year the increase had been about £4,000 over the figures of 1891; this was due to the efforts of the Association's inspectors, the repeal of the Arms Act having taken place since March 31st, could not have made any difference, 59249-60.—The enormous amount paid for game and gun licences, £23,000 last year, went into the English exchequer, Ireland, apparently, receiving no return in game preservation; money derived in this way from a particular county should be used for the benefit of that county, and this would tend to encourage a general appreciation of the value of game and fishing, and a recognition of the fact that people should not be allowed to break the law regarding licences, 59249-52, 59272-5, 59281-5.

APATHY OF GOVERNMENT IN THE MATTER OF GAME PROTECTION IN IRELAND.

It was notorious that the Excise officers neglected the duty of enforcing the game laws, not liking the trouble of going on to the mountains; in England and Scotland the police were encouraged by superior officers to report men shooting without licences, but in Ireland they received no such encouragement, and left the matter alone; it was a pity they were not even allowed to enforce the Wild Birds' Protection Act, but this would not matter if Government did its duty and increased the number of Excise officers, instructing the existing staff to bestir themselves, 59249, 59267-8.—Three classes of tenants were affected by the game question: (1) the many large purchasing tenants of Leinster, (2) smaller people in the midlands, (3) men in the West who were paid well for preserving game on their own land; the first and third classes disliked poachers, the second was apathetic and needed rousing,—all three were neglected by Government; Many people complained of poachers, who did serious damage to fences, coverts, etc., apart from the question of game, 59249, 59275.

SMALLNESS OF THE NEW HOLDINGS.

The new holdings were too small for people to farm out the shooting, whereas before, no landholders had been unable to do this, 59303-5.

Documents put in by Mr. Edward White.

	Page
A.—Leaflets as to Preservation of Game in Ireland,	293
B.—The £ s. d. of Sporting Rights,	295
C.—Draft Deed of Conveyance of Sporting Rights,	297
D.—Memorandum for Tenants who have acquired Sporting Rights,	298
E.—Extract from the Sixteenth Annual Report of the Association,	299

CASSIDY, Mr. MICHAEL.

See pp. 264-7.

CATTLE RAISING—IMPROVED METHODS NEEDED.

Ireland would be much richer if the big ranches were divided into small holdings of, say, from 20 to 50 acres of good to fair land; a good proportion would have to be kept in tillage for the growing of green roots, etc., for fattening cattle; the stock suffered greatly from lack of good winter feeding, and

CASSIDY, Mr. MICHAEL—*continued.*

Ireland's loss in this respect was the gain of farmers in England and Scotland; it was quite common for small holders in these countries to make a 20 to 24 months old heifer worth £20; Mr. James Shiel (Longniddrie, Haddington), had for years made 20 months old cattle fetch £27 each; this was done by force feeding with roots, oil cake, and grain for the last six months; in Mayo and Sligo cattle were kept till they were four or five years old and sold as low as from £6 to £8, though fattened on large ranches in Meath, Westmeath, County Dublin, and some of the best pastures of Roscommon, and on farms all over Ireland; instead of starving their cattle and selling them at such low prices the owners could be taught that by growing winter feeding, putting cattle sheds on their holdings and improvng the breeds, to make cattle at 2 years old worth at least £18; they should be fed to beef, of which a regular supply could be kept up all the year round by growing a few acres of Italian grass; by manuring it 3 or 4 cuttings could be obtained from the grass every year, and the cattle could be stall-fed all the time; in the hill parts of Scotland, the best grades of cattle, chiefly polled Angus breeds, were raised on the worst lands, £20 being a common price for 2 year olds of the best class; forty calves had been sold at Brechin Fair as year-olds, half of which had been fed in Ireland, on hay, half in Scotland on cut chaff, treacle, straw, turnips, and about 2 lbs. of cotton cake; the expense of feeding the former had probably nearly equalled that of keeping the latter, viz., 2*s.* 3*d.* per week, and strange to say, as a matter of live weight for money, the Scotch wintered had cost less per cwt. than the others, 59308, 59354.—A bullock weighing 10 cwt. in November would by May lose 2 cwt. of flesh—the most valuable part of him,—if put out all winter and fed on hay as was done in the west of Ireland; it would take 4 months to repair a waste never allowed by small Scotch farmers on the worst lands; they kept increasing the weight of their cattle which they had reared from calves, so that they matured much more quickly than in Ireland; cut grass was the food in summer; the big farmer in Scotland did not breed cattle, and bought from Ireland chiefly for fattening purposes, 59308-9, 59313-4, 59337-8, 59345-7.—Stock could be reared best on small holdings, but the cattle should be fattened, and the farm fed with the manure thus made, and only the producer of the stock benefited.—Irish beef could then oust that of America from the best markets, owing to the demand for beef of early maturity, 59309. There was no danger of the price of stock declining by the elimination of the grazier, for the small farmer would be taught to turn his cattle cut at two and two-and-a-half years old; people would soon adopt the stall-feeding system when they saw its advantages, but they must first be given the land, 59314-16, 59367. —Witness did only a little in-feeding himself on his 50 or 60 acre farm, having 6 or 7 acres of green crops, and he did not breed many cattle, but bought them as stores, and he was chiefly engaged in the shipping business, 59348-53.

LAND SUITABLE FOR TILLAGE.

A good deal of tillage would be needed to grow the green food for winter feeding, but though hardly anything was tilled in Roscommon except bogs and bad land, most of the land there and in Connaught generally was fit for cultivation; only suitable land should be tilled; when the ranches were divided each man should be given both tillage and pasture land, and as the two were intermixed, this should not be difficult, 59317-31, 59357, 59361, 59374-5.—There was enough tillage land in Donegal to enable people to in-feed cattle and keep them until ready for killing, 59332-7, 59374-5.—There were not enough cattle raised in the west of Ireland: hundreds came every season from the northern counties to be sold in Mayo, Galway, and Roscommon, 59336.

BUILDINGS NEEDED—COST, ETC.

Some of the Scotch holdings were 100 acres, part mountain, part tillage and pasturage, and the buildings might be worth £300 or £400, so that considerable loans would be needed to establish the system in Ireland; shelter, sheds, roots, and artificial feeding were necessary; a Roscommon man on a 50 acre farm should start with £500 or £600, though men had succeeded with less, 59309, 59338-45, 59356.

CASSIDY, Mr. MICHAEL—*continued.*

AGRICULTURAL TRAINING NEEDED.

Witness did not believe that if grass-lands were broken up in Connaught, people would only breed cattle, though this would be necessary to some extent; they should till part of their farms,—in some cases one-third, but how much, depended on the quality of the land; they would need some training in Connaught, where land had so long been out of cultivation; Government might subsidise a model farm in every county, and as people would soon learn what was to their advantage, the policy of cutting up grass lands should be carried out as quickly as possible, 59312, 59365-7.—It was very important to have rotation-grass as in Scotland, and the fact that small holders in Ireland did not sow it, shewed a want of elementary knowledge of agriculture, 59358-62.—Danish butter commanded a better price in England and Scotland than did Irish, because, according to provision merchants, people grew accustomed to it as Denmark could supply it all the year round, being a tillage country where roots were grown for winter feeding; dairying succeeded best on small holdings, but rotation grass and green crops were necessary if butter were to be obtained in winter in Ireland, 59309, 59368-70.—The small farmer was obliged to sell yearlings which were not as forward as they should be, so he should first be taught the importance of improving these and of sowing rotation grass; it was most desirable that the Department of Agriculture should promote this education; every district might form a committee of its own for this purpose, 59358-64, 59368-72.

INCREASED EMPLOYMENT GIVEN BY DIVISION OF GRASS-LANDS.

Division of the grazing ranches into small agricultural farms would employ twice as many people as were employed at present, and this would benefit shopkeepers and everyone else, while people who generally had to work at the poorest trades in the large towns of Great Britain, would be kept at home by a healthy occupation, 59309, 59354-5.

BEIRNE, Mr. DANIEL.

See p. 267.

VALUATION OF HOLDINGS IN CROGHAN DIVISION.

The Croghan Division was fairly typical of the district between Eastersnow and Elphin, Carrick-on-Shannon, and Frenchpark, and coincided pretty well with Mr. Lloyd's Croghan Estate; there were 41 holdings under £5 valuation; 43 between £5 and £10; 25 between £10 and £15; 22 between £15 and £25; 11 between £25 and £50; 3 between £50 and £100; 6 over £100, 59377.

DIVISION OF GRASS-LANDS, ENCOURAGEMENT OF TILLAGE, AND DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIES ADVOCATED.

On the boundary of the division were 615 acres of non-residential grass-lands which should be divided amongst the Lloyd Estate tenants.—Allotees should be obliged to till a good proportion of their land.—No serious effort had been made as yet to educate the people in the best methods of farming, and a great responsibility rested with the Department.—Substantial premiums should be given to encourage more and better tillage, but though agricultural activity might thus receive an impetus, Ireland would continue to be behind other countries unless her industries, like theirs, were fostered and encouraged by Government. The Department had been a great disappointment in this respect, having refused to help to start a co-operative bacon-curing factory in Boyle; such treatment would make the establishment of pioneer industries impossible, 59377.

DRAINAGE NEEDED.

Public money would be well spent on a scheme of main drainage around Croghan, 59377.

RAILWAY NEEDED.

A connecting railway between Boyle and Roscommon town was much needed, as Croghan district was

BEIRNE, Mr. DANIEL—*continued.*

practically disfranchised for the County Council and Technical Committee owing to the difficulty and expense of going to Roscommon, 59377.

AGRICULTURAL BANKS NEEDED.

Agricultural Banks were a need of the times.—Government was responsible for the Irish problem and a re-fund of the large balance due for over-taxation should be made for public works, developments and industrial enterprises, 59377.

FEELY, Mr. JOSEPH.

See p. 267.

REFUSAL OF LISCOR LANDLORDS TO SELL TO THE ESTATES COMMISSIONERS OR THE BOARD.

Liscor was a congested division: the holdings were miserably small and a great deal of improvement was needed on the estate.—The tenants had decided to buy either through the Estates Commissioners or the Board, having heard from Sir Antony MacDonnell that they could thus be relieved on out-side farms and the division could be scheduled as congested.—Mr. Bowen and Mr. White would not, however, sell to either of these bodies, and they claimed 27 years' purchase on second term rents, 59378-81.

DRURY, Mr. JOHN.

See pp. 267-8.

EQUALISATION OF RATES ON HOUSE PROPERTY AND UNTENANTED LAND ADVOCATED.

The rating question did not receive due attention, and congested districts would be helped appreciably if legislation could be introduced changing the principle which came in with the Act of 1898; in the townland of Tevenagh, 256 statute acres, the valuation of house property or "other hereditaments" was £27 10*s.*, that of land £76 15*s.*, making a total of £104 5*s.*, while on Keelogues farm, 140 acres, the land valuation was £104, that of the other hereditaments 10*s.*; in one case the 19 tenants paid £13 7*s.* 1½*d.* in rates, while the non-residential occupier paid £11 6*s.* 8*d.* on a like valuation; this difference of £2 0*s.* 5½*d.* was due to the fact that the rate on houses was 3*s.* 8*d.*, and on land 2*s.* 2*d.*; the poor man had built his house and offices with labour and capital and if he improved them, was taxed on increased valuation due to his labour; he was naturally reluctant to bring a tax on himself.—The 11 months' occupier should not get the benefit of the agricultural grant in a case of this kind, 59382-4; the rates paid by non-residential occupiers should equal those paid by poor tenants on house property, *i.e.*, at the current rate in Roscommon, 3*s.* 8*d.* in the £; there was now a premium on the existence of large farms, and if the rates on these were higher, the owners might be more willing to sell to the Estates Commissioners or the Board, 59384.

SELECTION OF MIGRANTS; SALE OF HOLDINGS BY TENANT-PURCHASERS.

When the Commissioners or Board were choosing tenants to put on untenanted land, they should be careful to see that these were *bonâ fide* farmers, or at least men living mainly by agriculture, as people might get possession of land simply that they might sell out at a profit.—The Estates Commissioners' inspector had given a holding, or land close to the township, to a man who was not a farmer and who had sold his interest two years later to another tenant; the tenant farmer should be considered before men who lived by trade or some other means, 59384-8, 59390.—The selling authority kept some control as long as the annuity was due, and said who was to be the successor, but they did not object to a tenant disposing his interest; where he had spent money on improvements he should be compensated if he wished to relinquish his right as tenant, but he should be prevented by law from selling his interest before a certain term of years, on property which had not cost him a penny, 59389-93.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND PUBLIC SITTING.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH, 1907,

AT 11.0 O'CLOCK, A.M.,

At the Schoolhouse, Leenane.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (Chairman); The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL; JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esq., M.P.; CONOR O'KELLY, Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Mr. HENRY A. BURKE examined.

Sept. 18, 1907.

Mr. Henry A. Burke.

52013. CHAIRMAN.—Where do you live, Mr. Burke?—At Drumkeen, Ballinamallard, County Fermanagh.

52014. It is very far from here, is it not?—Yes; but I lived in the County Galway at one time.

52015. But you now live in Fermanagh?—I live at present in the County Fermanagh.

52016. What is your connection with this district?—Well, I have no connection at present, except that I carried on this kelp business as agent from the time I was eighteen.

52017. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—In the County Galway?—In Galway, about twenty miles from here.

52018. CHAIRMAN.—You carried it on from the time you were eighteen years old?—In broken periods.

52019. How long is it since you broke your connection with this district?—Twenty-five years.

52020. Then your evidence is practically a matter of history?—Oh, it is practical experience.

52021. But it is 25 years ago?—I have been down visiting the neighbourhood, but I have not been doing anything. I desire to offer some evidence on the kelp industry, which was formerly a staple industry on many parts of the Irish coast. Its decline has been a very serious matter. At one time I believe that good kelp fetched £10 or £12 a ton, and even when other ways of obtaining iodine were discovered it was worth about £7 per ton.

52023. May I ask you are you in any way connected with the kelp industry now?—No.

52024. And how long is it since you severed your connection with the kelp industry?—Well, it is about twenty-five years since I did anything in the way of agency.

52025. Have you any knowledge of the position of kelp at the present time?—Yes; my father was agent for kelp up to about five or six years ago, when he retired owing to old age.

52026. Well?—It is an industry which could be so worked as to provide means of employment for the various members of one family. It is, therefore, of importance to see whether it could not be re-started, even under existing conditions, so as to produce a price which would pay for the labour expended on its manufacture. It is noteworthy that the industry is not dead. Notwithstanding the competition of other articles, kelp is still made and sold at various places along the coast. It, therefore, seems well worth trying whether, by a little assistance from the Government, by educating the workers into adopting better methods, and, above all, by inducing them to abstain from processes which injure the market value of the article (such as allowing it to get mixed with sand or gravel), the industry might not again become a widely-extended and paying one. The trade exists in two forms—(1) the sale of manufactured kelp, and (2) the sale of the best description of the weed (known as "coughlagh") in a dried condition. There is no difficulty in collecting this particular description of the weed, for it grows by itself in distinct patches. It is desirable, however, and even necessary that it should be dried rapidly, and good help might be given to the people by providing large drying sheds of a simple and inexpensive type.

52027. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—With regard to that weed, the coughlagh, it is a long ropy weed, is not it?—It is a long flat weed.

52028. Has it a kind of long stem?—It has a long thin sea-rod; about as thick as my small finger.

52029. Is it what is known in some parts of the country as sea-rod?—No; it is called "coughlagh." Red weed grows on the sea-rod.

52030. I never heard that expression before?—I only know it by the local name. I believe that this kelp-making industry, coupled with fishing, was the original means of living of the large population in many congested districts along the coast. I once managed a kelp agency myself for four years, having had a good deal of experience for several years prior to that date, so that I have had every opportunity of studying the process of production. My district extended along the coast from the mouth of the Killery Bay to High Island and the islands of Boffin, Shark, and Innisturk. £6 10*s.* or £7 per ton is the highest price I remember; it dropped to about £4 or £4 10*s.* when iodine was discovered in mines somewhere in South America, I think. In addition to the dropping in the price the season for making kelp was shortened to a couple of months in the year, from about the end of April to the end of June.

52031. Now, what shortened it, and why was it shortened?—Because the weed is not as good. The first fall of the weed is the best for making kelp.

52032. But your statement is comparative. You say, "in addition to the dropping in the price the season for making kelp was shortened." What do you mean by that, because that is a relative statement—when was it shortened and how and why?—Well, they could not take as much kelp after the Chilian iodine was found. I suppose they could not take as much, and they wanted it up to a certain standard, and they could not get it at that standard after the first fall—say the 1st of June.

52033. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—The May weed is the best article?—The May weed is the

Sept. 18, 1907.

Mr. Henry A. Burke.

best article, and after that, unless they get that weed, they cannot get the standard. I remember when it was purchased up till October, or as long as the weed could be dried sufficiently for burning. For the last twenty-five or thirty years the business has been dwindling; the short period, in addition to low prices, did not allow of the people making enough kelp to make it pay. For over forty years the kelp made all over Ireland has been, I may say, purchased by one firm in Scotland. I remember when other firms started, but they did not last long, being put out of the market by the old-standing firm. Like other products, there is a good and bad kelp. When competition set in kelp-makers increased the adulteration, and what the old firm would not purchase, except at a very low price (some at no price), was sold to the new companies. Many a boat-load has gone to them from the store I managed which I found after testing was not worth more than a certain price, or perhaps worth nothing to my firm (I worked for the old firm). Kelp in these days, and ever since other sources of procuring iodine were discovered, must contain a very large proportion of iodine to be profitable. There are by-products from kelp—I think black bottles, and soap and some kinds of soda, but my knowledge on this point ends with putting kelp on board a coaster for Glasgow. The entire coast from which the company got its supply was superintended by a Mr. John Stephens in my time; he visited all the agencies frequently during the season, tested and took samples of the kelp, compared prices to see that too high a price was not given by the local agents, and that the bad kelp was not purchased. The kelp makers in those days depended entirely, I may say, on drift-weed for supply. To remedy this, I remember Mr. Stephens tried all he could, even to the extent of advancing money to purchase boats, or getting the landlords to assist in supplying boats in order to start the people to cut the weed, instead of depending on the mere drift. This ended in failure; the people could not be got to change from the old way, or add to their profits by cutting. I believe one ton of kelp made from cut weed is worth two made from drift, especially after 1st June. Certain other weeds produce no iodine, but these unprofitable weeds make much harder kelp than the iodine-producing weed. Agents had to constantly visit the different shores to see that the people did not save the bad weed, and when found either have it destroyed or find out the people who were saving it. This was done more in the people's interest than anything else, as an experienced agent could tell by testing if bad weed had been used. In fact, in most cases I could tell before testing, and it was only where bad weed was used that I tested, so as to convince the seller that I knew what had been done. Another trouble was sand and stones. Kelp was burned on a sandy beach, so that sand and small gravel stuck to the bottom of the kelp to the extent of one or two or more inches, and some round stones would get in somehow into the centre of the blocks; in such cases the agent had to make deductions in weight for sand, etc., or impose a fine where kelp was burned on certain shores ordered to be excluded. Kelp absorbs moisture even in the store, and it was often left out after burning too long, and not properly covered before bringing to the stores. This had to be taken into account in the weight, as it injured the quality. If the kelp industry was properly worked I believe the profits would far exceed those expected from the fishing industry. A chemical factory or business could be started in some central place on the coast, say Westport or Sligo, and then develop the cutting of weed. In my time if the weed was cut it had to be cut out of an open three-ton boat with a large hook like a reaping hook with curved irons to catch the weed; this was attached to a long pole which it took two or three men to work. One boat-load would be as much as could be got at a tide, as it had to be cut at low water. There are some things I wish to mention about the burning of the kelp.

52033A. What is it you wish to say about the burning?—Well, I think there might be some better methods employed for burning weed, much on the creamery lines, that is, that instead of allowing the people to burn the weed the weed might be bought from them, dried, and brought to a central place of that kind, where it could be burned on a large scale. There might be sheds there that the dried weed could be brought to and weighed and burned, according to its quality, instead of the people burning it as at present. Means of procuring this weed on a large scale with less labour could be devised, just as steam trawlers have come in to supersede the old ways of fishing. There are plenty of people who know how to burn kelp, so that the young men would not have much difficulty in learning. If the kelp industry was revived I believe the population in these congested districts would be doubled. I also believe that, if the Government or the Congested Districts Board insist on removing these people, and that later on what I propose is done, those removed will either sell or leave the land given to them and go back to their old quarters and follow the business of their forefathers. Although weeds grow along most shores along the west and north coast, it only drifts into certain places in rough weather. I suppose this is owing to currents. I am only acquainted with the west coast, but there must be weed along the north coast of Antrim, as Mr. Stephens offered me an agency that he intended starting there some years after I had given up the work. Kelp-making requires a good deal of ground for drying the weed, unless it could be dried in sheds. The advantage of cutting weeds is that you get it all along the coast, and can procure it day after day, and dry the weed on shores where the drift-weed does not come in, thus enlarging the area and quantity. As a rule when drift-weed does come in it arrives in such quantities that it rots on the shore before it can be removed, and a large quantity is thus lost. Between now and next April a great deal could be done in preparing for experiments on suitable parts of the coast. First of all find out (1) where the weed is growing in sufficient quantity; (2) the most convenient shore to unload at, and (3) where the weed could be dried free of sand or small shingle. If two or three families joined in a boat of three or four tons with proper tackle, and divided the profits, it would be the best plan. My recollection is that in former years this used to be done. A great advantage of kelp-making is that it gives employment to so many members of a family. The men cut the weed, and bring it to shore, when their wives and children can assist in carrying it to the spreading-ground, after which the work is much the same as saving hay, until it is put into large cocks. The weed must be left in these cocks for some time, to heat or get into a dry, soft condition. If burned fresh, when dry and crisp, the return would not be so good. I daresay the purchasers would be prepared to give a fair price, and purchase all the kelp that could be made, provided the quality was kept up to the proper standard. Sea rods collected in the winter add considerably to the quantity and quality of kelp. It is much easier to burn the weed when you have sea rods, as they prevent the weed from getting clogged in the kiln. Kelp, to be well burned, must be kept in a liquid state from start to finish, so that, when tempered or mixed with iron rakes in the evening, it will cool down into one hard block like lead. From what I have heard of the Parish Committee system of the Congested Districts Board I am inclined to think such Committees might be made the means of reviving this great industry, of extending it beyond anything that has hitherto been attained, and of getting the workers to understand that it would pay them to make the best article, or to save the "Coughlagh" weed in the best possible condition, and carefully avoid every form of adulteration

52034. As it is burned at present is there any waste?—Well, it is adulterated. There is too much temptation for adulteration as it is. It is adulteration that is injuring the kelp more than anything else.

52035. By putting stones into it?—Stones and sand; and then there are certain weeds that contain no iodine.

52036. You would suggest having a central burning place. Would that be mostly to the advantage of the purchaser?—Well, it would be to the advantage of the purchaser in getting a good quality of kelp; and to the people if there were several of those places, for instance one on Boffin Island and several all round the coast. The people of those neighbourhoods had to boat it a long way, twelve or thirteen miles perhaps in rough weather, and perhaps if they had depôts at those places the vessels could go round to them and take up the kelp, instead of having one large central district as has been the case heretofore, and up to the present.

52037. Then, passing from the subject of kelp what do you wish to say?—Passing from the subject of kelp I wish to say something of my experience as a farmer. I farm nearly 200 acres, principally grazing, and I manage over 600 acres for landowners, buying and selling all classes of cattle from calves, to stores, springers, and fat cattle, according to the class of land I have to manage. I consider that the Irish graziers have been the means of keeping a high class and breed of stock in the country, not only to perpetuate the species, but to get the best price for the finished article, either as a springer, milker, or beef. I have been buying and selling cattle for over thirty years, attending fairs and competing with the cattle dealers, and I have always considered that it paid me to secure a well-bred animal, even if I gave up to ten shillings more for it than a dealer would give. I believe it will be disastrous for the small farmers of Ireland if by any change of system they are left depending on cattle dealers and English markets for the sale of their calves and young stores. Ireland can produce first-class grass-fed beef. In England and Scotland most of the beef has to be finished by hand-feeding. The congested districts are on the sea coast, and in order to relieve congestion, it is proposed that the Government Departments and the Board should work inland, by getting rid of the large grazing farmers, buying them out, dividing their lands into small holdings, and giving them to people who have been accustomed to making a living by other means (such as fishing, kelp-burning, or migrating to England or Scotland as labourers), who know little or nothing about farming, and whom it will take generations to instruct (in the meantime to be spoon-fed at the expense of the taxpayers), and even then it is a question to be solved, whether the change will be a success or not. The principal products of Ireland for food and export are beef, butter, pork, fowl, and eggs. The production of beef is the principal source of revenue of the Irish farmers, large and small, from the farmer who can only keep one calf till it is six months old to the large grazier who turns out the finished article. Farm produce, like other commodities, has its different stages of production before it comes to the final stage, and is ready for consumption. I now propose to take beef through its different courses, and will begin at the bottom, or first course. Any person who has experience of Irish fairs knows that, if he wants to purchase, say thirty or forty calves, he must buy them in ones or twos. Very rarely will he find a farmer who has from three to six calves in one lot to dispose of. The man with two or three calves is the class the Congested Districts Board wish to increase. A calf is not beef. Why does the farmer sell it? Because he has only got from five to fifteen acres of land, and cannot keep it longer. The farmer with from twenty to thirty acres keeps three or four cows on the portion of his land outside what is required for tillage, a couple of heifers to take the place of cows, or to keep up the stock of milkers. He must get rid of the calves when they are nine months or a year old; having no room for them he passes them on to the next stage. Matters might be made easier if farmers could order heifer calves as required, but the course of nature provides for them bull calves (later turned into bullocks) in the proportion of nearly three to one.

52437A. When you speak of a farmer with from 20 to 30 acres you have not the same sort of man in your mind as you alluded to just previously?—No, my lord; you see there are farms of all sizes.

52038. And it is quite possible, I suppose, for a man to have 20 or 30 acres, and yet to have land which will only hold two or three cattle?—Yes, because the land may vary in value from a shilling to a pound an acre.

52039. Twenty or thirty acres of mountainy land would not be of very much use to him?—It would not be of very much value. It all depends on the quality of the land.

52040. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—By "the next stage" I presume you mean the maturing stage?—Yes. Small farmers cannot afford to keep even one bullock calf once it has reached nine months or a year old for several reasons; in the first place they have not room, and in the second place the land, even if they could keep it, is not capable of turning it into beef. There are many farmers in mountain districts holding large tracts of land suitable for keeping milch cows; also farmers in low-lands who cannot keep the calves after they get to the weaning stage, for the reason that they are too well bred, the cows having been served by a well-bred shorthorn. It pays these farmers to rear calves by good bulls to a certain age, but when it comes to dispensing with the hand-feeding they must be handed over to the man who has land suitable, and a sufficient area to keep a number of them. If these farmers sent their cows to an ill-bred bull they would not get a remunerative price for their calves. Who keeps these well-bred shorthorn bulls? The larger grazier. Farmers arrange the class of their cows by sending a certain number to bulls whose progeny is likely to suit the class of land (this remark refers to mountain and poorer districts) that is to produce the heifers they wish to keep—to take the place of milkers when the latter get too old to be profitable. Leaving out the mountains and moors suitable as grouse preserves, one might say that nine-tenths of Ireland is as suitable for tillage as for grazing, but in stating this I do not class all the grazing as fattening land. I have got to the stage when the calf is nine to twelve months old, but has twelve or eighteen months longer to live before it is ready to turn into beef; who is to keep it in the interval? From this age of nine or twelve months, when the calves are sold by small farmers (who cannot keep them longer) until they reach the age when they are ready to fatten by large graziers (say 2½ year olds) it is not necessary to feed them to a greater extent than is required to develop their growth, and keep them in a healthy condition. A larger class of grazing farmers take these calves over, buying according to the class of land they are to be fed on, and keeping them as long as the land is fit to feed them. I might say in many cases there are two or three changes between the nine or ten months and the 2½ year old stage, as some lands are only suitable for summer grazing, all the stock being removed during the winter months with the exception of a few. It would not pay to keep these cattle on fattening land from start to finish, and even if it would, there is not sufficient fattening land in Ireland to do it. The large grazier who finishes these cattle looks to small profits and quick returns during the six or seven grazing months of the year, buying his stores in April and May, and selling at intervals up to November, or middle of December if it is an open winter. Some graziers keep the different classes of land required, so that they can pass them on through the different stages by changing them to different farms. In this way many lay in their supply as calves from the small farmers. I have already stated that nine-tenths of the land is as suitable for tillage as for grazing. According as you increase the tillage and small farms you increase the production of young cattle (calves from nine to twelve months old), but you reduce the area required for keeping the young stock till they have reached the age suitable for beef, and you also reduce the area that is required to turn them into the finished article. The law of supply and demand that has been adjusting itself for generations in a natural way according to requirements must be considered. In order to produce a good calf the small farmer must get the service of well-bred bulls (they need not be pure-bred), costing at age of thirteen to fifteen months from £10 to £20 and £35, or more, according to breeding and quality. A small farmer cannot afford to buy a good bull, and if he could, in nineteen out of twenty cases the bull could not be fed; he must get good pasture in the season, and hand-feeding in the winter, in fact a certain amount of hand-feeding all the year round. These bulls are purchased by the large farmers or graziers, and for their service small fees are charged, from 2*s.* to 3*s.*, and in a few cases more, where the animal is above the ordinary run of bulls. The farmers who keep these bulls are the men on whom the small farmer depends to buy his one or more calves when he must pass them on; they are also the men some of the official and other witnesses want to do away with.

52041. CHAIRMAN.—Is all this evidence about bulls tending to show that if the large farms were broken up the class of such bulls would deteriorate?—It is, my lord.

52042. But you are forgetting altogether that the new Department might put bulls there. Surely the big farmer is not the only person who can have them?—We have the Department in my district, and it is the well-to-do farmers that take these bulls.

Sept. 18, 1907.

Mr. Henry A. Burke.

52043. That is a matter of arrangement?—It does not pay.

52044. But that is a matter of arrangement?—Although they get a grant of £12 or £15 a year it does not pay to give £30 for a bull and keep him for a couple of seasons, and sell him for £16 as beef.

52045. That is purely a matter of arrangement. There is no earthly reason why the Department should not buy a bull and give it on condition that it shall serve at a certain fee. It is purely a matter of arrangement?—Yes; but I keep bulls that are not pure-bred, and the tenant farmers prefer coming to me for those bulls; for the service I charge 2*s*., and they prefer that, because my bulls are more suitable, and the calves produced have more bone than the well-bred. It is a mistake to have entirely pure-bred bulls for breeding purposes, because they are too fine in the bone.

52046. Then, after all, that same class of bull that you keep can be provided by the new Department, and thus it is not absolutely necessary to have a large farm in order to have a bull?—Of course anything can be provided, I suppose.

52047. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—You seem to have a distinct preference for the shorthorn?—I have, for certain purposes.

52048. Are you aware that when the agricultural work in the scheduled areas was under the Congested Districts Board Galloways were introduced into mountainous districts?—I am; I have remarked that in this district there are a lot of black cattle.

52049. Has it come under your notice that in that way the small farmers are enabled to get a much bigger price for their young stock when they are disposing of them?—They are, but the Galloways are not good for milk. I think there are certain districts where they are depending on those black cattle for milk. If they went in more for the dairy it would pay them better. The Galloways and Polled Anguses are no use for milk. They are good for beef, but they are no good for milk.

52050. Chairman.—That, surely, depends on the district?—The Polled Angus is not worth keeping for milch cows in any of the districts.

52051. But if you have an outlying district, such as you have round this coast, it is far better that the people should rear their young stock for grazing purposes, for beef rather than for dairying, because there is no market for butter?—Yes.

52052. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Your point is that the small farmer has got to dispose of his young stock at an early age?—Yes.

52053. If disposed of at an early age they are not milk producers?—No.

52054. Does not the Galloway then suit for that purpose in those districts?—Yes; the shorthorn would be of no use in congested districts; but there are certain mountain districts that are convenient to good land. A farmer could send a mountain cow to a good shorthorn bull and produce a saleable calf, but he could not rear that calf on the land.

52055. You assume that hand-feeding would cease on a small farm when the animal had reached about nine months?—Yes; the weaning stage; it generally does.

52056. But must it?—It would not pay to be hand-feeding it after that stage till it was ready for beef. It would not pay.

52057. If the system of intensive cultivation were introduced all over the country, would not it pay?—I do not think it would. You see that people are inclined to buy feeding now because it is cheap. Foreign competition makes the food so cheap now that even at that it would not pay to feed the cattle on the poor grass that you would have to substitute by hand feeding. It would not pay to feed the stock till it was ready for beef if you had to substitute grass by hand feeding.

52058. Could not the small farmers in Ireland do as they do in Belgium. If the Belgian system of intensive cultivation were introduced into Ireland, what is there to prevent the man of thirty acres rearing his own calves and retaining them on his farm through all the stages till they are finally disposed of?—Well, the education in Belgium is different from what we have been giving in Ireland. In Belgium they confine the education entirely to the farm, and people know very little about any higher education. In Ireland education is much higher, and it has made the people think, when they get a good education, that they are wasting their time on small farming, and you could not get them now to act like the Belgians. I think it is too late now to get them into the same line as the Belgians, because they know a great deal more than the Belgian people do. They know the benefit of a good education, and any man who has a good education is not going to work with the spade. He will try something better.

52059. I think there might be some question about whether the system of education might not be advantageously adapted to farming. Do you not think that a good education for country boys would be an education that would enable them to be useful men and good farmers?—I do. I think the more education they get the better, but I am only comparing it with the Belgian education. They get a higher education in Ireland than they do in Belgium. In Belgium they confine the education entirely to farming.

52060. Is not Ireland, in the main, an agricultural country?—Well, I should say it is a pastoral country principally.

52061. Then do you not think that in the primary education of this country care should be taken to give the boys, from the start, an education suitable to their years, in things leading up to an agricultural and pastoral occupation?—Yes, I do, my lord, and I think that there should be more practical knowledge. I would suggest model farms to give them more practical knowledge in that way. I think the more they get of that the better farmers they will be.

52063. Sir John Colomb.—But, to follow up what the Bishop said, as to this intensive system of agriculture which is carried on in Belgium, is not its main feature rotation of crops, and largely catch crops?—Yes.

52064. But is there not in the climate of Ireland an obstacle to such an intensive system of cultivation on the part of the small farmers?—Yes; the climate is more adapted for grazing.

52065. Does not the climate of Ireland make it uncertain whether in any year you can raise the necessary catch crops?—Yes, and you cannot save the catch crop. I mean it is quite enough to save the ordinary crop. These grazing farmers as far as possible purchase their young stock in their own neighbourhood from small farmers whose stock they know. According as the small farmer is increased in numbers so will the demand for young stock diminish. If the sources from which the Irish farmers and people get their living improve, or allow of more workers, so will the population increase; but to try and increase the population first, by cutting up the country into small farms and building houses before the problem of how they are to live is settled, is a case of putting the car before the horse, and should be seriously considered before it is too late. Civilisation, education, and machinery, and I might add Land Acts, have changed the Irish farmers; they have learned to live better than their forefathers, and to do this they must have more room. Young people who must attend school till they are fourteen get a fair education, at any rate sufficient to make them decide that they are not going to begin life by sitting down on a small farm and work it with the spade for the rest of their lives when they feel they can do better. Unless a farmer has a reasonably-sized farm he cannot employ machinery and horses, and he cannot work a larger farm unless you provide him with additional capital. Thousands of labourers' cottages are being built, with acre plots added. It may be decided later that one acre is not sufficient, and that they must get three or more acres. At whose expense will these plots be given? At that of the industrious farmer who is just beginning to feel that he can live comfortably, and perhaps before his days are ended be able to settle some of his children on similar sized farms to his own. There must be hewers of wood and drawers of water till the end of the chapter. The present condition of the labour market in rural districts does not show that the supply is in excess of the demand; quite the other way. Families (so-called labourers) are taking these houses and plots of ground just because they think there is something to be made by them, in the same way as people took seed potatoes, thinking they were getting the seed for nothing at the expense of somebody else. Will the children of these labourers (who must attend school till they are fourteen) take their parents' places, and work the few acres with their spades? You cannot raise the level of one class

without lowering the others, if it is tried by artificial means, which, I say, is the course advocated by many of the witnesses. One class cannot live without the other, and in order that both may make a living there must be a higher to keep the lower going; if all were on the same level the world would not be worth living in. Improve the resources of the country by every means possible, and the people will improve themselves; do not try to increase the population first.

52066. CHAIRMAN.—There is one question I should like to ask you. You spoke of labourers' cottages being built?—Yes.

52068. Have you any practical knowledge of that yourself, first-hand knowledge?—There are some in my neighbourhood.

52069. In your neighbourhood in Fermanagh, not here?—No, not here.

52070. In speaking of those cottages you are speaking of the condition of affairs which goes on in Fermanagh?—I am; in my neighbourhood.

52071. Do you know from your own experience that when these cottages are built and labourers put into them the public authority takes any steps to find out whether the labourers are real labourers or whether they are not?—I do not know that they do. I have no knowledge of whether they look after them or not.

52073. It is not a question of looking after, but whether, before the consent to put them into the houses they have built, they satisfy themselves that they are really *bona fide* labourers, or whether they are small farmers?—Oh, they are more labourers than farmers.

52074. They are labourers in the sense that they actually have work in the neighbourhood?—Yes.

52075. On some farm?—Yes; any that I have had any experience of.

52077. Then you do not know of any case of a man being put into one of these houses who is not actually working upon some farm as a labourer?—Well, I do not think that I would say positively that I know of any case in which the man was not a labourer.

52078. Well, then, if those men are *bona fide* labourers, what is your reason for thinking that there may be an attempt later on to turn them into farmers?—Because I have been told that they do not labour.

52079. Is it that they have been labourers, and they work less now since they got the land than they did before?—They work on this acre of ground.

52080. But I suppose the idea of the labourer's cottage requiring an acre of land is that it should be as a supplement to his work as a labourer?—Yes, as a supplement to his work as a labourer.

52082. And you think that when the labourer has got a cottage with an acre of land he begins to devote more of his attention to that acre of land and less attention to his work as a labourer?—I mean that he can afford to do less labour when he has that. He can spend more time at that. I do not say more time than he should; but when he has that acre of land to labour it is not necessary for him to work as a labourer as much as he would before he got it.

52083. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Is it not the case that originally the Labourers Act defined a labourer as an agricultural labourer, and that a recent change in the Act has now made the qualification of a candidate for a cottage simply to be that he is somebody who is earning weekly wages or daily wages?—It is.

52084. And it does not apply to an agricultural labourer exclusively at all?—No; some of the labourers are taken from the county towns or villages.

52086. CHAIRMAN.—But the man is a labourer; he is not a man merely in search of labour; he has actually got labour?—Oh, he is a labourer.

52087. Then he has to be a labourer before he gets the house?—Yes; he is nothing else.

52088. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You say unless a farmer has a reasonably-sized farm he cannot employ machinery and horses, and he cannot work a larger farm unless you provide him with additional capital. We have had a good deal of evidence about economic and uneconomic holdings. May I ask you this question—Do you consider that any farm, in the true sense, can be considered an economic holding that is not fitted for, and actually worked by, horse labour?—It ought to be sufficient to keep a horse.

52090. Do you think it a pretty approximate definition of the difference between an economic and an uneconomic holding, that one must be worked by the spade and the other by the horse?—Yes.

52091. Mr. BRYCE.—Is it not the fact that there is a large quantity of land in Ireland that cannot be worked by the horse under any circumstances?—Certainly, and that class of land is more suitable for dairy purposes than for grazing. You will get land at 5*s.* an acre, and it will produce a higher percentage of butter than fattening land. Fattening land is not suitable for butter, and dairy land is not suitable for beef. I have land at 25*s.* an acre on the average, and I sold my milk at the creamery, and tenants who have land at 7*s.* an acre did likewise, and I was getting 3*d.* to 3½*d.* a gallon for my milk, and they were getting 4½*d.* to 5*d.* a gallon for their milk, and that came off this so-called poor land, while mine came off land of which one acre costs four or five times as much. Fattening land will not produce as good milk as dairy land will produce. There are different classes of land, suited for different purposes, and it is not necessary to have the best land for tillage. Any farmer who has land under permanent pasture will not break it up if he has other land—cheaper land—suitable for tillage.

52092. Mr. BRYCE.—That would not apply to the grazing ranches in Roscommon, would it?—I cannot say about Roscommon.

52094. I am putting the point in reference to what are called the middle lands as distinguished from the finishing lands of Kildare, Meath, and so on. Would not the middle land in Ireland, which is at present under grass for cattle purposes, do perfectly well for tillage?—The middle land would do perfectly well for tillage. You do not want first-class land for tillage. Land from 15*s.* to 17*s.* the Irish acre is good enough for tillage purposes.

52095. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Then you consider generally that the grazing land of Ireland is an economical necessity, being a country where small farms predominate?—I do. I consider it is absolutely necessary.

52096. Now, referring to the Galloways, and the sort of cattle introduced by the Congested Districts Board, the object of that is to enable the small man to produce animals that will attract the highest price from the grazier?—Yes.

52097. And now, that having been the policy of the Board in the introduction of these animals, do I understand that it is your opinion that the abolition of the grazier and the grazing land would in effect render all those efforts futile?—Yes, it would kill them.

52098. From your point of view, the section of the population of Ireland most concerned in the grazing land is really the small holders?—Yes, it is.

52099. Mr. BRYCE.—But then, Mr. Burke, suppose that those middle lands were broken up, and that there was a great deal of tillage put upon them instead of keeping them entirely under grass, would not the green crop feeding which would result from that enable the small holder to carry his cattle on to a stage at which he could sell direct to the finisher, or to the man in England or Scotland instead of to the middleman, as he does at present, in Ireland?—They will not do that.

52100. How do you mean?—They will not hand-feed.

52101. They have not had a chance of hand-feeding. What is to prevent them from using green crops to feed their cattle to the point at which they could sell them to the Englishman or Scotchman or Meathman?—If it would pay, the small farmers would have been doing that for the last fifty years.

52102. But I understand some of them do it. We have had evidence in Mayo from men who are doing it now?—I do not know about Mayo, but I know in my district we are not doing it.

52103. CHAIRMAN.—But your district is Fermanagh, which is a dairy district?—But we have tillage, and I know Tyrone as well as I do Fermanagh, and Tyrone is an agricultural county. And we have as poor land in Fermanagh as any place; but we have good land.

52104. But in that district you want to get rid of your crops. You are thinking of dairying the whole time?—Oh, no; there is a lot of beef in Fermanagh; and there is tillage. Dairying is only a recent thing.

52104A. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Were not those middle-class grazing lands under tillage at one time?—They

Sept. 18, 1907.

Mr. Henry A. Burke.

were. You may say the whole country was under tillage at one time. They had to till to exist. There were no imports then from other places. There was nothing that we could depend on except the land. They had to till. It was a necessity. Now they have not to do it, because this foreign competition makes things so cheap now that it is not necessary to grow these things beyond what they actually want for their own use, such as potatoes. But as for growing crops for sale or feeding, they will not do it. It would not pay.

52105. In those days there was not the grazing system which you cling to so tenaciously now, was there?—No, but what became of them? They had no one to support them. They adapted themselves therefore to the circumstances, and they would do so again if the grazier was taken away to-morrow. But what became of all those tillage farmers? They disappeared when the potato crop failed. They could not depend on tillage.

52106. Mr. Bryce.—But we are told that a great many of those grazing lands are deteriorating so much that the people working them are no longer in a good financial position?—I believe land under grazing does not deteriorate; grazing does not deteriorate the land. That is my opinion. It is the natural way to graze land with cattle, and grazing does not deteriorate it.

52107. Mr. Kavanagh.—Would you say that of all grazing land?—Yes, of all grazing land, of land suitable for grazing. The land will not give the cattle more than it can afford, and the cattle give something to the land.

52108. Do you mean to tell me that all grass land can remain in grass and improve?—Yes, the soil will not deteriorate. I say the soil will not deteriorate. You can exhaust the soil by cultivation, by not keeping it properly manured, but if it is left out in grazing it will not deteriorate.

52109. Mr. Bryce.—It does not get properly manured then, either. It does not get enough manure?—No, it will not deteriorate by grazing; but by tillage you can exhaust the soil.

52110. But suppose you were to till a part and put manure into it on a proper system, you could get more out of the grass?—Yes; it is just like a horse—the better you feed it the better it will work.

52111. But your evidence is not to that effect?—I am talking about tillage.

52112. But I am talking of the additional manure you would put into it if you had part of the land under crops?—If you had it in tillage the more you would manure it the better.

52113. But I am talking of the additional manure you could give to the grazing land by having tillage on part of the land?—Suppose you were to break up part of your grazing ranch into tillage you would then get more manure to put on the part you were using for grazing. If you broke up part of your grazing land and tilled that part you would get more manure to put on the grazing part of the land than at present, and therefore you would prevent it from deteriorating. A farmer has only sufficient manure to let out in grass what he breaks up.

Mr. Peter J. O'Malley examined.

Mr. Peter J. O'Malley.

52114. Chairman.—Do you represent the Oughterard Union?—Yes. You are in the Oughterard Union here.

52115. And you are a member of the Co. Council?—Yes.

52116. What district do you represent?—Well, practically the Union. I appear on behalf of the County Council. There are other representatives of the Union to appear.

52117. What is your district?—The Union of Oughterard. I am Chairman of the District Council of Oughterard and Chairman of the Board of Guardians also.

52118. And where do you live?—I live about seven miles east of this place, at Maam. As I said before, I appear on behalf of the Galway County Council, of which I have been a member since the Local Government Act of 1898 came into operation, and Chairman of Oughterard District Council during the same period. I have been also a member of the Galway Technical Committee for the past three years. Oughterard Union has a valuation of £15,623, and comprises 3,914 holdings, 3,281 of which are under £5 valuation, and are occupied by 3,260 families.

52119. Sir John Colomb.—I make it 2,988 holdings?—This is an official return prepared by the Clerk of the Union that I am quoting from. I believe it was he that supplied the return which you have, through the Local Government Board.

52120. The total number of holdings given in this return is 2,988, but they are agricultural holdings?—Yes; the total number of ratings is 3,914. That is the number of separate ratings, and out of the 3,914 there are 3,281 valued at under £5.

52121. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—The great bulk are under £5?—Yes, the great bulk. If there were about forty large holdings taken out you would have them all under about £15. There are very few large holdings in this union. Then there are something about 3,200 families occupying this number of small holdings under £5; and I believe a dozen of these could not procure the barest necessaries of life from the land alone. In all, or nearly all, cases the people are largely dependent on their friends in America or England. In the Electoral Divisions of Gorumna, Lettermore, Crumpaun, Comus, and Turlough a good deal of money was made out of kelp, but of late years this industry has been almost a total failure. Another source of income in these divisions was the cutting and saving of turf, which was sold in Galway, Kinvara, Clare, and Aran, but now in these divisions, especially Turlough, Gorumna, Lettermore, and Crumpaun, the bogs are nearly exhausted, and unless some alternative is provided, I see nothing for it but starvation or the workhouse. In the divisions of Curr, Cong, Clonbur, Ross, Letterbrickaun, and Kilcummin the people are not altogether so plentiful as in those mentioned, but without the American and English cheques I don't know how most of them could live. Letterfore, Oughterard, and Wormhole are much the same. There are a few grass farms scattered here and there, notably in the divisions of Ross, Curr, Letterbrickaun, Letterfore, Oughterard, and Wormhole let to graziers, which, if divided, would relieve a few, and only a few, of the congested tenants in the neighbourhood of each farm. These farms in most cases were occupied by tenants in former times who were obliged to leave through unscrupulous rack-renting landlords, or turned out to die or starve by the roadside to satisfy the greed of some covetous neighbour, who wanted room for his sheep or bullocks. In some instances whole villages were cleared at the whims of these tyrants, especially if the land was any good. The Congested Districts Board have purchased no land in this union, except the townlands of Tumneenaun, near Clonbur, and Glannagivlagh and part of Letterbrickaun, near Leenane. There has been no lands as yet bought under the Land Act of 1903. The only other lands purchased are parts of the Birridge Estate in the division of Turlough, sold at 10½ years' purchase, and in Letterbrickaun Division, sold at sixteen years' purchase; also the townland of Shanaforahane, on the Kilmaine Estate, sold at fourteen years' purchase—all under the Ashbourne Act. None of the other landlords seem inclined to sell, except at prices which the tenants could not give, all, I believe, because they got their rents in too easily. Since the Connemara tenant found that he has an interest in his land he tries to pay his rent, no matter what his other debts may do, and invariably lives on the shopkeeper to pay the landlord. The Parish Committees are doing some good where the Local Committees have paid proper attention to the work, but the grants are too small, and often the persons having charge of them take no real interest in the business.

52122. Chairman.—There is one remark you have made which rather struck me. You say the tenant invariably lives on or gets credit from the shopkeeper and pays the landlord. Do you mean that the tenant borrows money from the shopkeeper to pay the landlord?—He gets credit for his food-stuff from the shopkeeper, and with the money he makes by his labour he pays the rent.

52123. You do not mean that he actually borrows from the shopkeeper?—No.

52124. To pay the rent he keeps the ready money which would otherwise be spent in the shop?—Yes.

52125. He gets all his necessaries from the shop on credit?—Exactly. In my opinion, shopkeepers who are Guardians, District or County Councillors, should be on the Local Committees, because no man knows the means of the people better than the shopkeeper, and no man is more anxious for their betterment, since the more prosperous the people are the more the shopkeeper's trade is likely to improve.

52126. Do you mean that shopkeepers should act on the Parish Committees?—Yes. They are debarred at present from acting on the Parish Committees by some rule of the Congested Districts Board.

52127. Mr. O'Kelly.—District Councillors are debarred when they are shopkeepers?—District Councillors are debarred whether shopkeepers or not.

52128. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—They are disqualified if they be shopkeepers; otherwise not?—That is what I mean.

52129. Sir John Colomb.—Are you a farmer yourself?—In a small way.

52130. You are mainly a shopkeeper?—Mainly a shopkeeper.

52131. Have you got a spirit licence?—No.

52132. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—If a District Councillor be not a shopkeeper he is, *ex officio*, a member of the Parish Committee?—Yes; but if he is a shopkeeper he is more acquainted with the means of the people than the other persons who are members of the Parish Committee, and I believe it would be more logical to have him on the Parish Committee than anybody else.

52133. Sir John Colomb.—And, at the same time, he is more interested in getting the money distributed?—If he is an honest man he knows the person who deserves to get a grant more than anybody else.

52133A. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—He would not like to be a party to giving an order to his own shop?—If you objected to that part of it, I would adopt the same rule that there is adopted with regard to outdoor relief presently.

52134. Would not you think that that was probably the reason why shopkeepers were disqualified?—I do not think it was the reason at all, but that could be got over.

52135. Of course what you say is very true—that they do not know the people very well?—Yes; but I would prevent him from having any share in the profit of the money expended, in the same way as outdoor relief is guarded presently. A guardian now who is a shopkeeper cannot take money for outdoor relief, and I would apply the same rule in the case of Parish Committees. As a rule one small farmer who has enough to do for himself troubles very little about his neighbour; and in most cases where the priest does not interest himself the Parish Committee is generally a failure.

52136. Sir John Colomb.—May not the shopkeeper have as much as he can do at home, and therefore very little view of his neighbour, except to get his money?—He has an interest in this way, that the better off the people the better off the shopkeeper trade is likely to be, and therefore he has an interest in the welfare of the people, whereas another man has not, unless he happens to be a philanthropist.

52137. He has an interest in putting money into his own pocket?—Well, practically it amounts to that. It would be selfish benevolence.

52138. Mr. Bryce.—Would not there be this danger, that the shopkeeper might procure the giving of loans to the people in his debt, in order to get paid himself?—But you would have a number of other members on the Committee to steady him on that point.

52139. They could not always tell what his relations were to his customers?—They could not.

52140. And suppose he was an active and energetic man, do you not think he would be able to work it round in that way?—Well, my contention is that if he was an honest man he would do the work conscientiously.

52141. Yes; but you have to legislate for the dishonest as well as the honest?—Yes.

52142. Chairman.—As a matter of fact, does a grant to an individual from the Parish Committee work in that way—is not the grant only made when the man has done certain work to his house, or according to the specifications, and under the approval of the supervisor?—Of the supervisor.

52143. Would it be possible then in the case Mr. Bryce has sketched, that an individual should get a sum of money which is not already pledged, and which he could make use of to pay the shopkeeper with?—Yes.

52144. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—But would it not be possible for the difficulty to arise in another way, because it is not to be supposed that all applicants will get grants. Some applicants for grants must be selected?

Chairman.—But they get their grants for certain work.

Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—This is the method at the start, out of all the applicants some are selected to qualify by their work for the money grants. I think Mr. Bryce's difficulty would come in in selecting out of the applicants those who were to get a chance of qualifying for those money grants.

52146. Chairman.—But would there be any self-interest on the part of the shopkeeper in the selection at all?

Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Mr. Bryce's point is that the shopkeeper would naturally be interested in getting his own customer forward amongst the successful applicants.

Chairman.—Because he thinks that a man in that way would get a sum of money with which he might repay his debt to the shop. But would he, as a matter of fact, get a sum of money which he could devote to that purpose, even supposing that by the influence of the shopkeeper the man finally selected was one of his best customers, or someone most in debt to him, would not the money given to him be allocated for certain work, and not be free to be utilised in the interest of the shopkeeper?

52149. Mr. Bryce.—But it would set free a certain amount of money which he might otherwise use for that work?—Supposing a man had determined to improve his house, and was going to do it in some way or other, and got money from the Parish Committee. If he did not get it from the Parish Committee he might have put his money into that improvement himself without giving it to the shopkeeper.

Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—But, apart from that altogether, it might put him in a position to confer a favour on his customer.

52151. Sir John Colomb.—Is not it the case that the principle on which the Parish Committees work is this, that when they have selected their man he does his own labour, and the man gets a grant for the provision of materials?—Yes.

52152. And therefore a shopkeeper might have a collusive interest as to where he is going to get his materials?—He might.

52153. Chairman.—Your point is that he would bar them from the use of materials coming from the shop?—Yes; I would have it in such a way that it could not be supplied, under a penalty, in the same way as the present shopkeepers who are Guardians are prevented.

52154. Sir John Colomb.—A shopkeeper being on the Parish Committee, no improving tenant getting a grant from the Committee could go to that shop?—Yes; he should go somewhere else.

52155. Then that would really put the shopkeeper who was on the Parish Committee out of supplying any materials to the people benefited?—Yes, exactly.

52156. Mr. Bryce.—But could not that be got over collusively, for there was plenty of evidence in the West Ham inquiry in England that that kind of difficulty was got over by collusion?—Well, we are not as well up here as in England.

52157. Sir John Colomb.—We are quite as well up as any other people in the world?—No; I do not think we could touch the West Ham people with a forty-foot pole.

52158. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—There was one question I was anxious to put to you. You say the small man has not much interest in his neighbour. Suppose that is the case; would it not be a useful public service to try and make grow that interest in his neighbour?—It would if you could do it, but in this end of the parish for the last two or three years there has been no Committee at all, and I believe if some of us who are members of District Councils were allowed to be members of the Committee we would try to cultivate it.

Sept. 18, 1907.

Mr. Peter J O'Malley.

52159. It is a good system that would bring people together and enable them to get rid of the suspiciousness that they sometimes have of one another?—Yes, but you would want somebody to whip them in and get them into the work.

52160. Unless the parish priest takes an interest it is difficult?—That is what I say. Unless the priest takes an interest in it it is difficult to manage. The Congested Districts Board have done a good deal of useful and beneficent work where they have established lace schools, and in my opinion if permanent schools of this sort were established in other parts of the Union, such as Oughterard, Killannin, Cornamona, Clonbur, Cloughbrock, Maam, Leenane, and Shanaforabane they would do an immensity of good. The Congested Districts Board have done some good towards improving the breeds of cattle in the Union; but they have done, I fear, irreparable damage to the beautiful Connemara ponies of the district by the wholesale introduction of a worthless class of stallions, and unless they take up the question of reviving and preserving the breeds of Connemara ponies, soon and energetically, that rare and valuable class of horses will become wholly extinct.

52161. CHAIRMAN.—Is not that rather a matter that belongs to the new Department rather than to the Congested Districts Board. I suppose the Congested Districts Board have nothing to do with it?—Yes, they have; it is a congested Union.

52162. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—They introduced the hackneys originally?—Yes, they introduced these hackney stallions.

52163. CHAIRMAN.—But you suggest that the Congested Districts Board should take certain action. That is not a matter for the Congested Districts Board?—Yes; I should have said the Agricultural Department. Then about lace schools; that is a question that I think is very important, especially where there are large classes and population. There are instances where girls are saving a pound a week and housekeeping for their fathers and brothers besides. There should be lace schools in every place where there was a reasonably average class got up, for instance thirty or forty girls.

52164. That is all very fine, but I suppose a lace school has to bear some relation to the demand for lace?—I understand that.

51265. You remember what happened a year or two ago?—Yes, when it was not easy to sell it.

52166. Whenever there was a shortage of work in the existing lace schools and they had to shut down all the schools for a time?—Yes; but if there were other branches of industry similarly introduced to supplement them and keep them going, I am sure it would be good.

52167. But as regards lace; if there is a limited demand for lace there must be a limited number of schools established?—Yes; but I do not confine myself to lace alone. It is only the principle of the lace school.

52168. You mean cottage industries?—Cottage industries; they cannot get too much encouragement.

52169. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Do those girls emigrate?—They do not. As a matter of fact I know some of those girls that have saved up in a few years more money than girls who go to America and return and pretend to have a lot of money.

52170. It does not tend to emigration?—It prevents emigration.

52171. Do you think when they get money at the lace-making they go to America the sooner?—I do not.

52172. Mr. BRYCE.—On the contrary?—On the contrary. They are enabled to live at home, then, much more comfortably than they could in America.

52173. Mr. O'KELLY.—Do you think that remark applies to places outside Connemara?—My experience is not outside Connemara.

52174. I am afraid that your remarks do not apply outside Connemara?—I am only speaking about what I know. The Agricultural Department have done some good in parts of the union where they assisted the people in getting new seed potatoes, new seed oats, spraying machines and material, at cost price, but they should extend their operations to the whole union, since the people themselves have to pay cash for anything given them, while the poor man, who has no cash to pay, gains no benefit, though his case is the most deserving. Where the agricultural instructors went round to supply the people with spraying materials, and with seed oats, and seed potatoes, they could not supply it to anybody except to a man who was able to pay them cash down for it, and in that way it is often the man that least requires it gets it, and the man who cannot afford to pay for it on the spot generally gets none at all.

52175. CHAIRMAN.—And how would you get out of that?—I think they might give them some time to pay it back, in the same way as seed potatoes are paid for when they are given out by the unions.

52176. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you not think that that might be worked by the Parish Committees?—Yes, that would be a better way still.

52177. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Lending them out the machines?—Yes, and doing the whole of it, because Local Committees are by far the best.

52178. CHAIRMAN.—Have you found that in Connemara there is a great disposition not to spray, and that they are not spraying?—No, I have not. I am sure you might meet one perhaps in ten who does not believe in the spraying, but nine-tenths of the people certainly are confident that there is a great deal of good to be derived from it.

52179. Is it not your experience that there are many people who are so short of ready money that they will not or cannot afford to buy the necessary materials for spraying?—Oh, I know that well.

52180. And that the result of that is that they will not spray?—Some of them will not spray unless they can get it on credit.

52181. And, also, is it not your experience that a good deal of the spraying material is put on with a brush, and not with a machine?—It is. It is a common thing to put it on with a bit of heather or with a sweeping brush.

52182. So it is not nearly so effective?—Oh, no, it is not put on properly; and it is not put properly under the leaf at all.

52183. Mr. KAVANAGH.—I suppose it is better than nothing?—It is better than nothing.

52184. CHAIRMAN.—But it is a waste of good materials?—Yes.

52185. Mr. BRYCE.—Is the material always good?—Oh, well, there is a guarantee with every parcel of it now. The Agricultural Instructor's stuff which is given by the Department is genuine; and in cases where there is any of it sold throughout the country, and there is a specimen sent away for analysis, if it is found to have been adulterated, they are liable to prosecution, and there is a heavy penalty.

52186. Do you not think it would be a good thing if the Government undertook a system of inspection of the materials?—There is a new Act to that effect, and anywhere manures are found ineffective and not up to the guarantee the party that sells the manure is liable to a heavy penalty.

52187. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You are sure that Act applies to Ireland?—I am nearly sure of it, and I have known samples of it taken up and sent away with a view to prosecution in case there would be any defects in the seeds.

52188. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Sometimes shopkeepers keep spraying materials and lend out spraying machines, at least to their customers?—Some of them do that.

52189. That is a good system?—It is very good, but it is not easy to get them to do it.

52190. It will not reach the very poorest people that require assistance?—There is a danger that it will not, because a shopkeeper will probably give it to the best customer.

52191. Mr. BRYCE.—Take this case. A poor man finds that the material is bad. The shopkeeper, of course, will be able to find it out if he wants to; but suppose the shopkeeper does not find it out and that the customer finds it out, if the customer is a poor man—a small man—will he take the trouble, or will he know that he can start a prosecution, or could he start a prosecution?—Some of them know it; but the Department's Inspectors, who go round instructing the people here, generally take samples. I understand they do, at all events. I have not seen them do it, but I am told they do, and the public analyst for the county will analyse it, or the Department themselves would examine it free of charge.

52192. The Department's Inspectors are not in sufficient number to penetrate everywhere into places where bad material is being supplied. Do you not think that a better plan would be, in order to have a better guarantee of the quality, that there should

be a Government inspection generally over the country with regard to materials offered for sale?—Yes; if there were such a general inspection here and there and wherever there were any defective materials found, then a prosecution to follow; that would prevent the whole thing. Of course the manufacturer who sent it to the trader may be at fault. I do not think the trader can be at fault, because he does not know how to mix it together, but he must rely on the sulphate of copper that has come from any respectable firm.

52193. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Why do not the local shopkeepers make the mixture themselves?—They did, but the Department's officers in this part of the country sold it cheaper, and nobody came to the shopkeepers for it except those who did not apply for it in time to the Department or who were not able to pay for it. That is my experience; because I got some myself and I sent it out, and when I had to send for more I advised them all to send to the Department's inspector, because it was carriage paid for him, and I had to pay carriage myself.

52194. CHAIRMAN.—What about the land available in the union?—The land available in the union is entirely inadequate to give anything like an economic holding to each family under any system of re-adjustment. If the union were divided into £10 holdings, and a holding given to each family, 1,680 families, or 8,400 persons, or considerably more than half the population of the union, should be removed, which is a proceeding I would not advise in its entirety, and which I do not think could be easily carried out, because it would be difficult to get families to migrate, and practically impossible to get them a cordial reception in the locality they would migrate to.

52195. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You are speaking simply of migration from one union to another when you say it would be difficult to get migrants to live in an adjoining union?—It would not be easy, but I will suggest a way. The proper way, I think, to meet the whole question is to have the whole of Connaught purchased compulsorily by the Congested Districts Board or Estates Commissioners on terms just and equitable to all concerned. The land should be so adjusted that the persons living near the rich grazing farms should be supplied first, and in the adjustment arrangements could be made so that large farms of one or more townlands adjoining would be vacant together in one large tract, to be divided into economic holdings to the number of, say, forty, fifty, or one hundred, as the case may be, but the more the better. I would take from the thickly-populated congested districts forty, fifty, or one hundred families from adjoining townlands, relatives, and connections, so far as possible, but neighbours, at all events, and I would place them in possession each of one of these economic holdings, and supply them with capital where necessary to start with.

52196. CHAIRMAN.—Really your plan is migration, but it is migration of groups rather than of individuals?—It is difficult to send individuals into strange parts up the country. For instance, if you have a number of men to send from this union, and if you change them singly, the chances are that they will not be received by the parties above; but if you manage to have a large tract—what I mean is that in the adjustment of a great area—if you have a large tract and send a colony of forty or fifty or one hundred, as the case may be, they will be practically neighbours as they were before, and they will be a colony in this district, and after a time, by degrees, later on, they will mix with the other people and settle down.

52197. Mr. BRYCE.—Do you think that the objection of the other people would be diminished if you brought fifty families instead of one?—Oh, if there were only one that one would be likely to run back again, but the fifty would remain.

52198. They would protect each other?—They would. They would be company for each other.

52199. Would not that start a new Donnybrook Fair?—No, because you would have plenty of land.

52200. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Your suggestion is that you should have a big tract of land?—I believe that you should take the whole of Connaught and map out the land.

52201. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You have used this expression: that the land should be so adjusted that the persons living near the rich grazing farms should be supplied first?—Yes.

52202. Now, by persons do you mean those who are occupying uneconomical holdings?—Exactly.

52203. And you would not give a preference to farmer's sons or other people, but relieve congestion first?—I would relieve congestion first.

52204. You are distinct upon that?—I am distinct upon that. I would make the present uneconomic holdings economic.

52205. Mr. BRYCE.—But take the people along the seashore, are they capable of migration?—They are. There is not a hardier or more industrious people on the face of the globe, if they got facilities, than those men.

52206. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Have they got the farming experience necessary?—I think they would not be long learning it. I never met one of them that got a piece of land who did not make a living out of it; and they get on well as a rule.

52207. Mr. O'KELLY.—Do you agree with the evidence of Mr. Burke?—I am not sure.

52208. He said it would take generations to teach these people if they were to migrate to Roscommon?—I do not think it at all. There is no doubt they would learn it very quickly.

52209. CHAIRMAN.—They are hard-working?—Yes.

52210. And the sort of crops they grow now they would continue to grow on better land. Better crops, but the same sort of crops?—Yes; and they would be better off. They would become more extensive.

52211. And if you were to put them on better land, on that better land they would grow their oats, potatoes, and other things?—Yes.

52212. They would work as they are doing now on the poor land?—They would not be importing anything into the form of farming. They would get the same amount of trouble from the good land, but they would have a ten-fold return.

52213. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—And would you say that, after moving this colony and settling it down on the good land, you might probably go one step more and send down agricultural instructors to live among them, and, by example, to teach how the land should be treated?—Yes. They could introduce new and more modern methods, and it would not take them very long at all to pick it up when they would see them in their midst going to reap all the benefits.

52214. CHAIRMAN.—How about capital?—I believe you should capitalise them.

52215. In what way?—First and foremost you should build houses for them, and buy a cow or two for each family.

52216. You would not present them with the cow?—They should buy it.

52217. By means of a loan?—A cheap loan.

52218. Do you imagine that if these people, or some of them, were to move they would be able to screw out a little capital themselves?—Some might, and others might not.

52219. Do you think that a great many of them have got relatives and friends in America?—They have.

52220. Supposing that important point of their lives was reached when they were to be put on better farms in the grazing county, in the East of Galway, or, say, Roscommon; do you think it would be possible for them to appeal to their friends in America to make a special effort to provide them with the little capital necessary for that?—I believe they would help in a good many cases, but not, perhaps, in all.

52221. But in a good many cases would not they help?—I am certain they would.

52222. It would be possible—would not it—to get their friends to make a little effort?—That would be possible, quite possible. Oh, yes, it would, and I believe a good deal of them would do that. I am certain they would.

52223. Mr. KAVANAGH.—I suppose they all have a little stock themselves?—Well, they all have got a little stock along the seacoast, but in the greater part of the union nearly everybody has a cow or two. But along the seacoast in Rosmuck, Lettermore, and so on, you will meet plenty of people that have not a cow or sheep or anything.

52224. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—In those districts where would the children get the milk from?—You would not know. I believe that many of them do not drink any milk, except they get it from the mother, till they are weaned off. I believe they do not. They drink black tea. I have known them do it.

Sept. 18, 1907.

Mr. Peter J. O'Malley.

52225. Are these infants?—Well, children from a year up. That is true. There are children down there that never saw milk.

52226. Mr. BRYCE.—I believe we came across one family like that?—If I were with you in the South I would bring you into many houses where there is not a drop of milk seen from year to year, nor a bit of meat eaten for five years.

52227. CHAIRMAN.—There is one point of your plan which I would like to ask you about. You say that you ought to move groups of people for the reasons you have given us. But it would not be absolutely necessary to move in every case people who happen to live actually next to each other?—Oh, no, I would not do that.

52228. Your point would e be met, would it not, so long as the migrants all came from the same district?—From the same locality.

52229. And knew each other?—Exactly; acquaintances.

52230. Because, of course, if you were to bring everybody from one particular district, all neighbours, you would clear that district altogether?—But I would not do that at all.

52231. And that would make re-distribution much more difficult?—I would not take them wholesale in that way from about any certain point where the people were all acquainted with one another. That would never do, and when the migration was carried out the Department of Agriculture would find useful work in teaching agriculture to the migrants under different circumstances to those they had left. In this way only do I believe can migration be successfully effected at all.

52232. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Would you in that way, by not taking everybody out of a locality, secure the advantage of making a little selection of the migrants?—I would not do it wholesale at all, but one or two here and there throughout the locality—people who were acquainted with one another.

52233. And those people, coming to a new country, would have a great advantage if there were strength of labour in the family?—Yes.

52234. Would you like to move families strong for labour?—Yes; I would rather leave a party who was not able to work after me, and migrate the other who was strong and accustomed to labour. I would try and have the labour at all events. You must have the strength.

52235. Would you try to secure that those migrants should have the advantage both of labour and industry?—I would. I would certainly try that. I would not go without it. Besides migration there are numerous ways by which the condition of the people can be very materially improved. In Gorumna, Lettermore, and Crumpaun the fishing industry is capable of extensive development, and would, with very little assistance, develop itself. If there were a pier and curing station at Kiggaul Bay the islanders of Lettermullen and Gorumna, who are a hardy, industrious people, would gladly avail themselves of the fishery, because all their takings would mean clear profit, as they could in rough weather attend to their little farms at home; while under the present arrangement they have to go to Aran or Roundstone, and in rough weather live there, under expense which very often exceeds their earnings. In order to grapple with this question properly a substantial pier should be erected at Lettermullen. The Congested Districts Board should supply five up-to-date fishing boats, and with them send two competent instructors. The boats could be manned by the islanders, and the instructors could teach them the most approved methods of fishing, curing, net-mending, etc. A shed or store should be built at the pier, where the instructors could reside, where the fishing gear could be stored and where curing, net-mending, drying, etc., could be carried on. In this way a large number of persons would get employment, and the five boats and their crews could be profitably engaged all the year round, between the spring mackerel fishing, the summer and autumn herring fishing, and conger eel fishing in winter. Another small pier is much required at Trabone, as the present landing-place there is both dangerous and useless, and of little or no value to the people of Trabone, who are dependent to a great extent on fishing for their subsistence, and who are about the hardiest and most persistent fishermen along the western seaboard of Galway. In fact it is a shame to see how these unfortunate men are handicapped for want of facilities, which the Congested Districts Board could so easily afford, yet they still persevere, and sometimes earn a few pounds, now and then, as a result of their persistence.

52236. Mr. BRYCE.—You are aware that the Congested Districts Board has attempted, at various times, and spent a great deal, and lost a great deal of money in trying to make a good fishery at that place. They built a good many boats, and they have lost thousands of pounds over that?—Yes; but the difficulty was that the fishermen who manned those boats had to go to Aran and Roundstone, and when the weather became rough they had to live there. If there were two or three weeks of rough weather they would have to live there for the two or three weeks on account of the rough weather.

52237. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—We were told that they were willing to fish till the turf season came, and then they dropped the fish for the turf?—There is no turf about Lettermore at all, and a great deal of the turf in Gorumna is exhausted.

52238. CHAIRMAN.—But there is a great deal of turf on the seaside?—Yes; but that would only employ a few.

52239. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You seem to have the impression strongly that if there was good harbour accommodation those men would turn out steady fishermen?—I believe it. I am quite positive of it, because I believe the material to make good fishermen is there. I believe that if it were handled properly, so that the people could live at their own homes when they are not fishing, they would certainly take to it. And most anxious they are.

52240. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Surely the experience of all maritime fishing countries is this, that the primary condition of success is that the fisherman follows the fish wherever the fish are to be found?—Yes; but nearly all these people have little farms, and they do not care to leave this place altogether. The Irishman has a sentimental feeling for his own place.

52241. And that militates against, and is adverse to, the creation of a real fishing industry, because the success of the fishing industry means that people taking to fishing look on the fish as their objective, and follow the fish, and do not go back to their homes till the close of the season?—I do not want them to live entirely on the fishing.

52242. But in order to succeed as fishermen they must devote themselves to the fishing and follow the fish?—I know that to succeed as a fisherman you must be a fisherman.

52243. Mr. BRYCE.—Do you think that although a great deal has been spent in the way of facilities, and although the people have not yet got into the way of following the fish, they may do so in time?—I believe that. I believe in time they would follow the fish.

54244. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You aim at the initial process?—I aim at the beginning. This Union is very rich in minerals, notably the divisions of Curr, Letterfore, Crumpaun, Kilcummin, Oughterard, and Cong, and there is no question of doubt, with the fostering care of a friendly Government, there are mines in these divisions capable of being profitably developed, with modern machinery and appliances, so as to give employment to thousands of persons, and the Congested Districts Board, after acquiring the estates, should hand them over to the Department of Agriculture, which Department should, in turn, be compelled to give each mine careful attention, and have it thoroughly tested. The profits made on minerals should go to reduce the premiums on the estate.

52245. CHAIRMAN.—When an estate is sold now, the mineral rights are reserved to the Land Commission, as a matter of fact?—I believe so. There is a mine being tested presently convenient to where I live.

52246. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—By whom?—I could not exactly tell you. There is a gentleman named Bacon at the head of it. I think they are more prospectors than anything else. But from what I can hear from those who profess to know, it is turning out very rich in silver and lead; and I believe there are plenty of other mines, too, around the county, that the Board might handle in the same way. In the Union there are thousands of acres of bog and worthless mountain which, if planted, would, in time, produce an excellent crop of timber and become a valuable asset, the

rofits, also, of which should go to reduce the pre-iums. Another matter which the Congested Dis-ricts Board should take in hands immediately is the nishing of a few important roads and bridges which re now, in their present state, useless, and which ould, if finished, be of great and lasting benefit to opulous centres, as well as giving a good deal of ery much needed employment during their construc-ion:—(A) The Maumeen, between Maam and Re-ss, two miles of which is made on the Recess side, nd about three and a half miles which requires to be ade between Curr and Derryveelamaama. This road ould mean at least a short cut of eight miles to the raveller going from Mayo to Clifden, Roundstone, ashel, Carna, etc., and considerably improve the arkets and fairs held at these places, as the greater art of the store cattle reared in Connemara are ought by farmers from Mayo.

52247. CHAIRMAN.—You say there is a partially-ade road between Maam and Recess?—There is.

52248. How much of it has been done?—There are bout two miles of it made, from Recess to the foot f Maam—a new road constructed within the last two ears.

52249. Who started that work?—The Congested Districts Board and the Clifden District Council. The Congested Districts Board gave £300, and the Clifden District Council £300 more.

52250. Are they proceeding with that road?—No; hey would not go any further.

52251. They have abandoned it?—They have.

52252. Was there any undertaking given by the District Council that they would finish it?—No, nor y anybody. And the greater part of the remainder f the way is in the Oughterard Union—about three-ourths; and the remaining fourth is in the Clifden Union; and neither of the two unions would under-ake to do it without the Congested Districts Board, ecause the rates are high.

52253. You say the Board have already given £300?—The Clifden District Council gave £300.

52254. To the Board?—It was the Board that gave he money to the Clifden District Council. The Clif-len District Council got the road constructed.

52255. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—And between them they were only able to push the road portion of the distance?—About a third of it is built.

52256. CHAIRMAN.—Then the £300 given by the Board has become wasted?—Not so.

52257. How?—There are people living along the foot of the hill, and I would not say it is wasted.

52258. Mr. O'KELLY.—What are your rates here?—The poor rate here is 3*s.* 2*d.*

52259. On land?—On land.

52260. And on buildings?—5*s.* or 5*s.* 4*d.* on build-ings.

52261. Do you think 3*s.* 2*d.* on land is high?—It is high enough.

52262. Do you think it is very high?—I would think it is.

52263. Was it ever higher?—It was a little higher last year, but never before since the Act of 1898 passed.

52264. CHAIRMAN.—You gave us one illustration. What is the next?—The next is (B), Dunmanus Pass, between the parishes of Rossmuck and Carraroe and Spiddal, which would be of enormous advantage to the inhabitants of these parishes attending fairs and markets, schools and churches, and last, but not least, the priests and doctors attending urgent calls. The latter in many instances could save an immensity of pain and suffering and often perhaps life itself if this pass were bridged, as the distance across would occupy only minutes, while the present round by Scrube takes hours.

52265. That involves a bridge over the estuary?—Yes, at Rossmuck. The Congested Districts Board brought the road there, I think, to the end of where the bridge is required; but the bridge is not done, and the usefulness of the road remains. Then I have to mention (C)—The Cloosh road leading from Costelloe to Oughterard, both ends of which were made by relief works, while three or four miles in the centre were never finished. This road would considerably benefit the people living round Costelloe Bay, and open up a ready market at Oughterard for fish, sea sand, etc., in exchange for seed potatoes, seed oats, and other necessaries not procurable along their own sea-coast.

52266. Who constructed that road?—I am not quite clear. It was built before my time, for relief purposes; and it was never finished. It was finished from Oughterard to a few miles of Leenane, and from Costello about three or four miles also.

52267. Do you know anything about the roads here?—I do.

52268. Do you know is the Ballinakill District in this union?—No; Ballinakill is in Clifden Union.

52269. And Letterfrack is in Clifden Union?—Yes.

52270. Then there is a district called Barnanockam?—That is in Clifden Union also.

52271. Mr. BRYCE.—There was an old road to Recess?—There was, across where I am speaking about.

52272. That would shorten the distance considerably from Leenane?—It would.

52273. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—How much of the Cloosh road remains unmade?—I think about four or five miles, but I could not tell you accurately. Another matter of far-reaching importance to the large population living round the shores of Lough Corrib is the development of the Lough Corrib fishery. In the first instance, the fishery of Lough Corrib, its outlets, and its tributaries should be taken over by the Department of Agriculture compulsorily if necessary, or in other words the present lessee—Mr. Hallett—should be expropriated, as it is considered he is not treating the lake fairly in holding the fish back at Galway. A hatchery for white trout should be established and the lake thrown open for free fishing, with the exception of a nominal fee to defray working expenses. In this way thousands of anglers from all parts would be attracted annually to Lough Corrib, which was sure to become in a few years probably the best free fishing in Europe. Thousands of boatmen, fishermen, and car-drivers would be employed at good wages; every available particle of hotel accommodation round the lake would be availed of, and large quantities of money put in circulation which is now spent in other more favoured places.

52274. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Then am I to conclude this, that you regard the preservation and increase of game and fish as a very important thing in the national interests of Ireland?—I believe it would be very important.

52275. You consider it a means of circulating money and in various ways developing national resources, and therefore I ask you, because it is a most important question, whether you regard the preservation and improvement of game and fishing in Ireland as of national importance to the Irish people?—Of vital importance. That is my opinion.

52276. CHAIRMAN.—Have you ever heard of the Congested Districts Board doing anything to improve the national fisheries?—They do a little. They gave a little grant, I think £20, to improve Lough Corrib; and the lough is improved, with the result that I am told that about £10,000 was spent last year by tourists round the shores of the lough.

52277. Then I take it from that that your view is that it is almost as much the duty of the Congested Districts Board to improve, if they can, the inland fisheries as the marine fisheries?—I think it would be in cases of that sort, where there is free fishing.

52278. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You consider that the preservation of sport is of vital interest to the nation?—I do. I think it would be well for the Department of Agriculture to take up and develop the fisheries. They are inclined to help us to do a little lately. It is certain that the improvement of the fishing of Lough Corrib would be the means of bringing thousands of pounds into the district.

52279. CHAIRMAN.—There is one point that you mentioned a little while ago which I think is important. I think you said that there should be a representative of the counties on the Congested Districts Board?—Yes, I think there should be. I think the Congested Districts Board, as at present constituted, is not representative enough. My idea is that the members of the Board are not sufficiently acquainted with all the ins and out of the congested districts, and I believe that a representative from at least each congested county should be on the Board, appointed by the County Council.

52280. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—How would you secure that?—By election. I would have a representative appointed by the County Council of each county.

52280A. And for what period would you appoint him?—For a period of three years; the same as the County Council themselves.

Sept. 18, 1907.

Mr. Peter J. O'Malley.

52281. Do you not think that there would be a danger, if there was a representative of a county or of a County Council on the Board, that his whole aim would be more or less limited to the interests of his own county, and, though he would be a member of a Board that should deal with the whole national problem of congestion, would not the whole question resolve itself for him into one of getting all the money he could into his own particular county?—Yes. That would be the case all the world over; but when these people met they would be equally balanced.

52282. Do you think the Congested Districts Board would be able to do as much as it has done, or do you think the Congested Districts Board would have been more successful if there had been on that Board representatives of different localities instead of nominated independent men looking at the problem as a whole?—I believe it would be necessary to have men acquainted with the different localities.

52283. Do you not think, at the same time, that in a work of this sort it is very necessary that the constitution of the members of the Board should be above all those incidental influences of politics and parties and all the rest of it?—Well, you cannot avoid influences sometimes, but I think they would be balanced by the opinions of the members of the Board. One man need not necessarily domineer over the Board. He could not have all the weight, or act without the consent of the majority.

52284. But would not the effect of his being a representative of his locality be that you would not get continuity of policy and representation, because at the end of the three years another man may present himself as a candidate and say, our late representative has not got us any money, but I will if you put me in, and would not that interfere with the continuity of the policy of the Congested Districts Board?—I do not think it would. If the man did his work satisfactorily of course he would be sent there again.

52285. CHAIRMAN.—Would not you be inclined to think that the period of nomination should be longer than three years?—I would not. I think that the nomination should be left in the hands of the County Council, by a majority, on the same principle that they go themselves.

52286. The only thing is that it would take a man some time to learn his work on the Board, and just as he was getting into his work he might be superseded by somebody else, and that does not make for efficiency, does it?—Well, not so well; but still three years would be a good deal, and the other experienced members of the Board might put him right.

52287. But a good many members of the Board might not be more experienced than he was?—The present members might. I mean in addition to the present members.

52288. Would you see any objection to six years?—The difficulty would be that the present County Council is for three years, and the men on the old Council might not be elected again, and the new Council might hold a lash over him.

52289. So long as he held a seat on the Council would you let him be appointed a member of the Board for six years, so that if he lost his seat on the Council he might remain a member?—In that case I would have no objection to keep him on for six years.

52290. If you happened to have a man in your district who did not happen to be a member of the Council, do you not think they might nominate him?—Such a man might be elected, and I believe you will get plenty of superior men.

52291. Then the lash would disappear?—I mean that the man sent to represent the County Council as a member of the Congested Districts Board should be elected a member of the County Council.

52292. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Elected by that body, but not necessarily of that body?—Not necessarily on that body. I would not have him necessarily on the body, because you may get plenty of more capable men outside.

52293. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Supposing that the County Council thinks that there is a man most competent to act for the county on the Congested Districts Board, and that this man is not a member of the County Council?—Yes.

52294. Would you in that case limit the term of office to three years?—I would, because if he continued competent he would be returned again.

52295. And his competency would be judged by the amount of money that he brought into the place?—Well, not necessarily. It would depend on how he discharged his duties.

52296. Then you differ from most human beings in this country?—Well, I have my own views. I do not believe in throwing away money on worthless objects.

52297. But I put it to you that men, being constituted as they are, would judge the representative, not by what work he had done, but by how much money he got for his country or what job he did?—I am sure the other members of the Board would not allow him to do jobs.

52298. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Does the County Council vary much from one period of three years to another?—Not so far.

52299. Would it be likely that if the County Council nominated a man not a member of the Council to be a member of the Congested Districts Board, the new County Council, returned perhaps three years hence, would also nominate him?—I am sure they would, unless they found him incompetent.

52300. You see the advantage of leaving a man for a considerable period at the work?—I do. That is certainly a great advantage.

Rev. JOHN FLATLEY examined.

Rev. John Flatley.

52301. CHAIRMAN.—I understand that you are now in Clare Island?—Yes.

52302. But you have been for many years stationed along the coast?—Yes; I have been in this district, and I have served in nine parishes along the coast, in the diocese of Tuam, from Spiddal to Achill. That gave me an exceptionally extensive acquaintance with the conditions of the people all through that district. I can speak of the improvement in the condition of the people since I knew them. A great many of these improvements were due to the action and the work of the Congested Districts Board. The Congested Districts Board has done a tremendous lot of good work, and, in fact if it had done nothing else but carry out the improvements that I saw effected by it in Arran it would have justified its existence. But everywhere it has tried its hand it has done a great deal of good. It has done good in the improvement of fishing, live stock, cottage industries, and also through its Parish Committees, and, in addition, has carried out many useful engineering works, such as slips and piers, bridges and roads. Much, however, still remains to be done, and perhaps I may as well say now as at any other time what I have to say in the way of criticism of Parish Committees. On Clare Island I intend to do the best I can to forward the work of the Parish Committees, but in Spiddal and in this district I did not work with the Committees, because I believed that the work of the Committees would be misapplied, as the districts were not suitable for Parish Committee work. The land, as a rule, was not striped, and if you wanted to build out-houses and stables you had to build them too near the dwellinghouses or too near other men's land, and my object in every place was to try to get the land bought, and to have it striped, so that every man would be settled on his own holding. It was perpetuating the old state of things to expend money on the improvements referred to in the faulty condition of things that I found existing. For that reason, in Spiddal and in this place I did not join the Parish Committees, because I did not think that the works of the Parish Committees were suitable to the locality; but in Clare Island, where every man has his own holding, and his house on his own holding, I think that the Parish Committee will do very useful work; and the Committees have done very useful work in such places as that.

52303. What you mean is that the land was in such a condition of rundale that the out-houses would have to be practically alongside the dwellinghouses, or would have to be placed on the patches of land belonging to other people?—Yes.

52304. Therefore, as a practical improvement, the work of providing out-houses, removing manure heaps, and so forth, could not be carried out until

the rundale had been abolished and re-striping had taken place?—Yes. That was my reason, and I have special reasons. From my experience, I object very strongly to having stables and out-houses as a continuation of dwellinghouses, and I will give you by and by a terrible instance of the evils of this sort of thing. So far as Clare Island is concerned, that is the principal criticism that I have to make on the work of the Board. When houses were being built there the stables were built as a continuation of the dwellings. That I consider most objectionable. It must, however, be said that they had not much experience at the time they took up Clare Island. In other places where I have seen the work of the Board they have avoided that. They have built the stables distinct from the dwellinghouses, and have made the houses much better than on Clare Island. In these other places the roofs are of slates or of corrugated iron, whereas in Clare Island the houses are thatched. This is very uneconomical, as the straw could be put to very much more profitable use. That finishes what I have to say about these buildings. As to fishing, I may say that the Board found Arran in a most wretched, impoverished condition, and the Arran Islands have been raised to comparative wealth by the fishing industry, and too much credit cannot be given to the Board for the way in which it has used this industry for the benefit of the people.

52305. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You used to help Mr. Micks and Mr. Green?—Yes.

52306. CHAIRMAN.—We have heard a great deal about the Arran Islands from other witnesses, and we shall hear more about them when we get down to Spiddal and round about there, so, if you would not mind, I think that the Commission would like you to confine yourself as much as possible to this locality?—Very well. I only wish to give credit to the Board. So far as my experience leads me to judge of what they have done, they have certainly done well everywhere that I saw their operations, in Achill and Arran and other places in which I have been. So far as the improvement of stock in concerned, the introduction of the Galloway breed has been of very great service to the people. This stock is very suitable, because it is always saleable, and is saleable quickly, and brings a good price. So far as cottage industries are concerned, the lace-making and other classes have been also a success. I saw the accounts of the lace school at Killiteen for one half-year, and I was astonished at the amount of money that it brought into the district. There was £1,008 earned by the girls of one valley within six months. That was between this parish and Partry. The improvement in the condition of the people owing to the lace class is enormous. Very few girls will leave that valley to go to America. You cannot get servants out of that valley now, though it used to be a great place for servants ten or fifteen years ago. The girls are all employed profitably now.

52307. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—That is close to the shores of Lough Mask?—Yes; in the Maamtrasna district. They got the lace school some years ago. It has done a great deal of good, and wherever these classes have been established they have done good. I am quite alive to the danger of putting all the girls to one kind of industry, especially an industry that is liable to be affected by the fluctuations of fashion. For that reason I think that the industries should be varied, as they are in Gorumna Island and Carraroe. There are different industries there—carpet-making and curtain-making. I was speaking yesterday to Mrs. Wanklyn, a lady who is living in the district, and she suggested an industry that might be started with profit in the West of Ireland. She asked for Irish manufacture in a shop in London in which clothing supplies were sold. She was told that none of the fine work that ladies require was supplied from Ireland, as it was not done sufficiently fine here, and that this fine stitching had to be got from Paris. I think that it would be well if the Board would take up that in some places instead of lace.

52308. CHAIRMAN.—You are not speaking of a kind of lace?—No, but of a fine kind of stitching.

52309. Mr. BRYCE.—Underclothing and that sort of thing?—Yes. This lady was telling me that from her experience of the matter she thought it would be a very useful sort of thing as supplementing the lace to start this sort of thing.

52310. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—A class for fine sewing?—Yes.

52311. Mr. BRYCE.—You mean of the nature of embroidery?—I think not. I am not sufficiently skilled in the different kinds of work.

52312. CHAIRMAN.—Would you advise Mr. Walker, having a lady colleague, to advise in these matters?—I think Mr. Walker perfectly competent to deal with all these things himself. He does it remarkably well.

52313. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You think that it would be prudent to open up new kinds of home industry in that way?—Yes. Suppose that the lace was overdone, or that a change of fashion came, this or something like it could be substituted. In its engineering work the Board has done admirably well, as, with the pier at Aran and, above all, the bridges leading to the islands of Gorumna and Lettermore, which are a great blessing to the people. So far as the land work is concerned, I am not forgetful of all that has been said in praise of the land work of the Congested Districts Board throughout the country, but in this district and in Spiddal I think that the Congested Districts Board did not do well. I think it was badly managed. The Board are not responsible for that. It is the officials who carried it out. The way in which it was carried out was not at all good. The Board purchased 6,000 acres of land to supply a means of relieving congestion in a village where there were between fifty and fifty-five tenants, in Glanagimlagh, who occupied land of the value of £42 5*s*. The congestion was so great there that the King and Queen were taken there to see congestion at its worst when they were in the country a few years ago. That 6,000 acres would have given from 100 to 120 acres of land to each of these fifty or fifty-five tenants, and I think it would have been very much better for the Board to have given each of these tenants 100 to 120 acres than to have done what they did.

52314. CHAIRMAN.—The land you speak of is the Lucan and King Estate?—Yes, on the north and south shores of the Killery inlet. The aggregate of the two properties was 6,000 acres. I thought that the object of the purchase was to divide the whole of the land; and I think that a great fault was committed by the Board and its officials in disposing of 580 acres of the very best of the land, which would have suited the tenants very well for a grazing, to a grazier who had already occupied fourteen large farms throughout Galway and Mayo. Certainly the people had a first claim to the land. This was bad enough, but another element entered into the transaction, too.

52315. What was the name of this grazier?—Thomas Francis Joyce. The land was sold to him, and I think very wrongly sold to him. It should have been kept for redistribution among the people who required it so badly. The agent who came down to arrange the matter of the sale got orders that he was to tell nobody what he was doing until the transaction was carried through. Manifestly the person who gave that order knew that the transaction was not a proper one or one that would bear the light.

52316. Is the Assistant Inspector of the Congested Districts Board in this room?—He is present. You will have his views by and by. He got the order that he was to let nobody know what he was doing, but to carry out the whole transaction in secrecy, and the gentleman afterwards protested against being treated in this way, and told whoever his superior officials were that he would never again carry out anything under such conditions, as he felt persuaded that he had done a thing that was wrong and an injustice to the tenants, and he begged of me, when I first heard of it and understood what was being done, to do the best I possibly could to upset the arrangement he had come to, as he felt in his conscience that it was wrong and improper, and that he had been deceived by this grazier—Mr. Joyce. I am not at all surprised that he was deceived, and I will tell you the reason: for the man succeeded in deceiving not only the inspector, but he also deceived the Archbishop for the purpose of compelling me to withdraw my opposition to him. It was a case of this kind. The inspector was an English gentleman, with very little knowledge of this country. Before he came I learned from people who knew him that he was a straightforward, honest, upright man, incapable of doing a trick. It was a very wrong thing to send down a gentleman of that kind and pit him against a quick-witted Irishman. When that is done I know who is the iron pot and who is the clay

Sept. 18, 1907. — Rev. John Flatley.

pot, and who goes to the wall. The Englishman went to the wall, as one would naturally expect in a contest of this kind. Although he had got fourteen farms through the country, the grazier informed the Archbishop that he had only got two. I have not this from the Archbishop, but the story went out, but it is one of those stories *se non é vero é ben trovato*, that he informed the Archbishop that it was too bad for the priest to be interfering with a man who had only the income of two farms, and the ambition of whose life was to make a priest of his one son and nuns of his two daughters, and that this captivated the Archbishop. I had a letter from the Archbishop preventing me from interfering with this worthy man, and the Archbishop was under the impression that I had been doing so until some of the priests went down to him and explained that he had been grievously misinformed.

52317. It was not only the Englishman who was defeated?—Yes. It was a case of Greek meeting Greek in the second case. The next thing, then, was that the Board had signed an agreement to give this land to Mr. Joyce. The Board became so convinced that there was fraud in the case that Mr. Vereker, who is the land inspector, told me that I had better give up my opposition, as the Board had consulted counsel in Dublin to see if they could get out of the engagement they had entered into with Mr. Joyce, as they felt convinced that they had been done in the business, and wrong had been done to the tenants, and that the opinion of counsel was that they had gone too far to go back, although if they knew the circumstances in the beginning they would not have gone so far. I then wrote to the Secretary of this Commission, and I also wrote to the Secretary of the Congested Districts Board, offering, if they would tell me the points on which they had been deceived and on which fraud existed, that I would find for them as much evidence as would warrant them in resisting an action to compel them to specific performance. The result was it was considered that it was not advisable to do so, and that the Board did not see their way to try to resist the business, and so this thing was carried out and the tenants have been deprived of the use of this land. Another thing in connection with the business is this, that when the land was divided only six tenants were taken out of Glanagimlagh. To my mind entirely too much land was given to each of these tenants. The average was something between 350 and 400 acres, which was given to each of these. It was given to men who were in such circumstances that they could not possibly stock the land, and the result was that the grazier, Mr. Joyce, has actually sheep back again on these very lands grazing at so much per head, as they are not able to do it themselves. Applications were made to the Board to lend them money—I think it was £30 was applied for—to enable them to stock these lands. At first they were refused. Next there was an agreement to give them £10 apiece, which was a mere trifle, but I heard the other day that the Board was lending to one, if not to the whole of them, £30 to help to stock the lands; but still a great deal of this land must remain unstocked by these people, whereas if each of them got from 100 to 150 acres they would have, I believe, from eight to ten acres of tillage, and would have over 100 acres each for sheep grazing, which would make everyone of them independent. Mr. Edmonds is of opinion that there would not be tillage land enough to go round among all of these. That is about the only point in connection with the whole thing on which Mr. Edmonds and myself differ in opinion. I believe that there is that much tillage land, and that these people would regard as tillage land land which Mr. Edmonds does not consider to be such. Another thing which I might mention is that land has been given to Mr. Joyce for grazing which is at an angle of forty-five degrees, and which is said to be unfit for tillage. I agree with that, but Mr. Joyce's sheep are not in any way more nimble than the poor man's sheep, and if land at an angle of forty-five degrees would suit him it would suit the poor man.

52318. If the land is so steep, might it not be difficult to build houses on it?—No house could be built there, and the land could not be tilled, but it is the best part of the grazing land, and it could be held by the tenants solely as grazing land; and in my opinion there would be plenty of tillage land to go around lower down.

52319. You would not have broken it up into holdings: you would have left it as a kind of commonage?—Yes. That would be the most suitable way to leave it. Between that and the sea Mr. Joyce holds a narrow strip of land running along. It would have been very advisable if the Board had compulsory powers at the time of the purchase for the Board to have acquired that narrow strip of land, as it is near the sea, where the seaweed is got, and would have been most useful. It is between Bundorrha and Letterass.

52320. Bundorrha is not scheduled?—That is because the place is almost entirely uninhabited. I believe it is a question of valuation. I do not know a poorer village in all Connemara or Mayo than Bundorrha. That is a very good instance of how strangely the Congested Districts Act has worked, that Bundorrha is not scheduled as congested. There is no place in Galway or Mayo which is more in need of improvement.

52321. The land which Mr. Joyce has around this place has, you say, been sold to him by the Congested Districts Board, but the strip of land near the sea he holds from the landlords. Does he hold it under lease?—I cannot tell his tenure.

52322. Who is the landlord?—I think Mr. Knox.

52323. When the Board bought the Lucan and King properties did they attempt to buy this land?—I have not heard anything about that.

52324. But what you wish to tell us is that this land which you think belongs to Mr. Knox, and is at present held by Mr. Joyce, should be acquired and distributed in the same way as some of the land further up the harbour?—Yes. That should have been done, as practically all the seaweed is on that side of the bay.

52325. Is that where you would have the houses for the tenants who would have left the upper reaches?—Yes; some of them in that place and some of them outside it. That is an instance of where compulsory purchase would have come in very useful.

52326. You don't know whether the Board made any attempt to purchase voluntarily?—I don't know whether they did or not. The principal cause to which I attribute the poverty of the people is the existence of agriculture as their sole source of livelihood, and the fact that their agriculture is pursued under the most unfavourable conditions. There can be no doubt at all that the people are not sufficiently well instructed in the proper methods of carrying on agriculture, and even if they got the land itself it would be very necessary to have them instructed in better methods, so that they might till their farms more profitably than they do. I would mention, in connection with that, that apart altogether from the tillage of potatoes, oats, and things of that kind, it would be most desirable, for many reasons, that they should be taught how to cultivate the common forms of garden vegetables, and a good variety of them. One of the advantages would be that they would have a greater variety in their food. It would be less precarious than the potato; there would be greater abundance of that kind of food, and, above all, it would prevent them from running into debt with the shopkeepers, and keeping themselves constantly in the hands of the shopkeepers to whom they owe money. With a view to promoting that object I did a little in this parish since I came here, and in other parishes before I came here. I managed to get a little fund, out of which I distributed to 150 tenants of the 240 householders in my own district, parcels of six kinds of garden seed for two or three years in succession—parsnips, carrots, onions, Swede turnips, two kinds of cabbage, summer and winter varieties. For two years I have been talking to the people after Mass on Sundays in the National School. For a few Sundays I gave them lectures, with explanatory diagrams on the blackboard. I explained the natural history of each of these different kinds of seeds and the proper methods of cultivating them, and impressed on them the hygienic and other advantages of variety of food. I found the first year they did not take much interest in it, and they took a little more interest the second year. This year they took a great deal of interest in it. With a view to encouraging them, I tried to cultivate my own garden in such a way that any poor man in the district might be able to do. I just wished to have it as an exhibition plot. I found that a great many people took a good deal of interest in seeing how my garden was going on as

they passed by. This year I got from the Agricultural Department a teacher, who came down and delivered lectures in the National schools, and also went from village to village teaching them. He would take the boys of the village together, and go from holding to holding. There would be three or four in each place—parsnips in one place, carrots in another, onions in another, and cabbages in another. A crowd of young fellows came to each place that he went. Then I distributed the seeds as they went home and they sowed them. I find there have been very good results from that. This is the third year in which it has been done. I think that if that method were more general people would take more interest in this work, and the garden produce would be most useful to them in the ways I mention.

52327. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—When the vegetables had been produced did the wives get any instruction how to cook them, to make them palatable and nice; and what was the effect?—Mr. Walker sent here a lecturer in cookery under the Board. She was four months in the district, four months at Cornamona, and she is now spending four months at Clonbur. She had a very good class of girls here. In Cornamona Father Cullen worked hard to get the girls up, and I am sure that the priest in Clonbur is doing the same. These lectures were very useful to the girls who attended the classes.

52328. Has it created a taste among the people for improvement in their diet?—They have not got the vegetables of this year yet; but it to be hoped that what they have heard from the lecturer of the Board will be useful when the vegetables come in and they can be used. They are fit for use now, and the girls did take an interest in learning how to cook those vegetables in a plain way.

52329. I suppose you think that when the people get the taste for vegetables the victory is won?—Yes. I told the people that what would grow from the seed I gave them would not be very profitable the first year, "but I will tell you," I said, "what I mean by a thing you say yourselves. Whenever you have a trespassing cow that gets into your oats or cabbage, once that cow gets the taste of it you say the devil would not keep her out. I just want to say that when you get the taste the devil would not keep you from sowing it." I told them that in the course of the lectures I gave in the schoolhouse.

52330. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Did you distribute those seeds every year?—Yes; every year since I came here.

52331. In your own garden they can see an example of the way in which the seeds are grown side by side?—Yes.

52332. Used the farmers who received these seeds get one or more varieties?—Yes; six varieties.

52333. Then the instructor, when he comes, can bring the people to your garden, and to the farms of the people who got the seeds?—Yes; that is what happens.

52334. In that way you take a hand in being a practical instructor in agriculture?—Yes; I try to do so.

52335. The lecturer from the Congested Districts Board was a practical instructress in domestic science?—Yes. She gave her lectures in the Board's house here, near the chapel.

52336. She would, as a matter of course, instruct the people in the best way they could cook each kind after they got it?—Yes.

52337. With the appliances?—Yes; and she made a special point of giving special instruction in the cookery and preparation of the particular kinds of things that I was trying to grow. She came here and lived four months while she was giving instruction.

52338. Mr. O'KELLY.—Was she successful?—Yes.

52339. Have you noticed much improvement since?—I have not been much in the houses since to see if there is much improvement, but I know that those girls who were attending the class could do very well at the end of her time.

52340. Have they kept up what they were taught, or have they fallen back—has her advice been taken?—It has been taken so far as attending to the seeds and the plots is concerned, and I have no doubt from the interest that I saw the girls take in the lectures that now that the produce is coming in the lectures will be useful in making them cook these vegetables properly and use them, and that they will sow them themselves soon without our being obliged to give them the seeds gratis.

52341. Do they cook better than they did before she came?—I am sure they do.

52342. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Did the instructress cook the vegetables before them?—Yes.

52343. Did they eat the vegetables?—Yes.

52344. Mr. BRYCE.—When was the instructress here?—She came last December and left last April.

52345. When did you go to Clare Island?—About a fortnight ago.

52346. So you have had only about two or three months to see whether they are following the instructions given?—Yes, and the materials have been only growing since then.

52347. How did you find the house for the instructress?—Mr. Long when he was Chief Secretary was here three or four times. He saw the needs of the place and arranged to have a lace school started here. There was a grant of £200 made by the Board to build a house. It is just beyond the chapel, and is very useful. Weaving is a very useful industry here, and gives a good deal of employment. About twenty years ago the thing was started by Lady Aberdeen. The management is in the hands of Mr. M'Keown, and it gives a great deal of employment in the villages, spinning, carding, and weaving. It carries a pretty good price, and the people earn a good deal of money on it. Another source of employment that the people have here is provided by the hotels which give a good deal of employment to car-drivers and others.

52348. CHAIRMAN.—Is there any way in which you think the weaving could be improved?—The Board did a great deal by sending instructors here and teaching the weavers how to weave, and improving the patterns so as to make the stuff more saleable. They sent also here an instructor in dyeing.

52349. Do they get a satisfactory price for the tweed they make?—Yes, and the people get a satisfactory price from Mr. M'Keown for the weft and warp they bring in.

52350. Where is the wool spun?—Some of it is spun in the yard of the hotel. Most of it is spun by the people in the cottages.

52351. Have you any idea as to whether it is necessary to have a mark for the tweed?—I think it would be most useful to mark the tweed. I go in now for a national trade mark, which would be a very useful thing.

52352. Have they any trade mark of any sort?—No, and it would be very useful, because the tweed manufactured in Leenane is of exceedingly good quality, and the patterns are very good, and the instruction given by the Board's instructors has improved the quality very much and its saleability, and there is a good deal of it sold.

52353. You think that the market would be increased, or that there would be an increase of price if there was a mark?—Yes; if it was known as Leenane tweed, because anybody who buys it likes it. It has given very great satisfaction.

52354. The weavers work at present in their own houses?—Yes.

52355. The looms are in their own houses?—Yes.

52356. Have the looms been improved?—The looms they work with are a decided improvement on the old class of looms I used to see, when I was a boy, for weaving friezes, flannels, linens, and things of that kind.

52357. Is the present loom a hand shuttle loom?—It is not. It is propelled not directly by the hand but by the pulling of a string.

52358. That is an improvement on the old class of loom in which the shuttle was propelled by hand?—It is a great improvement.

52359. Have the Board given grants towards this improvement of the looms, or is it because the people have earned more money that the looms have been improved?—I have not heard that the Board have given grants, but Lady Dudley helped some men to get better looms.

52360. But the improvement is not due to the Board?—Not the improvement in the looms, but the improvement is due to the Board as regards the patterns and the dyeing, and the instruction, and as a sample of the difference between how the Congested Districts Board acts and other boards, there was an instructress sent down here in dyeing. I wished to make this instruction as general as I possibly could. With that view I wished to send the boys from the

Sept. 18, 1907.

Rev. John Flatley.

fifth and sixth classes from the school every day for an hour's instruction in dyeing. I wrote to the National Board for permission to send the boys for this instruction. I had a letter from the Board making inquiries and another and another. In violation of the rules of the Board I sent the boys to the school, and I think that the instructor was three weeks gone away from the place when the Board gave permission to let the boys go.

52361. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—You got the permission?—Yes, when the instructor was three weeks away, and when the boys had got the instruction.

52362. Is not it quite reasonable to let out boys for that purpose, and to let out girls to learn laundry and cookery?—Yes. I let the boys out before I got the permission of the Board. I did not care whether I got it or not.

52363. Chairman.—In reference to the weaving, has it ever struck you whether it would be an advantage to have a central place in which you might have all the looms together?—I think that things work very well as they are. Most of the weavers are not only weavers, but also agriculturalists, and if the whole thing was in one place, and not as it is, scattered about, the men would have to come and spend the whole day at it, and the land at home would have to be neglected.

52364. But is not it a very short distance?—There are looms at a great distance as well as those that are near.

52365. In Glamagimlagh, for instance, instead of having a loom taking up practically the whole of the inside of the house, would not it be an advantage for the Board to build a big shed which would accommodate five or six people?—That would be very desirable for such places as that; but I thought you meant one central place for the whole parish.

52366. Is there any advantage in that?—No. If the Board would build a place it would be very desirable. Another matter to which I wish to direct your attention in connection with land has reference to the improvement in the sanitary conditions of the people. When I was stationed in Spiddal within six months I attended sixty cases of typhus fever, and I myself superintended the removal of most of them to the Galway Hospital. The sanitary conditions were simply shocking round about Spiddal; and I wanted the Board to buy some estates that are between Spiddal and Costello Bridge, and after some trouble I succeeded in getting the Board to arrange to send down a committee of inspection to see what could be done in that way. I regret to say that there was a great deal of opposition to it. In connection with that I got the following letter from Father O'Hara. It is dated the 17th of February, 1904:—"Dear Father Flatley, I have been so hard pressed trying to clear off the bazaar arrears that I forgot all about your letter until now. Neither Lord Shaftesbury nor myself can go to your part of the country for some time. It appears some people there are not anxious that we should go until some time later in any case.—Yours sincerely, D. O'Hara." I think it would be well to inquire down there from what quarter the opposition came. I am not going to say anything on the subject; but it would be well to make inquiry, because it is very well known from what quarter the opposition came, and who opposed the improvements.

52637. Anyway, no land has been bought?—No; and until this is done fever will remain rampant, whereas this could be remedied if the people were taken out of the villages in which they live with the houses all stuck together. There is no place in Ireland where the sanitation is worse and where the sanitation could be more improved than between Spiddal and Costello Bay.

52368. Can the sanitation not be improved without necessarily purchasing the estates?—It is impossible to do it because of the way the people are huddled together in villages. This exists to a worse extent there than I ever knew it to exist in any other place. In Clare Island there is a very bad practice which prevails, and which I think could be stopped by the action of the Board. There is a road to a bog which the Board promised to make on Clare Island which has not been made, with the result that the bog is difficult of access, and not all the people go to cut turf who ought to cut it, but some of them are cutting what are known as the scraw sods. That is a horrible thing, and should be sternly put down. I saw the evil of it in Carraroe and Gorumna, where acres of what would give good grazing for sheep were cut away, and nothing was left but the bare rocks. No steps could be too rigorous to put down that practice. In Clare Island the road had not been made to the bog, and to save themselves the trouble of carrying turf the people have recourse to the scraw sods.

52369. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—They would help themselves to make that road?—I am sure they would.

52370. Chairman.—Before you pass from the subject of land, is Rynvale in this parish?—No; but I served in Ballinakill.

52371. Have you got anything to tell the Commission about the condition of the people in that peninsula?—They were very poor when I was there, and when the Congested Districts Board was first established I met Sir Horace Plunkett. He asked me to send him a report on the state of affairs. I sent him a memorandum on the condition of the people. I did not know much about fishing at the time, and I expressed a fear that fishing and agriculture would not go well together. However, they have gone much better in places that I saw since then than I apprehended they would go. Experience shows me that they can do a great deal of tillage in Aran, and at the same time do all they do in the way of fishing; but as Sir John Colomb remarked a while ago that is the initial stage, and will lead to the men doing afterwards what they do now in New Bedford and Gloucester, in America and Grimsby and Arklow, and they will become a class of fishermen who will follow the fish wherever they go. They are not sufficiently developed here for that as yet, but in the course of time I expect that they will. So far as land in this district is concerned there is a tremendous lot of it in the hands of graziers. All the mountain in fact is practically in the occupation of graziers; and it would be very desirable, and in fact nothing else should be tolerated, than that when the land comes to be bought it should be bought *in globo* by some Board such as the Congested Districts Board or by the Estates Commissioners, and these grazing lands should be distributed among the people who now are living on entirely insufficient lands, but under no circumstances should direct sales be made to the tenants. An attempt was made about two years ago to buy these lands by direct sale, but I opposed it and opposed it very strongly. I don't say it was on account of my opposition, but no purchase took place; but whenever the purchase does come it should be purchased in the way I say, and in no other way, because it is the only way for benefiting the people. In addition to the want of employment and the scarcity of land and the bad quality of the land there is another cause of poverty to which I wish to call the very serious attention of the Commission, and I believe that it is worse than all the other causes of poverty in the congested districts, and that is the habit which the people have acquired of living on credit and of paying exorbitant prices for the goods that are supplied to them. The consequences are not merely economic consequences, which are very bad, but there are also terrible consequences of another kind to the man who is in debt to the shopkeeper and who is his actual slave. Practically he must elect the shopkeeper or his nominee to the District Council or to the County Council, and every other position that is going, with the most frightful results to the district. Another very bad thing in Connemara, and one which is injurious, is that they have to a very large extent got a very low class of magistrates, who are not the right kind of men to appoint. There are about 10 or 12 magistrates who are provision dealers. You have most of the District Councillors and County Councillors provision dealers. Without talking of the disadvantage of that to the general community who deal with them it is decidedly unfair to the provision dealers who are not magistrates or members of the Council, and causes a preference to be given to the men who are on the Council or who are magistrates; because the magistrates utilise their position on the bench for the purpose of promoting their business. It is quite a common thing to see magistrates back out their own customers in the face of evidence. They do not look upon it as a thing to be ashamed of, although it is a most flagrant injustice, but as an advertisement for their business. That is a very well recognised thing all over Connemara, and on account of this there is tremendous rivalry among shopkeepers, and intriguing and canvassing going on for years and years

o try to get on the bench as a means of promoting heir trade by the way in which they act unfairly in upport of their own customers. And not only is this o, but it is a well known fact that magis- rates go to the length of coaching witnesses as to he evidence they will give before the court, and an awful curse in this district, at all events before we got this present doctor, who is an excellent man, was to use influence with drunken doctors to give such evi- dence as would either bear heavily upon or tend to make light the charge against people in assault cases. So that not only economically but socially a large number of magistrates in the district are the greatest curse in it. I say that deliberately from a knowledge of the facts, and I am not alone in my opinion on that subject; and the wonder is that the country is so peaceable considering the injustice that is done very often in the courts. I have often been struck with what Hallam says in his History of the Middle Ages, that most of these disturbances arose from the fact that it was impossible to get justice in the courts. When people could not get justice in the courts they took justice into their own hands, and there is a great deal of that prevails in this part of the country. It is not one Government alone that is responsible for the appointment of these men, but one Government is just as bad as the other; for there is no Government but is responsible for a few of these men who have got on the bench. What I say does not apply to all the magistrates. A large num- ber of the magistrates are most respectable men. From some of these I have had complaints made to me of how they feel and how objectionable it is to have to sit on the bench with men they know to have been —to use the expression that they used to me—fed with whiskey for three weeks before these cases came on by people who have law business in the court. It is shocking to hear another magistrate complain that he had to adjourn the court on a certain day because his fellow magistrate was drunk before the court, and to have it known all over the county that the County Court Judge had to warn and caution a magis- trate on the bench, who came from the part of the country that I mention, because of his drunken inter- ference with the business of the court. How I make evidence of that before this Commission is this, that the people live on credit and live in a most uneconomic manner.

52372. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—They are not free agents?—Yes. To give you an idea of the extent to which this practice is carried on of over-charging the people who deal in these shops I will give you a very striking example. You are aware of the cus- tom of priests holding stations through the country. They go twice a year to the villages. They have mass and confession and holy communion. There is a custom of presenting two wax candles from the owner of the house for use at the mass, which are bought at some of the local shops. There is a certain dis- trict in the parish where I never could use the candles presented to me. If I did it would be a gross violation of the rubrics. I always carry proper candles in a box which I can use, as I have to put these others aside as unfit for use. I have here one of these candles that were given to me (*produces candle for inspection*). I sent it to Dublin to Hayes and Finch to see the quality. I have ascertained that there is not a single particle of wax in it as it is a purely vegetable candle. It was sold at 3*s.* 4*d.* a pound, and Messrs. Hayes and Finch say that it could be sold at a very good profit at 2 shillings a pound. So the gombeen shopkeeper made not only a very liberal legitimate profit, but also made a profit of 1*s.* 4*d.* a pound over and above the legiti- mate profit. If you take that as an ordinary stan- dard of the rate at which the gombeen men make their profits it shows how these unfortunate people are pillaged and plundered by these men.

52373. What you want to impress on the Commis- sion is that one of the causes of poverty and one of the causes of perpetuating congestion and keeping the people from rising is an inflated and exaggerated credit system—is not that what it all comes to?—Yes.

52374. Mr. BRYCE.—Is there anything in the nature of truck in the business of shopkeepers and people?—Yes, very extensive. The shopkeeper gets their cattle and their pigs and sometimes gets their holding of land. Within the last month I saw a specially en- dorsed writ issued for shop goods against a tenant so that his holding might be seized. I have here a paper telling of the doings of a clique of gombeen men, members of the Council. It was handed to me just before I came in and is available for the infor- mation of the Commission.

52375. If a customer wants to buy tea, we will say, and to sell eggs, they are exchanged?—Yes. The eggs are sent to the shop and he gets tea and sugar in exchange for the eggs. And when a man is in debt to the shopkeeper the shopkeeper will watch his cattle at the fair, and he will buy the cattle, and you may be perfectly certain that the shopkeeper will not pay too much for them. Here is another way in which it works out. The origin of a good many shops in Con- nemara, Achill, and the County Mayo is that a man got a contract for a bridge or a road or some public work from the Government. Immediately he got the contract he started a shop just beside the work and paid the people, not in cash, but altogether in truck. That is a very common thing throughout the place. Several shops commenced in that way, and men who were very poor when they got their first contract are very well off to-day, and they are the graziers and the grabbers of the country.

52376. Was the Truck Act not in operation to pre- vent that?—The Truck Act was not in existence in Ireland. I think I can boast of being the means of having the Act extended to Ireland in 1896. Here is the method in operation. There was a work started. No man in the building trade could take the work at the price tendered for by a man not in the building trade. This man did the work at less than it would cost, but the profit came in in the management of the truck system, paying the people low wages in tea, sugar, flour, and soforth, and charging exorbitant rates for them.

52377. Suppose a man had two dozen eggs to sell and wanted a pound of tea, how would the thing work out?—I will explain about that. One night there was a discussion between some gentlemen about bimetallism in Gorumna Island. I told them that it was in full swing in Connemara and that they would have it all over Europe if the proposed new system were introduced. I gave them the case of a woman who will send down a child to a shop with a score of eggs and tell the child to get an ounce of tea, a pound of sugar, a pound of soap, and a half pound of candles. At certain times he will get all that for the score of eggs. Later on he may get an addition to that of an ounce of tea and a pound of sugar. An- other week a pound of soap is knocked off; another week an ounce of tea is knocked off; and so you never know what you are going to get for the score of eggs until the child goes to the shop.

52378. There is no price fixed for the score of eggs as measured by the amount of tea, soap, and so on?—There is a price for these things in the shopkeeper's mind, but no price is told to the customer.

52379. That is in fact barter?—Yes; barter pure and simple.

Sir JOHN COLOMB:—The paper to which you referred applies to particular individuals, and if it were given in evidence they should get a chance of replying to it. Therefore it might be better not to go into these things.

52381. Mr. O'KELLY.—Have you known any cases of shopkeepers lending money to customers for the purchase of goods in their own shops?—I have never heard of it.

52382. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—In reference to this credit system, do you consider that taking a poor district and re-settling it and re-striping it, and making the people better off will aggravate or diminish the tendency to inflated credit?—I think it will tend to diminish it.

52383. If you take tenants on small holdings of £3 or £4 valuation, and build houses for them and give them holdings of £10 or £12, the security for the shopkeeper in giving credit will be greater than it was before?—Yes, but if the tenants have 100 sheep and some cattle and all that they will not indulge in the luxury of credit.

52384. You have been thirty-seven years a priest and thirty-seven years working in congested districts?—Yes.

52385. Is it your observation that it is the small struggling men who are in the grip of the shop- keepers rather than the larger men?—Decidedly so.

52386. Therefore you think that the effect on the man himself of an improved position will be to make him more wary and less inclined to

Sept. 18, 1907.

Rev. John Flatley.

go into debt?—Yes, because one of the evils of the credit system is the facility that a man has of merely going in and calling for a thing, whereas if he has a little means he does not buy a thing until he has money to pay for it, and there are a great many things that are not necessary that are bought by poor people and that they could do without.

52387. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—The real remedy would be to enable the people to earn such wages, to have such remunerative employment as would enable them to pay ready cash and relieve them from the necessity of going into the books of the shopkeeper?—Yes. If they could have ready cash they would live more cheaply.

52388. Chairman.—So far as I can see this paper which you have handed to us gives specific cases which have arisen in your experience showing that where a small holder gets into debt with the shopkeeper the result very often is that he loses his land—is that so?—Yes.

52389. His debt becomes so great that he is swallowed up?—Yes, and his land is taken.

52389. You give us that as your evidence that you would be prepared if necessary to give us specific cases?—Yes.

52391. I don't think, therefore, that we need go further into that now?—Very well. In reference to the constitution of the Board I could not suggest any improvement. To my mind the Board has done as well as could be done under any system of election. I wish now to refer to Lady Dudley's nursing scheme in the congested districts. It has done most excellent work, and is one of the best charities that ever were started in Ireland. I had experience of the work of Nurse Cusack in Spiddal.

52392. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Tell the Commission what good the nurses have done to improve the condition of the people?—They go round and work very hard. Everywhere I heard the people speak of the nurses they spoke in the very highest terms of the kindness of the nurses and what an improvement it was in the condition of the people to have Lady Dudley's nurses among them. My next point is with regard to local shows. They should be extended in congested districts, but for one drawback that I found here. You cannot work them honestly. You will have about a dozen of a committee, with nine or ten honest men on it, and it will take these men all their time to watch the two or three rogues who make up the balance of the committee.

52393. The good men will do some good?—No. *Malum ex quocunque defectu.*

52394. But *bonum ex integra causa*?—One rogue will spoil the whole of it.

52395. On that principle you would never do any thing. You cannot have everybody perfect. You generally get on better with people by supposing them to be really as good as they are, or even a shade better?—These shows are started by two or three people in the district who put it before them to collar the funds. It was started here for sheep and cattle and horses. The next year I managed to get on the committee, and I proposed that there be prizes given for eighteen different kinds of garden produce and cottage industries. I found the most desperate opposition given to my proposition to have the cottage industries rewarded by a prize. However, I managed to carry my point.

52396. Chairman.—Was it the rogues who were opposing?—Certainly.

52397. Why?—Because the prizes were being taken away from subjects in which the rogues got £11 in prizes the year before without paying their entrance fees. When I insisted on this business of having the eighteen prizes given, one of the rogues retired to a corner, and his contribution to the discussion after that consisted of growling and groaning out his disapprobation of what we were doing. He stood up in the end and said he would cut down his subscription of £1 to a half-sovereign, and said he would not pay it until September, and that year he managed to collar £7 out of it. It was for that object that the show was started here. It was started as a swindle, and certainly no project ever more thoroughly realised the ideal of its promoters, and the result was that the show was suppressed with the good-will of all honest men.

Mr. Leslie Edmonds examined.

Mr. Leslie Edmonds.

52398. Chairman.—You are assistant inspector of the Congested Districts Board under Mr. Doran?—Yes.

52399. You have been mainly responsible for the reorganisation of the estates that have been referred to?—Yes, acting under him.

52400. You have been the man on the spot to carry it out?—Yes.

52401. You heard the evidence which Father Flatley gave with regard to the distribution of the Lucan and King estates?—Yes.

52402. You heard him say that there had been dissatisfaction in the district by reason of the fact that the grazier who had the land before had been given a large slice of the land after it had been bought?—Yes.

52403. Can you tell the Commission what sizes there were?—There were two men in possession of this tract of land of 3,500 acres as joint tenants. One, Tobias Joyce, lived on the land. The other was living away from it. The one who lived away had a very narrow strip of land containing about 150 acres and stretching for a very considerable distance, about two miles, along the bay, and cutting us off from the mountain behind. The solicitor informed me that I was not to attempt to deal with one man without dealing with his brother. They were served with notice to quit, and acting on those instructions I saw Tobias Joyce and arranged provisionally with him that he would take a farm near Tuam in exchange for his interest. Then I saw Thomas Francis, and he absolutely declined to move in any case, and said he would hold out as long as the law permitted him, and would compel us to evict both him and his brother. I reported this to Mr. Doran, who would naturally put all the facts before the Board, and suggested that as he had instructed me that the holdings to which I was to remove those people must contain a certain amount of tillage, and the amount of tillage was very limited—in fact I could only put seven of eight holdings on it—that they would have too much grazing in proportion to the tillage. We had to make up the £80 rent, and we had to get some sale for the house at Tuam, and the new tenants would be paying higher annuities than their circumstances for some time to come would warrant.

52404. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—How much tillage had you on the farm of 3,000 acres odd?—There would be about 50 statute acres of land that was valued for 5 shillings and upwards. Anything below that could hardly be called tillage.

52405. These 50 acres were the only lands available as agricultural holdings for your migrants?—Yes, along the shore.

52406. The number of people whom you could migrate was determined by that limitation?—Yes.

52407. Chairman.—You found this land occupied by two brothers?—Yes. We gave them notice to quit. They were future tenants.

52408. You bought the land and you had the power to terminate their tenancies?—Yes, and we served them with notice to quit.

52409. If you had the power to terminate the joint tenancy why did you listen to the protests of Mr. Thomas Francis Joyce?—It was simply because we wanted to settle the matter at once and did not want to go to legal expenses and delay. We should have had to pay considerable compensation, up to three years, and also the cost of any improvement works carried out quite irrespective of whether they suited us or not. There was a good house on the property for which we should have had to pay a considerable sum of money.

52410. Mr. Thomas Francis Joyce could have resisted your notice, and even if you were successful you would have had to pay him up to three years of his rent as compensation and also compensation for the improvements which he had effected?—Yes.

52411. So far as Mr. Tobias Joyce was concerned did he go without any further trouble?—He was quite willing, because he wished to be near Tuam to educate his children.

52412. Then you gave him land there and he went way peaceably?—We gave him from 180 to 200 statute acres near Tuam.

52413. Of grass land?—It was a big property we had bought. We enlarged all the small people and left the house, which was too good to pull down, and the residue of land.

52414. Then you got Mr. Tobias Joyce's piece by giving him land near Tuam?—Yes, but without his strip belonging to Mr. Thomas Francis Joyce it was no good to us except as grazing land, of which, as I put before Mr. Doran, I considered we had already an ample supply.

52415. When you gave the 581 acres out of the 5,500 to Mr. Thomas Francis Joyce he had to pay for it?—I put on a relatively dearer rent on the piece we sold him than on any other piece.

52416. You thought it was a good way out of the difficulty?—I did or I should not have done it.

52417. Mr. O'Kelly.—What is his rent?—£18 out of £80.

52418. Mr. Bryce.—You were not the person that Father Flatley alluded to as having been defrauded?—I must have been, but I do not think I was defrauded. I was sorry, when I found that Thomas Francis Joyce would have given anything, that I did not put a little more on him, but we did justice by him. I was carrying out my instructions.

52419. Did you get any corroboration of your idea as to the number of tenants that could be housed on this land?—Yes. I consulted the tenants and asked several of them how many could make a living at each end of the farm and they said four at one end and three at the other. Mr. Doran told me he thought we could put on eight, but finally after going into the matter we put only seven—what they put on themselves.

52420. So the tenants' impression was about the same as your own?—The land was valued by a skilled man, who constantly values for the Board, and Mr. Doran personally went over all the maps and valuations with me. I had to prepare that map (*produces map*) for the Board.

52421. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—How much tillage is there on each holding?—The highest has got eleven statute acres, and some of them go down as low as six, and one goes down as low as five.

52422. Chairman.—Another point: Father Flatley said that the holdings you gave them were so large that it was quite impossible for them to stock them?—I should think that was so, at present, but even if they do take in grazing it is a very good thing as long as they are paid for it, and they will gradually get stock. We have given them loans. They did not take loans at first, because I advised them not to. I said, "You are paying annuities which are more than you have been accustomed to pay. Don't burden yourselves with debt. Try to pull along as best you can and gradually stock the land yourselves." Afterwards when they said they would take loans we have not refused them.

52423. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Is it not the fact with migrants everywhere that they have a very heavy struggle for the first couple of years and generally have to resort to some such system as taking in graziers?—Nearly always, but they nearly always get out of it after the first year or two.

52424. Chairman.—With your experience, if you had to do it over again, would you do it in the same way, or is there any better way which subsequent knowledge has revealed?—There is no other way of getting out of it unless we could acquire that land along the sea compulsorily. Then, of course, it would have been our clear duty to take it up.

52425. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Then you would have done what Father Flatley suggested?—Yes. If we could have taken up that piece of land it would have been our clear duty.

52426. Chairman.—Is this a case in which if you had compulsory powers you would have been able to make a better settlement?—It would not have made a great difference, because I don't think we would have put more than four holdings additional there.

52427. Would the possession of that land, to put three or four holdings on, have enabled you to use, as commonage, some of the land which had to go back to Thomas Francis Joyce?—Certainly; but it is still there in the event of any compulsory legislation.

52428. But Mr. Joyce has bought. You have lost the land which you could have given as commonage?—Yes. I admit that at once, but if you can compulsorily acquire one piece of land I suppose you can compulsorily acquire all.

52429. But if you had been able to compulsorily acquire that you would not have been forced to sell this 500 or 600 acres back to Mr. Thomas Joyce?—No. I should have waited.

52430. You could have used that as commonage for the holders on the lands which you bought compulsorily?—Certainly.

52431. Sir John Colomb.—Surely that would be out of all proportion to the amount of arable land. The proportion of mountain land to arable land would have been too great?—Hardly. The present holders have from 250 to 375 acres to their share. The amount of tillage that they have got varies from six up to eleven statute acres.

52432. Chairman.—At present the distribution is from 250 to 300 acres of mountain land to from eight to ten acres of tillage?—That is so.

52433. If you had the additional 581 acres it would have gone to about four extra tenants, giving them 150 acres each?—It would have gone into the common lot.

52434. But the amount would not have been out of all proportion to what has been done in the case of the others. On the contrary it would have been less?—Yes.

52435. Sir John Colomb.—But the particular object that you had in mind was to relieve congestion. How many congests were there?—Fifty-one.

52436. Therefore if you had all the powers which you could conceive for dealing with this particular property the effect would have been to acquire hundreds of acres in order to relieve eight congests. That is the position?—Yes.

52437. If you had all the powers you could possibly conceive?—Yes, but it is very bad land.

52438. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—What do you propose to do with Glanagimagh now?—To wait until you give us more land.

52439. If you had compulsory powers could you find land?—Yes; without any difficulty at all.

52440. Not far away?—Not far away.

52441. Chairman.—As a practical man engaged in the work of administration and redistribution, is it your opinion that compulsory powers are necessary?—That does not come within my practical work at all.

52442. Have you found it so?—I have nothing to do with the buying of the land at all. It is just handed over to me.

52443. In redistributing it do you think you would be able to make better arrangements if the Board were to have compulsory powers?—If the Board were landlords and owned the land we could naturally make much better arrangements.

52444. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—If you had acquired it in any way?—Yes.

The Commission adjourned.

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD PUBLIC SITTING.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH, 1907,

AT 11 O'CLOCK, A.M.,

At the Courthouse, Clifden.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (Chairman); The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL; JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esq., M.P.; CONOR O'KELLY, Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Mr. MICHAEL JOYCE examined.

Sept. 19, 1907.

Mr. Michael Joyce.

52445. CHAIRMAN.—You are a member of the County Council?—Yes, my lord. And as I happen to be the first witness called before you to-day I have very great pleasure in wishing you a céad mile fáilte.

52445A. Would you kindly tell us now, in your view, the condition of the tenant-farmers?—Yes; my idea is to effect a settlement that might benefit the tenant-farmers.

52446. What do you wish to say on the subject?—I would be most anxious that the land should be acquired and given to the tenants; that much larger farms than they hold at present should be given to them, and that their condition might be bettered.

52447. Is there land available here?—Oh, yes; I think so.

52448. Where, in your opinion, is that land situated?—Well, for instance, on the road to Coshkillery division. I am Guardian for that division, and in Coshkillery division I find you have an area of 15,079 acres, the valuation of which is £469, with a population of 465. There are seventy-six tenants on it, and thirty-seven of those tenants hold at a valuation of under £2.

52449. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—What union is it in?—Clifden Union. Thirty-seven hold at a valuation under £2; seventeen under £4, making fifty-four tenants; and the remainder of the tenants hold in this way: sixteen hold under £10 valuation, two under £15, three under £25, and one under £40. Fifty-four of those tenants are very poorly situated, and surely the remaining portion of the division would be able to provide land for them if it was divided out amongst them.

52449A. CHAIRMAN.—But where is the land—to whom does the land belong, for the Commission would like to see what quantity of land is available for the purpose?—The principal properties are those of Colonel Thompson and the Duke of Manchester.

52450. I see Lord Ardilaun has some property?—Yes; he has some portion of this land.

52451. Would any of that land be suitable for tillage, or is it all mountain land?—Well, portion of it, all along by the sea, might be made very suitable land for tillage. Of course it requires an expenditure.

52452. It cannot be very valuable land, can it, for I see that the rateable valuation is very low?—£469 for the whole division.

52453. There are 1,400 acres in the townland of Bunaven, valued at £23, and in another townland 625 valued at £41?—The total valuation of the division is £469, and that will give you an idea of the matter, for there are 15,079 acres in it.

52454. You would like to see the holdings enlarged and made economic?—I would like to see the condition of the tenants, who are in a very poor position, bettered. Of course they must get a living some way, and they cannot afford to live on small holdings under £2 valuation.

52455. This land carries sheep now, does it?—Yes.

52456. Is it let out on the eleven months' system?—I could not tell you about that. I know part of it used to be. Whether it has continued to be or not I do not know. Well, what I say about Coshkillery applies to different places all over the union. Of course I do not want to go into that. I confine myself to this one division, and I will allow other gentlemen who have better experience to come and give evidence about other parts of the union.

52457. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Are you a farmer yourself?—I am a shopkeeper, but I have a bit of land convenient to the town.

52458. Accommodation land?—Yes; accommodation land.

52459. And have you got a spirit licence?—No.

52460. I see that in this district which you are speaking about there are only, at present, 25 per cent. of the total holdings under £10 valuation. It compares extremely favourably with many other places. According to the official return there being only 25 per cent. of the total holdings under £10, means that three-fourths of the holdings are economic?—But I do not know how you can make out that when you have thirty-seven of them under a valuation of £2.

52461. I see. That is separate?—There are seventy-six holdings in the division, and nine of these tenants are non-resident, and they occupy the principal parts of the land.

52462. In your answer to Lord Dudley about the land being suitable for tillage were you speaking of the slope of the mountains down to the water on the south side of Killary harbour?—No; I referred to the north-west side, right to the back of Kylemore Castle, across the hill, right to the back of Kylemore Castle and along that division.

52463. Mr. BRYCE.—Is Letterfrack in that division?—No.

52464. CHAIRMAN.—I think you want to say something about the lands?—In order to make the tenants comfortable I conceive that if this land was bought up, and houses built for the tenants, probably the people would require something to assist them to go on, so as to reclaim any new portions that might be given to them. In that way I say that loans should be given to assist these very poor men.

52465. Through the agency of the Congested Districts Board?—Well, it occurred to me that if a Parish Committee were established, and established in such a way that they might recommend suitable persons for loans it might work well. Then you would come at the proper parties that would require money. That is my idea.

52466. Is not there a Parish Committee here?—Yes, but it does not extend so far as I wish, but simply for assisting in the building of out-houses and farm buildings, and that sort of thing.

52467. You think that the Parish Committee ought to recommend to the Board to allot land in particular cases?—I think that that would be a very suitable way to find out the deserving people. You could get the information from the locality. If proper people were placed on that Committee you could get from them the names of the people who deserved to be assisted. There may be another means of doing it just as well, but that is one way, I think, in which you could get at it very easily.

52468. What sum of money do you think would be necessary to enable a tenant to start?—It would depend on the extent of his holding.

52469. Would you say a sum of £50?—Probably £50 would be a good deal for him. If he had a larger holding £100 would be required, payable over a number of years, so as to make it easier for him.

52470. I suppose the man with the larger holding would probably have capital?—I would not care so much about the larger man, but it is the poor man that I would be anxious to assist. The larger man generally finds some other means of getting money.

52471. How much land have you got yourself?—Between eleven and twelve acres.

52472. Irish or English?—Well, English.

52473. Do you till it?—Not at present.

52474. What do you do with it?—Keep a few cattle on one part of it. The other part I have let.

52475. Is that used as grazing?—It is.

52476. That pays better?—I consider it does. It is hard to get labour, and I have not time to look after it.

52477. I suppose you bought the interest?—No; it was given to me by my father.

52478. Mr. BRYCE.—Are there any agricultural banks in this district?—Not convenient to Clifden any way. There may be in Carna or Roundstone for all I know, but there is none in Clifden.

52479. That would be a good way of getting loans for the poor people?—Oh, it might do very well, but you would get very good security for the other, I am sure.

52480. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you let any of your land in con-acre?—No.

52481. Do any of the other business men let their lands in con-acre?—I do not know of any land round the town being let in con-acre at present. *Sept.* 19, 1907. Mr. Michael Joyce.

52482. Do you know do the small tenants take land in con-acre?—Formerly they used.

52483. Why is not that done now?—Well, there are not so many of those people. The people are in such a state that they are very badly able to till their own land, the little bits they have. Of course they make the most of it, but there is no such thing as con-acre required. The population has gone down so much that the class of labourers that used to go for con-acre are not here at present.

52484. Yes, but I am dealing with the small holders that you want to benefit, and you tell me that they cannot take con-acre because they have got as much as they can do to till their own land?—I am talking of the vicinity of the town. I do not know what they do in the country at present.

52485 Where do the labourers of the town get their main employment?—There are very few labourers at all here now. There is no employment for them.

52486. Do you mean you have got no surplus labour in the town at present?—No.

52487. None?—None at all. There is nothing to employ people on. Mostly all the lands round the town are in grass. There are no industries to employ the people. Therefore we have no labourers, I might say.

52488. CHAIRMAN.—Is there any other point you want to mention?—Nothing particular except that I would be anxious that the things I advocate——

Rev. JAMES KELLY examined.

52489. CHAIRMAN.—You have been nominated by the District Council to give evidence?—I am administrator of the Island of Inisboffin, to the north of this union, at the mouth of the Killeries, and I have been nominated by the Rural District Council to give evidence on their behalf, and on behalf of the union. I would like to give evidence under two headings, first on the land question portion of the problem of congestion and its solution. The principle of the solution of the problem of congestion in the western part of this union I would like to apply generally along the western seaboard. And I am sure that as to the fact of congestion and the very pressing need for its solution the Commission are convinced by simply driving along through Connemara and through Connaught. The very "silence of the unlaboured fields hangs like a judgment in the air," and it is natural that it should. It is like a blight hovering round Connaught, where the effects of the Cromwellian Settlements are felt to this day, and are being intensified by that after-growth of Cromwellism, the bad system of land tenure which has been working for centuries through a land made desolate. Rev. James Kelly.

52490. I think we are all very well aware of the evil. What we want to know now is how it should be remedied?—The very situation suggests the remark that after sixteen years of the existence of the Congested Districts Board to deal with this problem, and the appointment of your honourable Commission two years ago to inquire into it after so many years, that the very fringe of the problem has not been economically touched yet. The problem extends to both land and sea. Now, in this union, how it affects the land is evident from the fact that in a total area of 190,000 acres one-third of that total is occupied by ninety graziers, residential and non-residential, while the rest of the population have to live on the worse remainder.

53491. What area are you speaking of now?—Of the area of this union.

52492. How much?—190,000 acres, roughly speaking. Over 60,000 acres of that, or one-third, roughly speaking, is held by ninety graziers, though the Board has been working in Connemara since its institution.

52493. I suppose most of those graziers graze sheep?—Sheep and cattle together. On the lowlands and in the valleys, cattle especially, and on the mountains, sheep; and the situation is intensified by the fact that the valuation per head of the population is only one pound and a penny three-eighths. What the population of the union was in 1901 will be found in the Blue Books, and I do not then like to bother you very much with statistics. Then as to the root of the congestion I would say that it is evident that the system of 11 months' grazing, non-residential grazing especially, is one of the chiefest causes. In fact I would say that all over Connaught the 11 months' system is a perennial source of social and political inflammation on that problem of congestion. It is lying like a nightmare over the land and over the people and they are anxious to get that off their dreams and off their waking and working moments, and although by some noble and interested lords the graziers are called the backbone of the country I would venture to say that every person interested in economics—and we have expert evidence for it about the relative values of an acre of tillage and an acre of grass—will be of opinion that notwithstanding what noble lords say about them the graziers must be regarded as an invertebrate class instead of being the backbone of the country. They are actually like tuberculosis on the constitution; they are spreading out on the vitals of the people. The population is going down; the able-bodied are going to America, and the sickly and weak are remaining, and yet the problem of congestion remains on account of this undue occupation of the land by a few.

52494. You have told us that one-third of the land is occupied by ninety graziers. In your opinion is that land suitable for small holdings?—Not all of it, but I should say that the low-lying land, the arable portion of it, with 'mountain runs' in would be eminently suitable for the relief of congestion, inasmuch as it would give the people room for work, lucrative and reproductive work, in the reclaiming of the upper portion of the low-lying part.

52495. You would not propose to give a man a holding unless there is a certain amount of tillage land attached to it?—Certainly not.

52496. And therefore I suppose in regard to many of these mountain slopes at present having sheep on them you could not very well establish holdings there unless they were in connection with lowlands?—No. certainly; but there are very many cases in which mountainy land could be reclaimed. Every mountain, I take it, has a base and there are many cases in which these have been reclaimed.

52497. When you speak of 190,000 acres it may sound an enormous tract?—But I speak from official statistics compiled by the clerk of this union.

Sept. 19, 1907.

Rev. James Kelly.

52498. I have no doubt that they are correct, but I say that when you speak of 190,000 acres one would think, offhand, that a great many people could be established on that tract, but, as a matter of fact, I suppose unless you have the actual amount of land available for tillage a figure like 190,000 would not mean all it sounds?—I agree to that much, but when you are passing along Connemara you will see vast tracts of reclaimable land which is not even fit for game now; in fact it has no game in it, and I base my argument for the relief of the situation on the special fact that there is very undue congestion in the union. And in face of this fact and of this undoubted condition I would suggest that the remedy should be two-fold along the western seaboard, that it should be by land and sea, that is, if the situation is to be relieved economically and people put on the land on a sound, economical, living basis, because I believe that if all the land in Connaught is divided up, except the very residential portion of the demesne land, which no one asks for, it would not economically relieve congestion or leave the people in a state of economical living. They would be living from hand to mouth still, and the only relief would still be emigration, both to America and to Scotland—because few of them go to England from this part as harvesters.

52499. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Are these 190,000 acres in this union?—In this union, Clifden. I hand in here a return of the grazing farms in these 190,000 acres (*Return handed in*).

52500. CHAIRMAN.—You suggest two remedies: one connected with the land and the other connected with the sea. Tell us how you would propose to deal with them?—Whatever that future body is that is to deal with the problem after your findings are made would need to have, immediately, compulsory powers to deal with the problem in Connaught, both for landlords and for graziers. Well, the exact details of the remedy I would leave to the proper authority, but they might threaten, at all events, to refuse to the landlords, who are standing in the light of the solution, the bonus right. They might threaten that refusal. And for the graziers, except the residential farmers, they should get and use absolute compulosry powers.

52501. I understand compulsory powers. Do you say that compulsory powers should be applied to the ownership of tenanted or untenanted land?—Well, to relieve congestion, generally, because they would have to migrate some of the tenants. I would apply it to all estates in Connaught, tenanted and untenanted, because in some of the tenanted they would wish to migrate them to the untenanted on other estates, that is, if they want to have a clean map after them. And, looking over the reports of the Board, the best evidence for that is their own successive reports on this head complaining of the want of adequate powers to deal with the problem of congestion.

52502. If we take it that that is your view we will take a tenanted estate first of all and where the tenants are unable to buy from the landlord on terms that he considers fair, you think that there should be, in some way, compulsory powers to force a sale?—Yes, my lord.

52503. Now, what is your idea of the fair basis on which a compulsory purchase of that kind should be effected. What would you be prepared to say would be a fair price to pay to a landlord under those terms?—Now, am I supposed to speak of Connemara? As I am giving evidence for this union of Clifden, and therefore for Connemara, am I to speak of Connemara?

52504. Yes; Connemara, certainly; but it is merely a question of general application; it is a question of principle really?—Yes, but Connemara differs widely from the inland country, I should say, in the value of land. I think the Congested Districts Board, my lord, have purchased estates in Connemara, and I would take that as a fair basis. Some of them, I think, were bought at 12 years' purchase.

52505. That is by voluntary arrangement?—Certainly.

52506. But you are referring to compulsion, and that is a mere matter of bargain?—The refusing landlords are trying to make a "corner" in the land and they are monopolists in that way, and they want to get their own price, and I think that, just like the acquiring for other uses, there should be compulsory powers to deal with them, and they are standing in their own light very often.

52507. Your view is that they are not to be allowed to force up the price beyond the fair value, but what do you call a fair value; what basis would you proceed upon?—I would give them that as the basis really, a number of years' purchase, and I would regulate it according to the standard of the Ashbourne prices, what they claimed before the Act of 1903.

52508. Would you say that if compulsion is applied the landlord ought to be left in a worse position than he was before?—No; I would not ask that. No one is anxious for that.

52509. Would you say it was fair to pay him a sum of money which would give him his net income?—Yes, but he would have to produce his books and his rental with a call for receipts, and there should be a regular audit, and I would not give him his own fancy price for the investment of it. We have had it the other day from one of your honourable Commission that there never was a better time for investment than the present, and therefore I would not give him his net income at an investment of 2½ or 3½ per cent. I would make him take his risk of the money market as he is taking the benefit of the land market as it is. In other words, I would not rob the State.

52510. Would you say it would be unfair to compulsorily acquire land and leave the owner of that land in a poorer position than he was before that would be accomplished?—It would.

52511. Would you say, on the other hand, that it was fair to pay a sum of money which, when reasonably invested, would give him exactly the same sum of money which he had before?—What I would define reasonable investment to be would be the same as he would invest for his family previous to the sale or during his life, with reasonable caution for the risks of rise and fall in the money market. I would adopt that, but that he should not be left in a gilt-edged frame of security as a kind of family heirloom. In other words, I would not allow him an investment that would not put a burden on the State and the taxpayer. I would make him work for his living in the money market as he did in the land market before to the last penny.

52512. The investment would have to be a reasonable one?—Yes.

52513. And it would not be fair to give him a sum of money which should be invested in a Ballina boot factory?—Yes, if the Department came to his relief as directors. There are so many of them in Ireland that would come to his relief.

52514. I think you are probably aware that in the Act of 1903 there are set down a number of securities?—I believe there are.

52515. Trustee securities are very much extended by the Act of 1903?—Yes; I saw that. I saw a list of them some time ago, but I have a bad memory for them.

52516. Would you say it would be a fair thing to give him a sum of money which if invested in the securities mentioned in that clause would return him his income?—I forget those rates. I think some of them in that list would pay four, and five, and six, and seven per cent.

52517. Oh, no; but at all events you would give him a chance in that investment?—Something like that, but he should work and labour for it. That would be good for his health.

52518. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Are you aware that the owners of land are usually what are called limited owners?—Yes, indeed.

52519. And that money they cannot invest in anything they like, but they are bound by Acts of Parliament. What would you do in that case?—I think there is a Public Trustee.

52520. But that does not override the Act of Parliament. That is merely to carry out the Trustee Act. What would you do in that case?—Of course I am not an expert in the matter. I would leave them to invest their money as they thought best. That is, in a general way.

52521. That would alter the law of the country?—I am not coming here to deal with that. Let them follow the law of the country. That would be the best thing for them to follow. Of course I am only making a general remark.

52522. CHAIRMAN.—Your point is that the investment should be a reasonable one; on the one hand that the landlord should not ask an absurdly safe

investment, and on the other hand that the investment should be tolerably safe?—Yes; it would be a good thing for the landlords, when they retired, to give them anxiety. It would be good for their friends, and for their general health, to make them labour in the money market as they did in the land; and that would give them an interest in the stock market for home industries.

52523. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—You have an investment for the trusts of settled estates, and you have an investment for estates that are not settled?—Yes.

52524. And the one class might produce more than the other, and as regards settled estates I suppose you would like that the proceeds should be invested in such securities as are now allowed to trustees, or mentioned in the schedule annexed to the Act of 1903?—Exactly, my lord.

52525. And then, looking to the vendors, there is the sale of land which is not settled, and as regards that, they can adopt what investment they please?—Certainly. As they exercised themselves while in possession of the land, in getting £6 for grazing lands, so they might in the money market try to exert their ingenuity. There is a big field. They should have compulsory powers, and I would use compulsion within the law, as it were, that is, a withdrawal of the bonus from landlords who refuse to sell on unreasonable grounds. I would add that word. That is a word that we have no definition for nowadays.

52526. Mr. O'Kelly.—Do you mean with regard to any land?—Any land in Connaught. I think it would be to their own detriment not to take the bonus, 12 per cent., or something. I would threaten that. I would use compulsion within the law, say, after the five years allowed in Act of 1903.

52527. You would threaten them?—I would.

52528. But you would not carry out the threat?—I would if after due notice they did not take it.

52529. Sir John Colomb.—You only take compulsion to apply to landlords and graziers?—Yes.

52530. And that is to facilitate the relief of congestion?—Yes, on a large scale, and to give the poor man room for working.

52531. Allow me to go a little further. Supposing in a congested district there is a large farm, and the taking of that farm is necessary for the relief of congestion, would you apply compulsion to the farmer?—Do you mean if he was a practical farmer, if he was only a big residential agricultural tenant?

52532. I take a practical farmer?—I would not.

52533. You would not?—If you named the amount of land he might hold, I would like to suggest something.

52534. I am supposing a district where there are very small poor holders, and in that locality there is a large farm, and the relief of congestion in the district cannot be carried out without the acquirement of that farm. In that case I ask you would you apply compulsion to that farmer?—I do not think I would, sir, because that is part and parcel of the solution. Residential practical farmers, big or small, would come in useful for the small holders for cattle purchase. They will have their own use, I believe, in the general scheme, if they are residential practical farmers.

52535. Well, take the case of a shopkeeper. Shopkeepers will have a piece of land, and they do not live upon it, and they graze it. What would you do with them?—I would have a special clause for them.

52536. What would you do with them?—Absolute compulsion for their own good in the first place, and for the general good in the next place, because they are not a fair factor in land at all. They can fall back on the shop if the land is a failure, and they can fall back on the land if the shop is a failure; and I would regard the shopkeeping landlord or the shopkeeping grazier, particularly the shopkeeping landlord, as one of the greatest evils, and acting like double pneumonia on the congestion of the country, because he grinds the people between the shop and the land itself.

52537. And then you would not only apply compulsion to the landlord but you would apply it to all classes where it was necessary for the relief of congestion?—Certainly.

52538. Now, supposing the shopkeeper or anybody else bought the land and became a tenant-purchaser, would you compulse him?—I would compulse him, with due regard to title and to compensation and recoupment. I would not call that compensation. I would give him his value if I take up what he had left in it through purchasing.

52539. You would give everybody the value?—I would give value for value, but it would have to be strict, and it would not be a value of their own making, and it would have to be prospective of future competition, and be founded on that as well as experience of past failures.

52540. Mr. Bryce.—As to the acquisition of land by shopkeepers, you do not approve of it?—No.

52541. Then, you do not agree with what has been proposed as regards Athenry?—Well, I live in an island. I only get the papers three times a week in fair weather and I have not had time to read them, but I see that the town tenants acquired some land outside the town. I had not time to read the papers in detail.

52542. But you do not think that a good move?—Buying the land?

52543. Yes?—I say for the ordinary hygiene, for sanitation, any shopkeeper ought to have a garden attached if possible if the lie of the town would give that.

52544. I quite understand that, and your remark applies merely to the acquisition of a considerable amount of land by shopkeepers?—Yes; not to a little meadow or a place for a cow.

52545. That is what I wanted to get at?—But for grazing it applies without reserve, and that is for their own good, too. The people here, I may say, who had shops, were standing constantly at their shops, that is when people were on the soil in more numbers. Now shops are starving simply because they are depriving themselves of the very sources of their wealth, and it is unfair that if a shopkeeper makes his income at a shop, from the people, he should walk out then and make little conquests and aggrandisements, and take up patch after patch, by fair means we will say, sometimes, but we know of cases where they buy up holding after holding till they are, some of them, now landed proprietors in the West of Ireland; and that is radically wrong.

52546. Chairman.—Now, I think you have said enough on that point. What is the next?—The question of recognising actual tenant interest as vested in the owner who is also the occupier of grazing land. That is not my view. I think, if I do not mistake, that that was declared judicially to be a legal absurdity by a high judicial authority in the Land Court in Ireland. The way I regard it is this:—Supposing a landlord has an estate and he has some grazing land, non-residential, and he is going to sell his estate, he wants to get paid for his interest in that land as a landlord, and also claims to be paid for a tenant's interest in it.

52547. You are against that?—Totally, and I think a high judicial authority declared it illegal and absurd, and it does not take a philanthropist or a judge to see that it is economically fraught with disaster to any tenants who would come in there.

52548. I quite see what you mean, that if that principle is recognised the price of grazing lands of that kind would be very large?—Oh, it would be "Touch-me-not."

52549. But all the same is it not perfectly true that where an owner individually owns grass land which is entirely in his possession, on which no tenants exist, where he perhaps may own all the beasts upon it himself, as a matter of fact that man does own a dual interest—he owns his own interest and the tenant's interest?—Then, he would want to have a double, my lord, for he is himself, and he is somebody else. A high judicial authority declared it to be legally absurd.

52550. Do not talk about a high judicial authority?—Well, I would mention the name in confidence, but I am afraid of the landlords. It might not be safe for him—they are Tories and Rapparees at present.

52551. We can consider the matter ourselves?—Well, it is Judge Ross. He is safe. I think he declared that in his own court.

52552. We have not got Judge Ross here?—But take it, then, on its merits as a matter of common sense. How can a man own a thing twice legally? How can he own it physically twice for the purpose of contract or sale, but according to this principle he

Sept. 19, 1907.

Rev. James Kelly.

will have a dual ownership. He cannot catch it at both ends.

52553. Take it in this way. The interest in the land belonged at one time to one person, and then the tenant comes, and does perhaps a certain amount of improvements, and establishes himself there and gradually acquires an interest in that land as a tenant, and the tenant's interest has been recognised by various Acts of Parliament. What do we find now? A tenant's interest and a landlord's interest. The land changes hands. It is the tenant-right that is sold, and the landlord's interest remains outside that tenant-right, and then the Board, on purchasing the estate of that man, have to buy both interests, the tenant's interest and the landlord's interest, for two different individuals?—Yes, and because they are two.

52554. To a grass farm exactly the same thing applies, only in that case surely both interests are in the hands of the original man?—I do not follow you in that, my lord, as far as that interest was even in the hands of the tenant. As a matter of fact, you have only to drive through any part of the Connaught Estates. It is an historical fact that it was by reason of the clearances that followed the original settlement that they have been systematically squeezing them into the fringes, and if there are improvements on those holdings they are the result of the labour and the sweat of the tenants.

52555. That may be true?—And this would be only an act of retribution and an act of re-settlement by giving back to them what was theirs.

52556. We are not discussing that. That is another thing. The whole point is whether in a case of that kind there is what you call a dual interest or not?—Take the case of an estate that never happened.

52557. There is nothing to prevent the landlord from breaking up that land and taking in tenants. He can establish tenancies upon that land if he likes?—He can.

52558. Then supposing he can, does not that immediately prove that there is a dual interest?—In the present state of the law he cannot, because that would be regarded as slobland, and any body in Ireland is not empowered to deal with such a business. I do not think any public body can deal with that.

52559. Mr. O'Kelly.—I am afraid you are not correct in that?—Yes. As far as my memory goes. I am referring to what I saw in an actual report in a daily paper of the proceedings in Judge Ross's Court.

52560. Mr. Bryce.—Do you think it matters very much whether you talk about a dual interest or not?—I do.

52561. You stated to Lord Dudley some time ago that you would be willing to give to the landlord his income?—Yes.

52562. Well, in this particular case where he is selling untenanted land you do not mean to distinguish between two interests do you?—Except in relation to the proposed act of compulsion. It would come in under that heading as a certain easement to relief of congestion.

52563. It does not matter whether the land is tenanted or untenanted. If he is going to get, as you say that he should get, his net income, it does not very much matter?—No, from that aspect.

52564. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—I think you were right in your first statement that it is still possible for an owner to create a present tenancy; that is under the 17th section of the Act of 1896. It is likely you are right in that, and I should like to ask you a little further about it. When in answer to Lord Dudley, our Chairman, you said that you were unwilling to recognise any dual interest, it was ownership you referred to rather than interest?—Well, I defined the word interest if ownership is the word.

52565. Had you before your mind a belief that tenants were driven off this untenanted land?—Well, I have known that frequently, and the tell-tale traces remain all over them.

52566. And if they would not get compensation for tenant-right you certainly would not acknowledge a dual interest there?—No.

52567. That is clear?—That is clear.

52568. If the owner had driven them off without compensation for tenant-right you would not pay him for the tenant's interest as well as the owner's?—Certainly not.

52569. I want to carry you further. Suppose an owner had twenty tenants on his land and that he is a legitimate owner and never evicted at all, and suppose that he buys the interest of those tenants and thus has the land in his own hands. Now, suppose the Congested Districts Board comes to him and wants to buy that land from the owner, will you give him, for the land which he has now in his own hands, bought from the tenants, more than if he had never bought it?—Certainly, my lord. What I said in the whole matter is this, that I would refuse to recognise, and any public body should refuse to recognise, an equal dual interest of the same person in grazing land as a landlord and as a tenant. There should be a consideration for the fact that it was not grazing land set to parties, but not to allow a double interest all the same.

52570. Now, suppose an owner is legitimately in possession of grass land, do you think he has more interest in that than if tenants were on it?—Yes; I would say so.

52571. Well, in the sale of that grass land would you not give him more than you would give him for the land if there were tenants on it?—Certainly, my lord, as an easement.

52572. Then it does not follow that he is to get twice as much?—No.

52573. But you would consider that he has a more valuable interest in that grass land than in corresponding land, on which there are tenants?—Yes, my lord.

52574. You see what is laid down by the Land Act of 1881 and by the Gladstonian legislation generally is that the landlord and tenant are dual owners, the State recognising the interest of the tenant in the soil, and it appears from this that if you buy from the landlord, grass lands in his own hands, which he has legitimately got, he has a bigger interest to be bought than if there were tenants on it?—He has, but I do not think a tenancy created since the 1903 Act will be recognised by the purchase clause, and the Acts were for tenants as such.

52575. You are quite right. That would be looked upon by the Estates Commissioners as against the policy of the Act?—Yes, it would be against the Act.

52576. Chairman.—I only want to make one remark. I think that you agree that where, in old days, the land was acquired without payment of tenant-right, that circumstance should be taken into account?—Certainly.

52577. Now, I think I am right in saying, am I not, that so far as the legal recognition of tenant-right is concerned it was the Act of 1870 which recognised that, and therefore previous to 1870 the State had no recognition, as a State, of tenant-right. It was merely a custom?—Yes.

52578. Would you suggest in these days the possibility of the State taking into consideration the condition of affairs that existed before the Act of Parliament recognised the system of dual ownership?—Well, my lord, that is an academic legislative question that I am not exactly following. I am only dealing with the question of the land law as it exists now and for the future.

52579. But my point is this; that we want to get at a practical method by which the value of land can be ascertained, and I put it to you. Do you think it possible that any body fixing the price of grass land would go into the condition of affairs existing sixty or seventy years ago, before a dual interest was even recognised by Act of Parliament?—I do not know the drift of that. I cannot say anything in regard to that question.

52580. And therefore does it not amount to this: that when an owner comes before a body that have to value the grazing land which is now in his possession it is quite impossible for a judge or anybody else to take into consideration, in dealing with that land, what happened sixty or seventy years ago?—Well, they are going back fifty years, or, I think, twenty-five years, on the Evicted Tenants' question. I do not know what they should be bound to do in that matter.

52581. Otherwise, what is there to prevent you from going back three or four hundred years?—All I am dealing with at present is that as the law, as it stands at present, says that the dual interest should not be recognised as vested in one, it should be for competent judicial land authorities to say what would be reasonable.

52582. Assuming that the land which was bought up before them was what his lordship called land legitimately possessed?—Yes, if there be such a thing in Connaught, if there be estates without ruinous houses in Connaught. Now, if I may be permitted to continue I would say that in order to carry out that scheme of purchase the Board is claiming, or would want to claim, that all Connaught should be scheduled as congested. They are complaining, in the reports published, about the difficulty of carrying out the wholesale State purchase and of the difficult settlement of isolated estates.

52583. Before we pass from the question of compulsion, there is only one more question I should like to ask you. You have told the Commission that in your opinion it is reasonable that the landlord should receive his net income, that net income should be the basis of compensation. It is possible, is it not, that the inspection of the books might show that the number of years' purchase to be given, by the Congested Districts Board we will say, would be higher than in some cases had been paid under voluntary purchase under the Ashbourne Act?—I do not know that that would be so after duly auditing.

52584. But it might be?—Oh, it might be, possibly.

52585. Would you then be of opinion that when the Congested Districts Board use any compulsory power to buy they should only do so on the requisition, would you say, of two-thirds of the tenants, who would clearly have before them the fact that the Board would have to buy on the basis of any income that the books showed, and that therefore they would have to repay through the Board on the same basis?—Yes, I think it would be well that the Board should consult some advisory committee of the tenants, or at least take them into their confidence.

52586. And that the Board should use compulsion on the requisition of the tenants?—Yes.

52587. Clearly understanding what the terms of compulsion were?—Yes; but of course it is difficult

52588. Do you say what might happen in that case?—Well, I have not thought that thing out. There are lots of things possible.

52589. You would not be of opinion that it would be judicious either locally or nationally, from a national point of view, that the Board should acquire land compulsorily on the basis, we will say, of eighteen years' purchase, suppose it does amount to that, and that then when the Board had acquired the land the tenants should turn round and squeeze the Board and say, "Give us the land at ten years' purchase"?—I would not say that when the net income was really a ground for eighteen years' purchase they should ask to get it at ten. But I would be fair to the State, too. The fact that the man had a net income like that would show that they were a good lot of tenants, that they paid, and that he had really got a good lot out of them in the past, and I would take that into consideration when fixing the net income, and that he ought to have capital made having the good tenants he had, and that there ought to be consideration shown to the faithful tenants who were good in the past by selling the estate at a nice price.

52590. You would not suggest that the Board should be compelled compulsorily to acquire property at such a price that they would be unable to resell it to the tenants without an enormous loss?—I would not by any means. That would be worse than the disease.

52591. In your opinion the way to get over that would be for the tenants to understand before they purchased through the Board compulsorily at that amount that they would have to repay the loan through the Board on such terms?—Yes, I think so.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—And have their rents fixed by the court upon the purchase price.

52592-3. CHAIRMAN.—Somebody should determine what was the net income?—It is upon that hypothesis I put it.

52594. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Take the case of compulsory power exercised by the proper authority to buy a certain property. The tenants would make up their minds what should be the annuity they would pay to the tribunal which settles the price and fixes a certain sum. If the property is re-sold at what the tenants would pay there will be a loss. Then I ask you who is to bear the loss?—I think in that case, as I said a while ago, there will be a little compensation balance between the tenants and the outgoing landlord, and it should be divided between the landlord and the purchasing body.

52595. In that case an injustice is to be done to the Board, and therefore the Board will have to ask a higher sum than the tenants are willing to pay. What would you say in that case?—It would be an economical evil out of which good might come.

52596. Would you make compulsory the fixing of the rate they are to pay?—If it is a reasonable thing.

52597. Who is to judge of the reasonableness of it?—The body or Board that has to deal with the relief of congestion. From their past experience they know whether the incoming tenant can pay it successfully.

52598. Supposing that in that transaction there is inevitably a loss to be made, a small loss on the total transaction, should any individual or any class bear it, or should the State bear it?—I think the State, as it is a State problem, and if it is a small loss. And the State should take very good care that the fixing of the price should minimise the amount of the loss. Now about the sea. After all, with the land question settled in every Connemara estate along the sea board, it would be only laying the foundation of economic living, that is a state of living from hand to mouth, and there would remain still there, and necessarily, the problem of the completion of the economic structure, that is on land and on sea; and I would say that the Act dealing with the vesting of mineral rights should be amended stringently in favour of the tenants—the new occupiers. I do not know if these rights are vested in the Estates Commissioners, but this is a fact, as they are vested at present they will prevent any capitalists coming into the country or starting works of industry.

52599. Who would prevent it?—The vesting of the mineral rights as they are at present.

52600. Who is to prevent capital coming?—This fact, that the landlords now here at present have a royalty, I suppose, and they make a heavy charge for even opening a mine.

52601. CHAIRMAN.—No; the landlord is out of it altogether at present, I fancy?—It has happened as a matter of fact at Cleggan. The landlord has put on a sliding scale.

52602. The present Act does this, it vests in the hands of the Land Commission the mineral rights of an estate which has been purchased. The Land Commission holds those mineral rights, and I assume that if anyone is to develop them it is the Land Commission. How do you say that should be amended?—Well, I say more beneficially than arrears of rent in leaving them hang there still.

52603. How would you make them more beneficial?—Well, I would give them some interest, some kind of a royalty if oil was struck on their land—some kind of interest. It happened on an estate near that a mine was opened recently, and there was great difficulty in opening it; and it is closed now temporarily, and the experts say that it is a very profitable shaft. Down at Maam Cross a man told me yesterday that they have a lead and silver mine opened. They have at present 2,000 tons ready for shipping to Galway, and I am told it is all pure ore. I hear that there is a mine there near Maam Cross. I took it down yesterday from a man, and I will give it on his authority—he is the Assistant County Surveyor for the Riding—that the lead is almost pure ore there.

52604. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You think that the tenant should have some interest in the opening of mines on his holding?—Certainly; and that capitalists should be induced by the Estates Commissioners to open these, and that there should be some inducement given to capitalists with regard to mines and not a prohibitive tariff or a sliding tariff put on.

52605. You would not have the law so changed that if a tenant was unable to develop the mineral wealth of his holding he should be allowed to stand in the way of its development?—By no means. He should be compelled to allow it, but he should get some interest in it. There are very many such in the country. I know, as a matter of fact, there is splendid and valuable granite all along the coast, and I have a letter from Chicago stating the value they would put on it, and they want to purchase it, and the landlord refuses it; and as it received a very high polish

Sept. 19, 1907.

Rev. James Kelly.

it was shown at the Exhibition; and it is at the north end here of Clifden, and all round Roundstone.

52606. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—What property is it on?—I have the letter here. It is merely private. It is on Mr. Frere's land, at any rate it is on that property; and it is the same all round the south of Connemara, Roundstone. A few centuries ago a most rare quality of white streaked black marble was to be got at Inishbofin, and there is a vein of it there still; as well as a copper mine, and slate stone and soap stone in abundance. Furthermore, I would say, with regard to the inland lakes, that more industrial progress could be shown in the lake fisheries. All along from Ballinamoy to Roundstone is dotted with a hundred lakes, and there is the sea flowing, I think, into the Doughola side of the property where fish might go up, and certainly salmon hatcheries might be developed there with great profit to the country. It is a waste otherwise. It would be for fishery experts to try that and to give their opinion on it. The Ballinahinch fisheries are just opposite it, and the banks and beds may be found as genial in these. And I say the sporting rights should be vested in the tenants, and I think the Irish Game Association have intimated to the Congested Districts Board that it would be a good thing in the transfer of property to have the sporting rights vested in the tenants, as they would have an interest, as in the mineral business, in preserving them and developing them. They were the natural, the nearest, and the best gamekeepers, and they would be unpaid by any individual body except for the productiveness of the business.

52607. Is it not the law that in cases where the landlord and tenant do not otherwise agree beforehand the game does go to the tenant, and if there is no agreement it is vested in the Estates Commissioners?—Yes, but I take it from the Irish Game Association's report to the Board of that year and I say, when it comes from that body it amounts to a very high recommendation, that they are willing to see these rights given to the tenants.

52608. You are speaking of the Irish Game Protection Association?—Yes.

52609. When did they make this proposal?—I think it is in this report. It is in the prelude to the Fourteenth Report.

52610. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—We were told of an arrangement by which the tenant-purchaser would be paid so much bird money for each bird shot on the farm, and do you consider that a good way?—Yes; and another alternative, my lord, if I remember rightly was that they should have the right for sale *in globo* and let it to the highest bidder.

52611. CHAIRMAN.—Who suggested that?—The Game Association, and they recommended to the Board that in the transfer of property all sporting rights should be vested in the tenants with a view to the better protection of game in Ireland. It is done on the Lord Dillon Estate at Aughmore. I think they had a regular Committee, a Game Protection Committee on an estate of 12,000 acres. They think it an improvement.

52612. Suppose some tenants refused to agree to that, what would happen?—I would have that dealt with legislatively. I would have it if two-thirds desired it, or one-third, because you will sometimes find them the saner part. At all events they ought to get the benefit of legislation, even one-third of them. And sometimes the tenants look for poachers.

52613. And is this your view, that when the State passes a property to the tenants, then by legislation upon that estate a body of tenants should be created?—Yes, a Committee.

52614. That each purchasing tenant should be compelled to place his sporting rights in the hands of that Committee?—I do. You have one or other of two things. Either the sporting rights are already in the hands of the tenants by agreement or in the hands of the landlord by non-agreement in the past. At the sale either the sporting rights are in the hands of the landlord or judicially passing into the tenant's hands. Well, in either case I should say that in the act of transfer or sale to a public body the sporting rights should go there and then *in globo* to the tenants and not be individually vested in them, but should be transferred simply with the property.

52615. To a local Committee?—Yes, to a local Committee to be formed.

52616. And the local Committee would have power to lease those sporting rights?—Yes, for the benefit of the estate individually or *in globo*.

52617. And should have the power of prosecution for poaching?—By all means, to be vested in trustees.

52618. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I gather from this that you regard the question of the preservation and development of game and fishing in Ireland as a matter of national importance?—A national asset, by no means of the least importance.

52619. And the great object is to secure the goodwill of the tenants, and they will get a collateral benefit from the preservation of the game?—Yes, and directly by the presence of sportsmen in the district whether landlords or not.

52620. CHAIRMAN.—Is there any reason why that Board should not do this for the benefit of the tenants?—No reason. That would be equally good.

52621. Would not it be simpler than to vest it in a Committee?—As to the matter of title I have no decided view, but to have it so vested in the tenants, at all events, as to have them the gamekeepers, and to have them directly interested.

52622. Mr. O'KELLY.—Would they regard the Board as instituted for their interest?—Well, for their benefit. I take it for granted that they would regard the Board as instituted for their interest ultimately. At all events the tenants would, as a body, have the right of having these rights directly vested, whether they were vested in the Board or in a committee of the tenants, who were the ultimate owners, the beneficiary owners.

52623. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—If the sporting rights were conveyed might the tenants subsequently preserve them?—That would be a doubtful question. You might find cranks amongst tenants as amongst landlords.

52624. CHAIRMAN.—You would regard those tenants as cranks?—They would upset the whole scheme, and I would not give them individually that power or option, and I would place it in the tenants as a committee.

52625. Or in trust for the tenants?—Yes. I will be brief now in the rest of what I have to say. I will only just name the heads. I should say that the County Councils should be State-aided for the purpose of re-afforesting the country, especially picturesque Connemara, and improving the waste lands of it and providing shelter belts, and these would be a great shelter for game, for woodcock, in those western highlands, and for the preservation of game in places that are waste now for any purpose. And I wish to say this much, that as to the solution by sea, the question is very grave. In this union the piers and harbours are, I might say, in a very perilous condition. From the condition of the jetty at Cleggan the harbour there is a deathtrap at present. I will prove that; and it is very much against Inisboffin district. As a matter of fact, prospective fishermen are very slow to take boats from the Board on the purchase system, simply through fear of Cleggan. The Boffin fishermen there when they go out to fish, if there is anything like a wind at all, will face almost a watery death rather than wait in Cleggan on a night there may be a storm. As a matter of fact, a poor man who got his boat rebuilt in Boffin, and was not able to pay for it, could not bring that boat into the harbour, and it was wrecked outside here last spring. I have known cases where they could not load or unload, but had to stand away from the pier, and they dare not stay within the harbour at night. The approach to it is ruinous.

52626. You have been speaking of the necessity of agriculture very much—the question of a school of agriculture?—I say for Connemara and for the seaboard generally.

52627. Now, you are at present on an island?—Yes, my lord.

52628. I suppose there is hardly anybody on the island who can be called an expert in agriculture?—Well, the ex-landlord, Mr. Allies. He is a very good agriculturist, with a limited concern. He is not an expert.

52629. I suppose people come to you sometimes for advice?—Well, my lord, in the matter of agriculture they follow their own methods.

52630. But if you had ever gone through any agricultural course do you not think that you would be

able to help your people in agricultural advice?—I believe so; but some may not start, and some may not succeed.

52631. But is it not very important that if the people are to be helped with agricultural knowledge that somebody who is to some extent an expert in these matters should live constantly amongst them?—By all means.

52632. If you had yourself at any time gone through an agricultural course do you not think that you would be able to help your people in that way?—I would.

52633. Living constantly amongst them?—Yes.

52634. Now, let me further carry that out. You were in Maynooth?—Yes, my lord.

52634A. Now, looking back at your years in Maynooth, do you think that you would have been able to find time during your course there to have studied agriculture?—Well, I will leave that, my lord, to the Council of Studies at Maynooth to decide.

52635. But it is a question of time?—Well, the course is a long one, and it is occupied. It might be lengthened.

52636. How many years is the course?—Seven years.

52637. Do you not think that in seven years you could have found time, during that period, to put yourself through a course of agricultural teaching?—Well, my lord, for the work in the other vineyard it is a very wide field of labour to prepare for, but I believe it is a fitting course. If there were some terms taken off, or a year added, or something like that, for a certain number of students of a bent that way, I think it would be a good thing, my lord, very beneficial to congested districts.

52638. Would it not be to the general advantage of many of those rather out-of the way districts if the parish priest was, to a certain extent, a trained agriculturist?—By all means, my lord, a great advantage, and it would be a good thing to put the parish priests through the course.

52639. Would it not be conceivable that such a course might be added to the arrangements of the committee while you are at Maynooth?—It would, I think. Of course his lordship the Bishop will take the best view of that; but I believe that for the Connemara seaboard, with all the schools of agriculture known to us at present, all the experts in those places would want to come to school to Connemara to learn the local needs of agriculture if there were to be any success attending, as ordinarily I do not think even Scotland or England or Germany would solve the problem, because of the nature of the land, the avocations and heroic efforts through land and sea for food, the widely different kind of soil, and the effect of the salt on the land. I am told that the seaweed inland has a better effect upon the land than here. It is all waste and spent here. There is absolute need for a local school of agriculture here, and there are many places around very suitable. Actually sick people are able to till them at present. And there is an equal need, I say, for a local fishery school, and nature intended, I believe, the solution of this congestion problem in Connemara to be on sea as well as on land. There is the amphibious kind of economical existence for them. Though men live inland, tilling away day after day, and if they were given what may be called a £10 holding with other industries, could live economically, and educate a family, to give these men anything in life they must have the sea. And they have the sea there, and the fish in it, as the present Chief Secretary said; but they have waste lands, locked-up harbours, and the piers are dry land or ruinous.

52640. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—When you spoke about Cleggan you meant Cleggan in its present condition. without the necessary protection?—Yes, and with the late addition to it.

52641. Yes, I have been there; I have seen it; but when you called Cleggan a death-trap, what you meant was that Cleggan as it is now is a death-trap?—Yes, and as it was before. Its last state is not better than the first.

52642. You do not mean to say that Cleggan would be anything but a good harbour if that protection was given by the extension of the pier further?—Certainly; I believe it would be a proper bay for the All-Red Route. It is a pity that Cleggan is neglected, at all events for direct sailings across the Atlantic.

52643. Mr. BRYCE.—You expressed an opinion about the possibility of an agricultural course in Maynooth. Do you think it would be a good thing if in the National Schools there was some agricultural education given?—Certainly, by all means. There should be a plot where it is possible, and unless the teacher is trained in agriculture it is all waste.

52644. Do you not think it would be a good thing if by some means the teachers should have some education in general agriculture, and should impart that in the National school?—The educational authorities would first want to relieve their programme of its present congestion. Otherwise it would only hamper the teacher. They are at present doing it, and they do not know where to begin and where to end. This much I would like to say with regard to the development of the fisheries on the Western coast—there is an absolute need of a better transit system. Now Boffin Harbour was protected by the Government in the time of Charles the Second, by twenty-four guns for foreign fishermen who crowded within it, while it needs an artillery of steel pens to extract from the paternal Government of our day even a beacon on the Gun Rock to light our native fishermen home in safety. Then, owing to circumstances, it was thought proper to get a certain contractor to blow up the harbour and destroy it for future purposes. It is there still, but the fort is destroyed. I do not know what countryman the contractor was. He was a foreigner; and he took the money, and he stopped the contract there, and the harbour remains; and at least there ought to be something done by the present Government to relieve all these things and to show as much interest at least in the islands along the coast as there was in the past for foreigners.

52645. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Improved transit would be essential for the development of this place?—Yes.

52646. You have stated, and I should like to know on what lines you make the recommendation, that a fishery school would be necessary. Would it be better to have a fishery school, or to have a practical instructor there to bring the boys out to sea, and show them by practice, in a sympathetic way, the best methods of carrying on the business of catching fish?—By all means, my lord. We have instructors at present in the seasons. But it is a great waste for fishermen to buy a big nobby and fish for six or seven weeks, and have it laid up the rest of the year, a home for barnacles. A fisherman must be one thing or the other, and there ought to be a fleet of fishermen which is manned to fish and to take the riches that lie at their door. At present it is not done. The problem is just simply touched. There is something done, but nearly the whole of it remains to be done. There wants to be a market found, foreign, and home especially, for fresh fish. And I think also the Department of Agriculture send their assistants about, and they are going about the country, and there are enough of them in it. In their travels they ought to find in the various towns inland persons to deal with for the purchase of fish, and some railway facilities for transit. In fact, if a steamer was brought out it would make the railways look up.

Mr. JOHN M. LYDEN examined.

52647. CHAIRMAN.—You are a member of the County Committee?—Yes, my lord. It was only two days ago I was notified about giving my evidence, and I was not well prepared.

52647A. Is there any point you would like to draw our attention to. How do the agricultural schemes work here?—To my mind they do not work very well, my lord. I do not think we have got sufficient power I think the local committees are too much controlled by the Department. I am quite clear on that. I do not attend many meetings, but, in my humble judgment, I think we are very much controlled.

52648. Let me understand why?—They are too much out of the way from Connemara.

52649. Where do they meet?—At Athenry, my lord; but we are going to have a second meeting in

Sept. 19, 1907.

Mr. John M. Lyden

Galway for the present year. But for the year previous every meeting was held in Athenry.

52650. You found it inconvenient?—Most inconvenient; because I attend regularly the County Council meetings, and I am on the County Committee, and it is very hard to attend all those meetings.

52651. Where do you live?—I live at Clifden.

52652. You are representative on the County Committee for what area?—Roundstone, the south part of Clifden Union, and down towards Kilkerrin, and on up to Recess.

52653. Are you acquainted with the needs of the district?—Fairly well; Connemara is very much all alike.

52654. What is your business?—I am a shopkeeper.

52655. As a shopkeeper you know a good deal about the needs of this district?—I have a good deal of intercourse with the people, and I go about a little too.

52656. You do not find that the richer portions of the county get more consideration than the district that you represent?—Well, I think they do, my lord. I think they get a better representation on the Committee than what we have down here.

52657. Describe to us in what way you find that?—I find that when I am at that meeting that those of us who represent the poorer districts are very much in a minority in it.

52658. And, therefore, when it is a question of finding funds your power, and the power of other people like yourself, who represent the poorer areas, is not so great as the power of the people who represent the richer areas?—That is so, I think, but, however, they are not better representatives.

52659. Now, as to inconvenience; so far, has any attempt been made to work by sub-committees in this county?—No attempt to work by sub-committees; I think not. There are no sub-committees appointed.

52660. How would you suggest that these difficult conditions should be met. First, the difficulty of richer areas exercising greater influence in the Council and the Committee, and, secondly, the inconvenience that too many people in this area have to travel some way to the meetings?—I suggested, in the first instance, my lord, that the District Council should have the power of nominating more members on the Committee. I would not leave the power altogether in the hands of the County Council for electing members of the County Committee.

52661. How would that help you?—It would give a better representation, I think.

52662. Do you mean that you would have more men to represent you?—More men to represent. We are a very large area, and they would expect that. There was a very good representation compared to the area.

52663. You think, then, that the area of the constituency should be made smaller, or that there should be more men from this district?—Well, my lord, there are only two or three, I think, representing the Clifden Union on the County Committee. It would be well if we had for that very large union at least eight or nine.

52664. And the area that you have is very much larger than the areas in the richer districts?—I think our union is one of the largest unions in the county. I do not know whether I am right, but it is my opinion that it is one of the largest, and I am inclined to think that we have too small a representation.

52665. How many representatives has the union got?—I think we have only got three.

52666. Is there any rule respecting representation?—I do not think there is any rule laid down about representation.

52667. And who settles that?—The County Council.

52668. The County Council determines how many men should be representatives?—No; the way it is is this, that there is no regular rule laid down.

52669. Mr. O'Kelly.—The County Council does its best?—Yes, but there is no hard and fast rule laid down.

52670. It is not by regulation?—No.

52671. Chairman.—You find, in practice, that there are not sufficient representatives from the poorer areas?—Yes, my lord. I am only a member of the County Council for a couple of years back. There were a lot of members left on, and then every year they are re-formed again to fill up vacancies, and generally they make no other change except that.

52672. Now tell the Commission how schemes are initiated—who initiates them in the first instance?—The County Committee, my lord.

52673. The County Committee initiate the scheme?—Yes.

52674. And they say what they like?—They say what they like.

52675. And then what happens that scheme—is it sent up to town?—Yes, and it has to be approved of. It works much like the Board of Works and the Local Government Board.

52676. Just describe it. It is sent up to the Department for their approval, and then what happens—do they make alterations?—I think they suggest it. They may make any alterations or they may not adopt them. I do not attend the meetings very often, for the reason I have told you, and I might be leading you astray.

52677. Mr. Kavanagh.—Would you say the scheme was initiated in the County Committee?—I may not be accurate, but that is my recollection.

52678. Would you not rather say that the scheme is submitted to the County Committee by the Agriculture Department, and that they can either reject it or amend it?—Yes, quite so.

52679. Chairman.—Now, do you think it would be an improvement if, when the scheme was first of all being sketched out by the new Department, they were to summon up to Dublin, of course paying the expenses of the journey, the representatives of the area from which they have no representation. Supposing you and your two colleagues were sent up to Dublin when the scheme for this particular district was being considered by the new Department—if you were summoned there and taken into counsel by them, and the scheme was discussed?—I think that would be a good idea.

52680. Supposing you went up to Dublin and you found a little point here or a little point there, and supposing you conferred with them and drew up a scheme between you, do you think that would be the better way?—Yes.

52681. You said that you found the interference of the Department hampered you?—For instance, we wanted to get an instructress, and they would not allow her.

52682. That was a matter of money?—A poultry instructress was wanted, and I think she was elected twice by the Committee, and they would not sanction it.

52683. Did they say that it was because they had not enough money?—No; they said that it was not necessary.

52684. Do you think that the agricultural work was as well done since this County Committee scheme was adopted as it was before?—Oh, I think it has been a decided improvement, but I think it could be a little better.

52685. What do you think ought to be done to make it better; what do you think this part of the country needs in the way of agricultural instruction?—I think those local committees, my lord, that you were speaking about, would do very much. Local Committees could form an idea of what would suit their own district.

52686. And what do you think is wanted?—In the way of loans for seed in springtime, and plants.

52687. Mr. O'Kelly.—Do you think that the Department have not given the attention to this district which you think it needs?—Yes; they have done something, but the Congested Districts Board was doing it more thoroughly before.

52688. As to bulls, I see they have one at Renvyle, one at Roundstone, one at Letterfrack, one at Lettermullen, one at Rosmuck, one at Leenane, one at Cleggan, one at Letterfrack (additional bullock), and the Board have given a money-grant for Carna (lace), Carna (lobster), another grant to Carna, Cashel, Maam, Clifden, Carnamona. That is not a bad list?—You are taking in three unions in that.

52689. I am just pointing out?—That is a big area that you are just after going over now.

52690. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Have they not increased the supply of bulls last year?—I would not think so.

Very Rev. Canon M'Alpine examined.

52691. CHAIRMAN.—You have been nominated by the Archbishop of Tuam and by the United Irish League to give evidence before us?—Yes. It is with no small amount of diffidence that I come before you, fearing, as I do, that this Commission like many others that have preceded it within the last thirty years may be time lost, energy wasted, expenditure incurred, and hopes not realised. The reason I have for saying this arises from the fact that not a need can be pointed out, not a wrong can be exposed, and not a remedy can be suggested but has been scores of times already brought under the notice of the authorities with anything but satisfactory results. I trust that in saying this I need not add that nothing is further from my mind than to impugn in the slightest or remotest degree the perfect *bona fides* and strict impartiality of the members of this Commission. My remarks, then, will be very few and very brief. They will be mainly confined to stating once again on behalf of Clifden and Connemara, that, so long as our piers are left unmade, our quarries left unworked, our fisheries undeveloped, and our large grazing tracts untenanted, so long, on the part of the Government, will opportunities be missed, duties neglected, and promises unfulfilled. Here is my proof. Land in Connemara, particularly such land as the people live on, is not deserving of the name, so that very many of the people are obliged to have recourse to fishing. Now, in no other country but ours, and probably in no district but Connemara, would the strange spectacle be presented of many large fishing boats, built at the public expense, lying idle for eight months of the year for want of proper piers, while for the remaining four months they are worked under conditions that make the lot of the fisherman hard and his labours profitless. Where else but in Ireland under existing conditions could be found a district such as ours with so many natural advantages, its fisheries a mine of wealth, its marble and granite quarries within a mile of a railway station, with copper mines similarly situated, a splendid water supply in abundance, and all allowed to go to waste, while at the same time our people by hundreds are fleeing to foreign shores to seek that employment denied them here. The need for a proper pier in Clifden and Cleggan has been not only keenly felt by the people, but frequently admitted by the Government, and formed the chief recommendation of the Piers and Harbours Commission in 1885, of which Colonel Nolan was chairman. Government after Government, and Chief Secretary after Chief Secretary, promised that these works would be seen to. No later than last April was there a communication from Dublin Castle promising towards this Clifden pier a sum of £3,500, and towards Cleggan pier a sum of £7,000, with a contribution of £730 from the Congested Districts Board on the condition that from local sources a small amount, in accordance with section 2 of the Marine Act, would be forthcoming to the works both at Clifden and Cleggan. The Galway County Council, at my request, kindly and generously promised to contribute the required amount, yet up to this hour nothing whatsoever has been done by the Government in furtherance of these two most necessary works. Take our marble quarries. No quarries could be found in the world to beat them. Hundreds could be employed there, yet towards their proper working neither the Department of Agriculture nor the Congested Districts Board has contributed one farthing, beyond placing a few samples of the marble in the show-cases at the Cork, Limerick, and St. Louis Exhibitions. While I gladly and cheerfully admit the amount of good done in other ways by the Congested Districts Board along our western seaboard, I feel bound to say that better and more lasting results would have been obtained if in respect of them there was larger representation, greater activity and quicker despatch. This will appear manifest when we consider the fact that in the poorest and most congested districts from Blacksod to Galway, comprising such places as Achill, Westport, Cleggan, Clifden, Carna, Roundstone, and Aran, are without representatives on the Board, and when you also bear in mind the few land purchases that have been effected over that wide area, and the great delay that takes place in bringing matters to completion where sales have been already made. Very probably the fault is not all theirs, and that others are more to blame. In Connemara, at least, the landlords' exorbitant and prohibitive demands have rendered the Land Act of 1903 inoperative, and have made land purchase almost impossible. Here, assuredly, compulsory sale becomes not only advisable but absolutely necessary. What doubt can there be of this when we have landlords in Connemara asking from twenty-five to thirty years' purchase for their estates, when a respectful request coming from the Clifden District Council asking the local landlords if they would join with their tenants with a view to availing of the Land Act of 1903, and an amicable settlement being come to, is made, and only a few barely acknowledge the receipt of the resolution, while the vast majority would not condescend even to give a reply? What doubt can there be of this when we find still prevailing in many places that wretched rundale system by which little holdings are split up into as many as sixty or eighty patches, and, further, when we find honest hard-working men wheedled into being future tenants by wiles and stratagems, of which the less said the better? What else but abject misery can be our portion when, in Clifden Union alone, we have 1,770 families whose holdings are rated at under £2, and 1,300 more who are rated from £2 to £4? In other words, in the Clifden Union you have 3,000 families living on the bogs and marshes with a valuation under £4, while on the other hand you have eighty-eight non-resident graziers holding between them 68,830 acres of the best land in the whole district. As long as these things are allowed, emigration must continue, poverty must prevail, and the people must be destitute, discontented and unhappy. Still, for the sake of peace, and with a view to getting back again to the old homestead, our people are prepared to give for these grass lands even beyond what is reasonable and fair. And taking all the circumstances into consideration, it is my opinion that it ill becomes landlords to press their claims for extra compensation for grass lands unduly, for it ought not to be ignored, and it cannot be forgotten, that these same grass lands were made fertile by the people's sweat, and from them, only a few years ago, and without one penny compensation, these people or their fathers were ruthlessly evicted. A claim based on injustice and oppression can hardly be made good by a few years' possession, for common sense suggests, and simple justice dictates, that in such cases as I have described there ought not to be a Statute of Limitations. While the Congested Districts Board has done much to establish and promote the fishing industry here, I am only giving expression to the opinion of the priests and people of the Clifden Deanery when I say that in the Board's system of giving boats to the people, as well as in their mode of dealing with the skippers or instructors, there is room for improvement. The number of years for payment for boats should be extended, with the result that the half-yearly instalment should be greatly lessened, and if the instructors were given a share in the boat's earnings instead of a weekly wage as at present it would, in my opinion, be a better incentive to honest, persevering work. The crews who take and work boats on what is called the share system have also a cause of complaint, by reason of the fact that sometimes the boats are sold to others, or sent to other places, without their being consulted or apprised, or without the weekly instalments which they had regularly paid, or any portion of them being returned to them. Finally, to bring about a marked change in the condition of the people, as well as to have the fishing industry the great success we are all so anxious for, the matters here alluded to should be remedied, proper piers at Clifden and Cleggan should be built, an agricultural and fishery school should be established, and at curing stations such as Cleggan facilities to expedite the curing, such as covered sheds for curing in inclement weather, should be provided. By doing these things, together with the breaking up and distribution of the grass farms, emigration will be checked, good work will be done, peace and contentment restored, and lasting advantages secured.

52692. You say that for eight months of the year the fishing boats are lying idle for want of proper piers?—Quite so.

52693. How do they get on for the other four months?—Some seasons well; other seasons only fairly.

Sept. 19, 1907.

Very Rev. Canon M'Alpine.

52694. Why should this only operate for four months?—For the simple reason that a boat that might go out in safety in the summer season might find it next to impossible to go out in anything like a storm.

52695. What you mean is that the piers being inadequate during the winter the boats cannot use them?—During the winter or early spring.

52696. They use them in the summer months?—Even then with comparative difficulty.

52697. You made one admirable suggestion about the instructors being given a share of the profits. That strikes me as being an excellent idea. At present they are paid a weekly wage?—Yes.

52698. I suppose you are inclined to give a minimum weekly wage, with the possibility of adding to it?—Yes. If they had a share in the profits it would be an inducement to them to go out on many evenings on which they do not go out now.

52699. As regards extending the time of repayment, you find that at present the time is too short?—Yes. We find really that the average life of a boat may be said to be from twenty to twenty-five years, if it is properly cared. It is rather strange that the Board's limit of time during which the payments are to be made is from six to seven years. At least that is our experience in this district. In very few cases is the period extended to seven. In many cases it is six years, and in some it is only four.

52700. I suppose that the idea of the Board is that the sooner the men become absolute owners of the boats the better?—Are you speaking of those who have boats on the security system or the share system?

52701. The share system is the system in which a certain amount of the earnings is put aside?—Yes.

52702. That is the system which you would extend?—No; but the security system is the system that I would have a change made in.

52703. Describe that?—A man takes a boat, and gets three or four people to go security for him. A certain value is placed on the boat, and the time for payment is barely six or seven years. Seven is the maximum. Only in a few instances in Connemara has it gone even to seven. Under the share system there is a portion kept from the gross earnings, and retained by the Board in the hope that after a certain time the total outlay would be made good, and the boat would become the property of the crew. What I respectfully take exception to is this. Crews, to my knowledge, who worked from Clifden and Cleggan for five and six, and some even for seven, years had this experience, that after working in these boats for such an extended period, without the smallest notice being given to them, these boats were sold to others, and, let me add, even to very comfortable people. In my humble opinion, where a boat is taken away suddenly in this manner the incentive to the crews that would exist in other circumstances is entirely lost.

52704. Was that under the share system?—Yes.

52705. Do you mean to say that, while a certain amount of the profits were taken from the crew to pay for the boat, then, without any notification to the crew, suddenly the boat was sold to other crews?—I have that on the authority of these crews.

52706. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Did you lay the correspondence on these matters before Mr. Green or the Board?—I may say, as representing the priests of the Clifden Deanery, on a former occasion a certain resolution was unanimously passed at a meeting of the priests of the Clifden Union, which I forwarded to the Congested Districts Board. The Archbishop of Tuam presided at that meeting. In that resolution the attention of the Board was respectfully called to what we consider this anomaly.

52707. My point is this. The statements were made to you by the crew of a boat worked on the share system, who informed you that, without their being notified, the boat was sold to somebody else. Has this or any other particular case been laid by you before the authorities?—I don't think the Board will plead ignorance of the facts.

52708. Did you directly communicate the fact to the authorities?—By formal resolution.

52709. Did you, in that formal resolution, specify the particular case referred to, giving the name of the boat?—No; we did not give the names of the boats sold.

52710. It was a general resolution?—It was a general resolution, and confined itself particularly to the Clifden Union.

52711. In any of the cases in which you contend that there was hardship inflicted by the Board did you communicate to the Board the actual facts, giving names, dates, and everything else, so that the Board could inquire into the matter?—The reading of the resolution could not leave the Board for one moment in ignorance of the fact, because the boats in question were boats that were working from Cleggan.

52712. CHAIRMAN.—I can understand perfectly that if a man buys a boat on the security system and does not pay his instalments, then the Board, rather than come upon his guarantors, would re-sell the boat to another man; but I don't understand how that can arise under the share system, because the share system operates in this way, that the Board takes a certain proportion of the profits of the fishing to repay them for the boat, and one would think that under an automatic arrangement of that kind there would be no arrears which would justify the Board in re-selling the boat to someone else?—I happen to hold in my hand the Congested Districts Board's report for 1906, and you will find at page 76 of that report particulars of a boat called the "Hermon." The total outlay up to the date of this report was £328 12*s.* 11*d.*; this was the cost of boat, repairs, and everything. On the opposite page, 77, you will find the amount retained by the Board, in connection with this same boat up to the same period to be £217 3*s.* 6*d.* Now, what the men who worked that boat complain of—and, with all due respect to the Board, and to the Commission, I think they had reason for their complaint—is, that, notwithstanding the fact that the Board retained, as admitted by themselves, as much as £217 3*s.* 6*d.*, that boat was sold to another, without the crew being consulted or notified in any way.

52713. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Could you say how long that boat was in the hands of the crew?—The man who was supposed to be the owner of the boat was James Sweeney, and he worked the boat, with his crew, for a period of seven years.

52714. CHAIRMAN.—If he was the nominal owner it does not go to show that it was an instalment boat?—Notwithstanding the fact that what you say would appear to be, yet there ought to some one person supposed to be in charge of a boat. Someone in particular ought to be supposed to be the head of it.

52715. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You say he was supposed to be the nominal owner?—He was the man through whom the weekly payments used to be made to the Board's officer.

52716. There is an agreement entered into in the case of the share boats between the men who get the boat and the Board?—Yes.

52717. The catch is handed over to an officer of the Board?—The catch is made known to an officer of the Board.

52718. How many years have they this boat?—Sweeney says seven years.

52719. He was one of the men in it?—Yes.

52720. During the seven years they paid back £217?—Yes.

52721. During those years was there an instructor on board the boat?—I should say so.

52722. Did the crew always go out when the instructor wanted them?—Certainly. I never heard any complaint. On the contrary, I know, as a matter of fact, of cases where the crew, more than once were anxious to go out, and, owing to the dilatoriness of the instructor, they were obliged to stay in. That was the reason I made the suggestion a moment ago that if the instructor had a share in the earnings it might be better.

52723. Could we have the name of the instructor?—I shall be able to get it for you.

52724. I want to know about the crew. During those seven years when the crew had a catch they accounted for it to an officer of the Board?—Yes.

52725. When they had not a catch did they get any money from the Board?—I don't know whether they were allowed a small amount for maintenance.

52726. Was there such a thing as grub money?—They were getting something as a contribution to their maintenance, but that was deducted afterwards.

52727. That is an important thing. In the intervals when there was no fish they were getting grub money?—It is important, but if they got grub money I take it that it is included in the total given here. Would not any money paid for grub money be included in this total account?

52728. My understanding is that that money is for boat and gear?—It is rather significant the *etcetera* that is after it.

52729. Generally the outlay is for boat and gear. What would the subsistence have come to in the course of seven years for these men?—It is not to be pre-supposed that this money that you speak of was a matter of constant giving to the people, because during the few months of the spring fishing, the time that they were fishing was very limited, and it could not come to very much.

52730. Absolutely I know nothing about the case, and I am trying to elicit the facts. So when I ask you about this I am going simply on what occurs to me as a possible explanation. I would be greatly interested if you could give the Commission a statement with reference to the money advanced to those men during the seven years in the interval when they were not fishing?—I should be very glad to comply with that request of your lordships, but I take it, really, that whether it be much or little, considering that the Congested Districts Board or any public Board having the disbursement of public moneys, either the money was paid back by the men or it was not, and if it was not paid it would be stated in the accounts.

52731. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Are any of the men present in Court?—James Sweeny is here and others also. Probably before the Commission rises I may have other members of the crews, who will be able to give the Commission the necessary information.

52732. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—I take it from you that your view and the view of those for whom you speak is that a boat ought not to be taken up from a crew and sold to someone else except for very grave reasons?—Certainly.

52733. You would like this matter to be pursued in order to ascertain for what reason this boat was taken up?—Certainly. It is only one of many boats.

52734. Mr. BRYCE.—You mean that there are a great many similar cases?—Take the "Topaz." If the men for whom I speak have told me the truth, and I am inclined to think that it will not be contradicted, the "Topaz" was not sold to any other persons, but just sent in to Boffin. That is why I stated in my opening statement that if they were not sold they were sent to other places.

52735. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—With regard to the "Topaz" I will ask you the same question. Can you state to the Commission that the crew was always willing to go with the instructor to sea?—Certainly.

52736. You do not know what money was advanced to them to enable them to live in the intervals of fishing?—Not at this moment, but, just as in the other case, I hope that some members of the crew will be here and will be able to give the required information before the Commission rises.

52737. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Were those cases of complaint on the part of the crews at the time, or have they been communicated to you recently in consequence of the sitting of the Commission?—This is not a matter of to-day's or yesterday's growth, and has not been brought to my notice with a view to this Commission. The resolution I referred to some moments ago was sent to the Congested Districts Board more than a year ago.

52738. Take the two cases you have named, of the "Hermon" and the "Topaz"; they occurred at different dates?—It was last year that this arrangement was made with the boats.

52739. CHAIRMAN.—I don't think it necessary to pursue that further now. Some of the crews are here, and we can hear them. Mr. Sweeny is in court and we can hear his explanation?—I should be very glad.

52740. You seem to complain of the Congested Districts Board not giving constant employment to the fishing boats, and you say that the boats were only able to work four out of the twelve months owing to lack of proper harbour accommodation. What could they have done during the remaining eight months of the year if there were harbour accommodation?—What about the herring fishing?

52741. Where is the herring fishing?—It is going on now, and if we had only the capital, and that help were given to the fishermen, they would be able to go out.

52742. Capital is another matter?—In the assistance which the fishermen are supposed to get.

52743. You are talking of the want of harbours?—You have the fact that these boats are lying idle at the quay at Clifden.

52744. The fishing is going on now, and the weather is fine. You tell us the reason why they don't fish is that the weather is bad, and it is dangerous to come alongside the pier The herring fishing is going on, and the weather is fine. Why should not they fish now?—The answer is very simple. Many of the crews of these boats live eight, ten, and twelve miles away from here. It is not very easy to get crews all at once, when the clerk of the weather turns out to be propitious, to come such long distances, to such a place particularly as Connemara, with its gales and storms, on the chance of having a day's fishing or a night's fishing. Suppose that a storm sprang up, where would the crews be?

52745. That applies to the four months too?—The probability certainly is that you would have finer weather in the four months than during the remaining months. It is a great pity that the fishing is mainly confined to the mackerel fishing.

52746. Mr. BRYCE.—At all events it is not the fault of the Congested Districts Board that the men live far away?—I say it is the duty of the State, if only for shame's sake, to carry out the promises that have been made scores of times, and thus provide a remedy. These promises were made more than once to myself by Mr. Wyndham with reference to Clifden and Cleggan. I hold here in my hand a letter which a few months ago was sent to the Galway County Council, where they promised that certain things should be done with reference to Cleggan and Clifden, in the matter of piers extension, but it is only history repeating itself in Ireland to find that these promises are made and not carried out.

52747. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Some of these people live ten or twelve miles away from the sea. What are they doing for the rest of the year?—I said they live ten miles away from Clifden, where the boats are lying up.

52748. How are they engaged during these eight months?—They are doing a little bit about their little farms.

52749. They are half farmers?—Of necessity they must be.

52750. They are not wholly given to maritime occupations?—Provide them with the opportunity and you will find them good, hard-working, earnest fishermen.

52751. Would they give up their holdings to follow the fish to sea?—Their holdings are scarcely deserving of the name. They furnish them with a resting place, and no more.

52752. Then how is it they don't run the risk of going to sea during the eight months?—They have run risks, and on more occasions than one they have lost their lives even.

52753. That is incidental to fishing everywhere. Why, if the land is so bad, don't they for eight months of the year pursue the fishing, when they have actually got the boats?—Everyone knows, who knows anything about fishing, that the spring mackerel fishing is confined to a few months of the year, and anyone who knows anything of the western seaboard and its sudden storms knows how difficult it would be to pursue the autumn fishing. If there were proper piers and harbours matters might be different.

52754. CHAIRMAN.—Tell us something about the marble quarry. You tell us that the marble quarries are not properly worked, and that no steps have been taken by the Congested Districts Board. What do you contemplate should be done?—We expect that as these quarries are an asset in themselves, some public body like the Board or the Department of Agriculture should take some steps to have them properly worked.

52755. Could you tell us what reason you have for thinking that they are really of commercial value?—For the simple reason that their principal market at present is beyond the Atlantic. We send, month after month, from Clifden Railway Station and Recess

Sept. 19. 1907.

Very Rev. Canon M'Alpine.

Railway Station, the finest blocks of marble, beyond the Atlantic and across the Channel.

52756. Do you mean to send some to America?—Certainly.

52757. Small quantities?—Blocks as large as the bench before your lordship.

52758. How do you know that these are not samples, and if not samples that they are not merely the whim of some rich man who wishes to have Connemara marble in his place?—The work that is at present done in Recess is done by a person from America, and instead of its being whim or caprice is, to my mind, a great evidence of industry.

52759. If they are worked by a company, now, what is it you complain of?—I complain that it is not even touching the fringe of the thing. It is not a credit to modern civilisation to have marble quarries, such as we have, worked after the fashion in which they are worked, and I really think it a thousand pities that the State, discharging its duties to the community, does not contribute out of its revenues a sum that would have these quarries duly and properly worked.

52760. I understand that they have a company working the quarries?—It is only one individual. He is a returned American.

52761. He knows the value of these quarries?—Presumably.

52762. If they were capable of development, presumably he would develop them?—Where is the capital?

52763. Any man in business can get capital fast enough for a good business?—It is the very thing we lack here.

52764. Can you tell us any instance that you know of anybody who has got hold by lease or ownership of a really good commercial concern that has ever failed for want of capital? I never heard of one in any part of the world?—How often have we been told from public sources that the action of our people in complaining about this and that is preventing capital from coming to the country.

52765. You have a bank at Clifden?—Yes.

52766. Do you mean to tell me that if the individual or company that now works the quarry could satisfy the bank that by the expenditure of a certain amount of money that land could be turned into a paying property the bank would not lend the money?—What I mean now, plain and straight, is this, that if the State were equal to the discharge of its duty, if we were at this moment under a native government, before five months there would be a remarkable change in the aspect of these matters to which I have drawn your attention in my statement.

52767. These things are not connected with politics?—What I am saying is not connected in the smallest degree with politics.

52768. If, as in any other country, there is a quarry or mine of proved commercial value, why should not capital be forthcoming?—You might as well ask why Irish industries were killed.

52769. Mr. Bryce.—Do you know that one reason that these quarries cannot be developed is that the people who have got pasturage rights won't give room for dumping the stuff on the mountain. I have been told by the people who work the quarry that that is the reason that they cannot work it properly. It is not for want of money. There is any amount of money could be got for that quarry. I have taken a particular interest in the marble from it. I know architects in every part of the world, and in all parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland are very anxious to get that marble, but they cannot get it, because the person who works it will not take a contract for delivery at a certain time. An architect wants to have his building ready at a particular time. He would like to have some of that marble, but he cannot get it because the man won't make a contract. I go to the man and ask him why he will not make a contract, and he says the reason is that the people who own pasturage rights all round the mountain won't give them ground to dump on. The reason of his not being able to work the quarry properly has got nothing to do with capital?—It goes without saying that in an important undertaking of that kind a small grievance such as you mention would not stand in the way for twenty-four hours.

Mr. Bryce.—What has this got to do with Government? Any amount of money could be got to work that quarry if the thing was arranged in a proper way. It has got nothing to do with the Government. Government assistance is not wanted in that matter. I am not talking about your quarry in Clifden. I don't know anything about it, but I do know about the other quarry, and I can assure you that there is no want of Government assistance there at all.

52771. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—If, as Mr. Bryce states, capital might be forthcoming, were it not for the obstruction from those who have grazing rights preventing the dumping of material, would not that show that there should be legislation to compel those who have those grazing rights to act differently and to facilitate the quarries?—Certainly.

52772. How are the blocks extracted from the quarries?—So far as the Streamstown quarry, which is a mile and a-half from the station here, is concerned, in the most primitive way possible—sometimes by powder or by crowbar and pick. At Recess quarry matters are a good deal improved as compared with Streamstown.

52773. You think that there might be an improvement in the way of extraction?—Decidedly. Not only that but at the Streamstown quarry there is a splendid water supply. Within less than a furlong of the quarry there is a disused mill, and if that mill were turned to account the stone could be chiselled before being sent away, instead of being sent away in its present rough state.

52774. Chairman.—At any rate, I suppose that it would meet your view with regard to these local industries, and the ascertainment of their value, if the Congested Districts Board were to appoint experts of undoubted reputation to report as to their possibilities of development?—It would be a step in the right direction.

52775. Sir John Colomb.—Assuming that action was to be taken in that direction, do you advocate that the Congested Districts Board should spend capital in the development of these undertakings?—My humble opinion, given with all diffidence, is that really I think it ought. It would be in pursuance of the duties they have taken on themselves to discharge if they did.

52776. Would you give private enterprise or the Congested Districts Board the power to compulsorily expropriate and drive away the people with grazing rights for the purpose of finding out whether minerals were there or not. Suppose there is a mine and there happens to be some prospect of success, do I understand you to advocate that there should be power for the owner of the mine or for some authority to expropriate the grazing rights of people in the neighbourhood where it is necessary for working the mine?—I don't think I left myself open to any such misunderstanding. I certainly say that all existing rights, whether of graziers or tenants, should be fully compensated for.

56777. Mr. Bryce has told us that the obstacle to development is not the want of capital but the fact that people are tenacious of their rights to the mountain grazing. I understood you to say that there should be power to compel them to surrender those rights?—In a matter affecting the public weal if they were so unreasonable—which I don't think they would be at all; if they stood in the way of the public good to the extent that they were obstructionists then they ought to be pushed aside, due compensation being given them.

52778. Mr. Bryce.—Do you really suggest that the State, in the form of the Congested Districts Board, should begin to exploit the resources of Ireland generally as commercial undertakings?—I am saying so long as we have public bodies such as the Department of Agriculture or the Congested Districts Board dealing, or presuming to deal, with public matters affecting the people's weal in a district such as Connemara—in a congested district such as ours—in my humble opinion, and I give it with all due respect, I think it would be within the province of the Congested Districts Board to have charge of these things and to see them duly carried out.

52779. You mean that they should conduct commercial operations on a large scale?—That they should be pleased to do with regard to the development of the marble quarries what they have already done to a certain extent with reference to fisheries.

52780. Don't you think that that function is quite sufficiently met by the suggestion made by the Chairman that reports should be made by experts employed

investigate what the resources of the congested districts in the way of minerals are? Do you go further and suggest that after they have ascertained what can be done in the way of working these concerns they should undertake the working of them themselves?—We have had so many reports, going back for so many years with reference to this thing, that, so far as Connemara is concerned, as I indicated at the beginning of my remarks, we have in fact too many reports and too little action.

52781. CHAIRMAN.—Have you ever had experts' reports?—Experts by the score.

52782. Have you had authorities on mining coming down here and reporting publicly as to the value of these quarries?—They were here many times, before ever I saw Clifden, and their reports are public property.

52783. Have they said that these things are of commercial value?—Yes. I don't confine myself to Recess or Streamstown quarry. I could go further. I could even go down to Creggs quarry, in the parish of Ballinakill.

52784. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Those experts were deputed by particular companies. Would not it be more valuable if you had reports on the mineral wealth from persons specially deputed for that purpose and not concerned with the interest of particular places?—That is what I am most anxious to have.

52785. CHAIRMAN.—We have not yet had any reports of that kind?—Not formally as such.

52786. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Mr. Bryce asked you whether you would go so far as to suggest that a body like the Congested Districts Board should take up one of those projects commercially, and I think you did not say yes or no to that. I want to ask you an intermediate question. You have said to Lord Dudley that an adequate report of a thoroughly competent man on the mineral wealth would be an advantage?—Quite so.

52787. Let us not go the length of commercial undertakings. Do you think that something intermediate, between that and non-interference, might be expected from the Board. If the reports of the experts turned out to be favourable the Board could give a capitation grant in a remote district to boys who are apprentices to the work of using up this marble for a couple of years?—I think it would be more than desirable.

52788. That would not be going too far you think?—No.

52789. Mr. BRYCE.—You are aware that already there is a mine somewhere near Maam Cross where 200,000 tons of ore are said to have been extracted. That appears to be a large amount; but, at any rate, it appears that there is in progress an actual development of mineral wealth. In Kerry and Cork now there is a considerable amount of copper being worked at Schull and other places in that neighbourhood, and it has not been found necessary for the Congested Districts Board or any other public body to do anything in the way of exploitation. It has been found quite sufficient that any commercial instinct by itself should do that. Why do you think it necessary, therefore, that this development should be done by the Congested Districts Board?—I would say, in a district like ours where the people are so poor, and where we have so little to fall back upon, an industry such as copper mining, would require to be fostered and protected and supported in its initial stage, until it would be placed beyond any doubt that it was really what people believed it to be.

52790. I have given you instances that in districts just as poor assistance has not been necessary?—I cannot argue about other places. Take the copper mine at Kilkoon, or the one at Derrylea. I think it a great pity that a certain amount is not forthcoming from public funds to place beyond doubt the fact that as a commercial concern it would be a paying undertaking.

52791. CHAIRMAN.—Suppose the quarries belonged to some landlord, is not it certain that if they were of any real value the landlord, for his own interest, would push them? If he was able to let them to some company, with a royalty paid on all minerals raised, is it likely that he would let this commercial value go to waste? If he could, by attracting capitalists get a large addition to his income from royalties is it likely that he would neglect to do so?—It is not at all unlikely that he may bide his time, thinking that he may turn these things to better account afterwards.

52792. Biding his time until the land is purchased under the Land Purchase Acts, and the mineral property is vested in the Land Commission. That is rather a short-sighted policy. You have referred to some wiles and stratagems which have been used to create future tenancies. Describe those to the Commission?—Take the case of a landlord or agent who would agree to a certain reduction in a man's rent. The reduction would be given; but, at the same time, an agreement would be forthcoming which the agent or landlord would get the tenant to sign, constituting him a future tenant. That is case number one.

52793. A tenant asks for a reduction of rent, and the landlord gives the reduction on condition that he signs a paper transferring himself to the position of a future tenant?—Yes; and the people sign, in their innocence, and, very often, in their ignorance; for many of them sign without knowing what they sign. This reduction of rent is given in virtue of the agreement, such as it is, for the period mentioned, and, after the expiration of that time, when the people come into court to get a judicial rent fixed for the second term they find their mistake, and that they are future tenants and have no status in the court. Take the case of a tenant who was dealing with a middleman. The middleman, at the expiration of his leave, was evicted. The tenant who held under the middleman, poor as he was, and knowing nothing of the procedure of the Land Commission, was actually, after the eviction of the middleman, who was his landlord in the past, made a future tenant by the incoming landlord.

52794. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Although they had had their rents fixed in court?—I did not say that the rents were fixed in court.

52795. Could not the tenants of the middleman have had their rents fixed in court?—I quite agree with you. I am speaking only not of what they could have done, but of what was done.

52796. Have these transactions taken place since 1881?—Certainly. They have taken place within the last six years. If I mistake not, I think the tenants are here in court.

52797. Take your first case. A landlord, as you say, goes to a tenant and offers him a reduction of rent, and then makes him at the same time sign an agreement constituting himself a future tenant?—It has been done.

52798. Can you give me the estate and the name?—I will; and I will bring the tenant, if necessary, here. I have it here for you.

52799. Had this tenant ever been in court? Was he a judicial tenant at the time that the landlord offered him a reduction in his rent?—That I cannot say.

52800. That is the whole point?—I must ask what you mean by judicial tenants?

52801. Take the case of the tenant to whom the landlord was giving a reduction of rent and converting him into a future tenant. At the time that the landlord went to him was he a judicial tenant?—That I cannot say. Here is the case——

52802. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—In order to prove that contention the tenant should show that antecedently to his becoming a future tenant he was a present tenant. It would not be necessary to show that he was a judicial tenant?—They are here to prove that. Here is what they say. Their real hardship consists in this, that the present landlord, who became their landlord in 1901, made five of them sign themselves his tenants, and in the case of one of them increased the rent, and he made the whole of them future tenants.

52803. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You gave us two illustrations. The second was that of a middleman, and the first that of a landlord. In the first case, you don't know whether the tenant was or was not a judicial tenant?—The tenants will be here to prove what they say. I was in the court here when these tenants were ruled out of court. Mr. Litton Falkiner was the presiding chairman of the Land Commission, and I was very pleased to hear from him a statement expressing surprise at such things having occurred. The tenants are here.

52804. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—What is the second class of case?—Where the tenant held under a middleman, and at the expiration of the lease

Sept. 19, 1907.

Very Rev. Canon M'Alpine.

when the middleman ceases to hold the tenant was made a future tenant by the present landlord.

52805. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Can you state whether the middleman's tenants were present tenants under the middleman?—I could not swear it, but the probability is that they were present tenants. In fact the odds are 999 to 1 that they were present tenants. I have their receipts here, extending back for a number of years, in which not the smallest mention is made of their being other than present tenants.

52806. CHAIRMAN.—When they became future tenants they got a reduction?—On the contrary, the rent of some of them was raised, and the rent of the remainder was left as it was. That is the second case. In the first case the reduction was given.

52807. The reduction would satisfy them?—I don't say it would satisfy them, but they thought it was the best they could get under the circumstances.

52808. At any rate it was such as to induce them to become future tenants?—I don't say that. They were not aware of this obstacle that was being put in their way when they were induced to sign. They knew not what they were doing, and they swore it on oath before Mr. Falkiner.

52809. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—There would not be any reason why any special document should be signed on a reduction of rent being given, except, possibly, when there was an agreement that the reduction should extend over a certain number of years?—That is all, and that document, so signed, and which was shown here, at the hearing before the Commission, was a printed document, and they signed, not only their rights, but their liberties away.

Mr. PATRICK SULLIVAN examined.

Mr. Patrick Sullivan.

52810. CHAIRMAN.—You belonged to the crew of the "Topaz"?—Yes.

52811. CHAIRMAN.—Tell the Commission about that case.

Canon M'Alpine (to witness).—How long did you work the "Topaz"?—Eight years.

When did you cease to work on the "Topaz"?—Last spring.

What led you to give up working the "Topaz"?—Because she had made about £400 up to last spring, and we got a letter down from the Board saying she was going more and more in debt and was not able to clear herself, although four shares were going in payment of the boat.

Where was the "Topaz" working last year?—This last spring she was working in Boffin.

Before she went to Boffin did you, Pat Sullivan, Gregory Sullivan, Pat Horan, or Martin Lacy get any notification whatsoever from the Board or the Board's officials, that you were to cease working upon that boat for the future?—No; I got no notice.

52817. CHAIRMAN.—How many were you altogether?—Five men and an instructor.

52818. And you had the boat for eight years?—Yes.

52819. Was it on the share system you had it?—Yes.

52820. Whenever there was a catch of fish some of the value was retained by the Board?—Yes; four to the Board and five to the men.

52821. Each man got one-ninth?—Yes.

52822. That went on for eight years?—Yes.

52823. Were you pretty constantly fishing?—All the time during the spring fishing.

52824. During that time the share that went to the Board was valued for £400?—Something about that.

52825. Was the boat going to the bad, do you know?—I don't know.

52826. Were there long spells of time when you did not catch any fish?—No; except one year, when there was a failure, and we got no fish; but then the boat was not at much of a loss that year, except whatever money was paid to the instructor.

52827. When you were not catching fish did you get any money to buy food?—Yes.

52828. How much did you get the first year?—About £25. It depended on the length of time fished. Sometimes it would be thirty shillings a week.

52829. When you were catching fish you did not need this?—It was taken back from us out of the money we got for the fish.

52830. Was it all kept back that way?—Yes, all, except one year when we earned only about £9.

52831. Do you think that the money advanced to you in this way was all put against you?—It should not have been, because the boat was supposed to pay one part of it.

52832. I am asking you about the money which you got for food when you could not catch fish. Was that money all kept back from you?—Yes, it was, as soon as we got any money for fish.

52833. Was it all stopped?—It was.

52834. What was the cause of the boat being taken from you?—We gave it up ourselves, because they told us that no matter what we would give for her if we wanted to buy it we would not get her.

52835. That was after she was going to be taken from you?—Yes.

52836. Then you were told by the officer of the Board that she would not be sold to you in any case?—Yes.

52837. That was after you offered to give her up?—Yes.

52838. Why did you offer to give her up?—Because I saw I had no means of clearing her unless I could get her to buy and then I gave her up.

52839. Were the other men agreeable also to give her up?—Yes.

52840. So it was you that gave her up and not the Board that took her up?—No; the Board did not take her up. We gave her up ourselves.

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—That knocks the bottom out of the whole case.

Rev. W. S. GREEN re-examined.*

Rev. W. S. Green.

52842. CHAIRMAN.—Do you remember the case of the Topaz?—I remember her being worked for a good number of years, but I do not remember at the present moment the exact circumstances of the surrender of the boat to the Board, but I can very easily have all these particulars from the office.

52843. So far as you know, has there been any case where the Board have resumed possession of a boat without voluntary action on the part of the men?—The Board never resume ownership of a boat except we have been asked to do it by the owner or the crew, and we have gone on year after year trying to keep them going, spending money on nets and other things, and giving them years and years of a chance when things were apparently going against their chance of succeeding. We have never taken up a boat without giving the crew as many chances as ever we possibly could.

52844. Would there not have been a considerable difference between a boat worked on the share system and a boat worked on the security system?—These boats were worked on the share system, and were only two of a considerable number which were worked in the same way.

52845. Under the share system there is an automatic arrangement by which the boat repays itself?—Yes.

52846. By that arrangement it would be impossible for the Board to be in arrears with regard to the boat?—It would be impossible for the Board to be in arrears, though it might be out of pocket.

52847. Therefore in that case there would be nothing to induce the Board to take up possession of the boat without consultation with the men?—No.

52848. On the other hand, with regard to the instalment system, if the instalments were not paid, and arrears accumulated, the Board might be forced to take back the boat and re-sell it to somebody else?—Certainly.

52849. So the share system would be less likely to work hardly on the crew than the instalment system?—Yes. The share system on which these boats were

* For former examinations see Appendix to the First Report of the Commission [Cd. 3267, 1906], p. 193; and Appendix to the Fourth Report [Cd. 3509, 1907], p. 1.

given is a different thing from the share system in Donegal. We found we could not get crews to go into these boats if we did not provide the grub. Very often the fishing earnings would not pay for the grub. So there was a debt accumulated on these boats which made it difficult sometimes to keep the boat going when the debt became too great.

52850. Are the members of the crew all co-equal under the Board, or do you have a man acting as captain?—On the share system the crews are practically co-equal. They are legally co-equal, but one man is always supposed to be the skipper, under the instructor.

52851. We have heard of payments of thirty shillings a week for food. Is that paid on behalf of the Board, or by the captain of the boat, to the crew?—It was paid by the Board. The Board provided the grub for the crew, and the idea was that they were to keep the men going when the fishing was bad, as the men could not stop away from their homes without having a grub supply.

52852. Therefore it would be quite impossible, under the share system, to have an unscrupulous captain who would feather his own nest at the expense of his colleagues?—Absolutely, unless arranged among themselves, but not recognised by the Board.

52853. Therefore no discontent could arise in that way?—No. One way in which it might arise, to a certain extent, is that these crews are always changing. One man might have been in the original five or six that were on the boat, but different men are coming on every year to some of the boats, and one man who stuck on from the beginning might look on himself more or less as the skipper, acting under the instructor.

52854. We have heard of boats lying idle in Clifden Harbour for eight months of the year. In your opinion is the want of a pier entirely due to the lack of fishing?—These boats which are kept lying up there for eight months of the year are practically instruction boats, and we find if we give them instruction in the spring fishing, when there is a chance of things paying, it is about as much as we can do. If we are going to fit out boats at other seasons, when the fishing is bad, then, first of all, it would be very difficult to get the crews, on the share system or any other system, to stop on them. They would not care to be going out with an instructor and shooting nets and catching dog-fish or catching nothing. They would not stop on the boats. They will stop on the boats in the season they think they will make something by it; that is, the spring mackerel season, which in some years is very good; but there is chiefly small boat fishing in the autumn. Two large boats have just been fitted out, and have left Clifden to-day for Boffin and Cleggan. That will be their second season in this year. If that succeeds, we are in great hopes of the boats keeping out for the two seasons, but we could not keep the men in the boats if they were not making money.

52855. As a matter of fact, without going into the question of whether a pier such as is spoken of and demanded should be built or not, can you tell us how far, in your opinion, the fishing here is hampered in Clifden by the want of a pier. Is there anything to prevent people fishing here even without a pier, and landing their fish?—There is everything to prevent large boats fishing from Clifden such as those boats we are speaking of, because it is a very dangerous place from which to go to sea at night, and all the fishing we are talking about is night fishing. Of course you can trawl in the daytime, but you cannot shoot mackerel or herring nets except at night, and unless you have a safe harbour to go to sea from the boats won't venture to sea. If you have a safe harbour the boats will go to sea many nights on which they would not venture out if they had a bad harbour to work from. At Clifden there are a great lot of reefs lying outside the bay, and if the weather came on bad and the boat was obliged to run for it there would be the greatest possible danger of being lost on some of these reefs on a dark night. Consequently the building of a pier would be very good if you could get rid of all the reefs between Slyne Head and High Island, but that would be a very tall order. Until that is done very large boats would not dare to fish from Clifden.

52856. Then the erection of a pier would not be of any use unless accompanied by the removal of all the reefs and rocks outside?—As regards fishing with large boats that is so.

52857. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Small boats could come here and deliver their fish?—The row-boats from Turbot Island and all the other places round here can come here and deliver their fish. A row-boat can poke its way to places in the dark that a large sailing boat dare not go near.

52858. I think you said this morning that an extension of the pier at Cleggan is a pressing necessity for the development of fishing on this coast?—I consider that Cleggan is the best place in this district and the one that has the best chance of becoming an important fishing station; and anything done there to protect boats, improve the accommodation, enable them to land fish at low water, and enable the steamer to come and take away the fish, and land barrels and salt will tend to develop the fishing in this district. The boats are owned in Clifden, Ballinakill, and all around.

52859. Sir John Colomb.—It was stated to us that Cleggan was a death-trap for boats?—I don't remember any boat being lost at Cleggan, though there may have been; but it is a very unpleasant place to be at anchor in bad weather, because you cannot lie afloat inside the harbour. If a boat comes into the harbour now during the fishing season and takes the ground, she loses the next night's sitting. She cannot come in. They are kept now in the open bay trying to get the fish landed at low water, and have a bad time of it, because the fish must be landed at Cleggan to go away by train from Clifden.

52860. Cleggan could be made a good harbour if the pier were extended?—It could be made a reasonably good harbour.

52861. Canon M'Alpine told us that £3,500 for Clifden and £7,000 for pier were promised last April. Do you know anything about that?—I know that there was an estimate for a sum of money for Cleggan under the Marine Works Act, and I know that there were plans made out at various times.

52862. Do I understand you to say that the boats laid up here for eight months of the year are instruction boats?—Some of them are instruction boats; some of them belong to private owners, and some of them are boats that have been purchased on the loan system.

52863. We were told by a previous witness that the reason they were laid up was for want of piers?—It is not for want of piers.

52864. Mr. Bryce.—The suggestion was made by one of the witnesses that instructors should be paid a share of the profits of these boats, and it eventually came out that the reason for the suggestion was that sometimes the instructors are said to be not sufficiently energetic in getting the crew to sea, and that they have been known on occasions to refuse to go to sea when the crew wanted to go. Do you approve of the suggestion that they should be paid a share of the profits instead of a weekly wage, and have you ever had reported to you any case of an instructor refusing to go to sea when a crew wished to go to sea?—The thing has been reported to us, but it has also been reported to us that crews would not go to sea when the instructor wanted to go to sea; and that has been probably oftener than the other thing. When we began giving instruction we were most anxious to get expert fishermen to come as instructors on a share of the profits, and the men we wanted were men who would have been in crews from their own ports if they were not in our employment, and they said: "In the height of the fishing season we could not throw away our chance of making money; we would rather take a berth on one of our own boats unless we get a fixed wage. We value our chance of fishing on boats here at so much a day, and we won't give up that under a certain amount." On those terms we pay them a fixed wage, but when we have a man who has a boat on loan, or something of that sort, and wants to send out a crew, we give him instruction free for one set of fishing seasons, but he has to pay a proportion of the seasons after that. If we pay £2 a week he will have to pay ten shillings a week the first year, and £1 the next year, and if he wants to keep on a good instructor he may make any arrangement he likes with him as long as we have not to pay more than a portion of his salary. So it is open to these men to give a percentage if they like as long as they are satisfied with the man whom they have as instructor.

52865. It was stated that if there was better pier accommodation in the district the boats, instead of keeping at sea for four months, could keep at sea for

Sept. 19, 1907.

Rev. W. S. Green.

a much longer period of the year: is that the case?—I don't think the mere building of piers has got anything to say to it except this, that at Cleggan, if the harbour were safe in the autumn season, and the boats had a pier that they could anchor behind and lie afloat, they would be more inclined to put the boats out to fish during the autumn season than now. When the spring fishing is on the nights are short and the weather is generally fine in May and June; but the weather is very often not fine in October and November and the nights are long. If they had a safe pier I think it highly probable that more fishermen would go out to fish than now.

52866. That applies to Cleggan, but not to Clifden?—I am speaking of Cleggan as the pier in this district from which large boats could fish safely. Cleggan really is the fishing port for this district.

52867. CHAIRMAN.—I have now the letter before me which was written by the Government with regard to the extension of the pier at Cleggan. That letter has been described as a promise of £7,000. I propose to read the letter. I am bound to say it can scarcely be described as a promise, though it certainly would give anybody the impression that the Government was thinking of making these grants. The letter is:—"Dublin Castle, 26th April, 1907.—Sir,—I am directed by the Lords Justices to state, for the information of the County Galway County Council, that their Excellencies have under consideration the question of a further expenditure under the Marine Works Act, 1902, upon marine works at Cleggan, County Galway, with a view to the better development of fishing. Their Excellencies are advised that what is required is an extension of the existing pier, so as to provide a deep-water berth for fishing boats drawing about seven feet of water, and at which a steamer could lie and discharge a cargo, and which would also provide a more sheltered anchorage for fishing boats than they have at present. The Board of Works have prepared a plan showing an extension of the existing pier by 165 feet, which they estimate could be carried out at an expenditure of £7,300. I enclose the plan, and I am to ask you to move the County Council to let their Excellencies know, as soon as possible, what local contribution would be forthcoming. The Congested Districts Board are prepared to contribute 10 per cent., £730, towards the scheme. I am also to inquire whether the County Council are prepared to pass the necessary resolution, under seal, agreeing to pay the county contribution under section 2 of the Act. I am to request the favour of an early reply, together with the return of the plan.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, J. B. Dougherty.—To the Secretary, Galway County Council." That appears to me to be an inquiry as to what proportion of the expenditure would be given without giving any absolutely definite promise that the work would be carried out?—That is so.

52868. With regard to the *Topaz* they say that the crews on ascertaining the facts negotiated with a view of purchasing, but that no offer on any terms but cash down would be accepted, and that both boats were transferred to Boffin Island. Can you throw any light on that?—I am sure it came before me, but I cannot remember the circumstances at the present moment. If we give a loan for a boat some sureties must be found, and it is quite possible that the applicants in this case were not able to find anybody to secure them.

52869. Has there ever been an instance at all of a sale of a boat to crews by the Board except on the instalment system, the share system, or cash down?—No; we must have boats sold in one of these three ways.

52870. If this boat had originally been sold on the share system, and that that system had broken down, obviously it was useless to continue negotiations with regard to that system. Is there any reason to believe that the instalment system would have satisfied them?—I cannot say that. I cannot remember what the negotiations were, but since I came into the room I have sent a telegram to the office in Dublin to send me down particulars, and I can have them for you tomorrow. I cannot remember all these things unless they happened recently. These transactions were last year.

52871. At any rate, if we eliminate the share system, which had in this case broken down, the two alternatives were the instalment system and cash down?—That is so.

52872. If they were unable to provide securities guaranteeing them under the instalment system, then you get down to the third alternative, namely, cash down?—That is so. There is no other way out of it.

Mrs. BLAKE examined.

Mrs Blake.

52873. CHAIRMAN.—You reside at Renvyle, near Letterfrack?—Yes.

52874. Is there any particular subject that you wish to bring before the Commission?—Yes. I have a list from the Clifden Union of the different grass lands and holdings, and I find that it is quite incorrect. It is from that that the return which you hold in your hand is made.

52875. Whom is the return which you have made by?—I don't know. I got it from the Clerk of the Union. Peter Nee is put down as having 314 acres in Renvyle electoral division, and he has nothing of the kind. He has the small holding of six acres, and he has about thirty acres of conacre on my demesne, and he has between twenty and thirty in takes of grass. His father and grandfather have all been employed dealing in cattle, and his occupation would be entirely gone if he were deprived of getting some grass lands; and these things have been made out from this return, which is imperfect and defective as to the amount of land held by graziers and the names of the people, whether resident or non-resident.

52876. We have got all these figures in a blue-book?—It was out of that that this (*indicates document*) was taken.

52877. We have got all these in a bluebook?—Perhaps they are the same?

52878. No, they are not?—Henry Robinson is put down as owning 100 acres, and he never had it as occupier or owner.

52879. Mr. O'KELLY.—What is the district electoral division?—Renvyle. Pat Lyden is put down as owning 501 acres. If he has 100 acres it is as much as he has of rough grazing. I have the books here. If you had time I could show you the exact lands he has.

52880. I don't think we can go into such detail as that?—No, but at the same time you must not run away with the idea that there are so many absent. All these who graze on my land live in the place, except one, and he owns a very small portion of our home farm, merely as a grazier. I may cut meadow there next year for aught I know. It is used for oats, and for meadow, and for grazing. Another man named James Cawley is put down for seventy-two acres, and he has not an acre at all except his holding.

52881. What is all this to prove?—To prove that a great many people are not holding such an amount of grazing land as is represented, and that they should not be destroyed and deprived of their way of living.

52882. The Commission will not go into details like that?—But you ought to know the facts of the case. Here is Henry Robinson put down as having sixty-two acres. He has that from me, on our home farm. My son is put down as owning 200 acres and occupying it. He has not occupied one acre for ten years, because I purchased all that in the Land Court; so all this account of non-resident graziers is incorrect.

52883. I don't think you need pursue that, because it is not of very much interest to us?—One of the witnesses here said that these grass lands were made what they are by the tenants, and that the people were driven from these lands. Here is my home farm, and you will see there, if you are kind enough to look at it, that it was made by the Blakes (*map produced*). Here is the actual return for the works done upon it (*account produced*).

52884. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—This is to controvert the statement that in all cases the goodness of the grass lands was due to the tenants who were driven off?—Yes.

52885. Your object is to give an instance that in the case of your family, at all events, it is not true, because the expenditure and labour on the grass lands was incurred by your predecessors in title?—

Exactly so, and on that farm we hold as our home farm none were driven off. One tenant was removed, but he got three other holdings. Not a single tenant was driven off in the way of small holders, but they had died away because the potatoes failed, and they fed both themselves and the cattle upon the potatoes. I have it from people who lived then that they had either to go into the workhouse or emigrate, but they were not evicted.

52886. CHAIRMAN.—What is the acreage of that holding?—The acreage of my home farm is 247 acres. That is not a very large home farm. It adjoins the demesne, which is a very small demesne.

52887. How big is the demesne?—I could not tell you the acreage. You will see it on the map.

52888. I suppose you would be quite willing to sell that 200 acres?—Certainly not. I could not do without it for my own business. I only purchased it in 1896. I did not do that for play, but because I wanted it for my use, and I shall not sell it.

52889. Not even if you got a sum of money which would give you your income?—Certainly not. In the first place I would injure very decent men who have always paid their rent well, and who live by that; and not only people who take some of that land from me, but sometimes we cut oats, sometimes we have potatoes, and sometimes we graze that land; but when we don't want to do that we let to respectable graziers, jobbers, a good deal, who have nothing else to live by, except perhaps six acres of a small holding.

52890. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You mean local jobbers? Yes.

52891. Tenants of your own?—Tenants of my son.

52892 You object to the proposal to purchase your property, not only in your own interest, but in defence of the interests of those who would be deprived of their living, who are small holders?—Certainly; and I can show you, if you have the time—which I know you have not—not only every tenant who lived before the Famine, but I can show you the tenants who are now on the land. There is no rundale. It was carefully striped years ago by the Blakes. Very often they tried hard to get a tenant to take two stripes, perhaps, instead of one; but they were not always willing to do so, and I have been told that after the Famine they were so down-hearted that they would not believe that anything would come right again, and the difficulty was to get tenants to take lands. I have had that from the tenants, and I have that from those who managed the estate at the time. Of course it was no advantage to the landlord not to have tenants, and those who wanted labour were kept alive by what you see; and not only that, but about £2,000 more was expended, to my knowledge, in cropping this land, and it was found that it did not pay running it altogether in tillage, and it was put down in grass, and that is the best grass in the country.

52893. CHAIRMAN.—That is all untenanted land? (*Indicates on map.*)—That is all land in my hand, that purchased in 1896. I call it well tenanted land.

52894. Are there any small holders living around it?—Certainly; a great number.

52895. People with four or five acres?—Yes.

52896. Very poor?—No. I consider that the small holders get on very well. But suppose they want a little more land, I don't think they have any reason to get mine.

52897. Some of these people are very poor?—No. I don't think these small holders are.

52898. They cannot rear their families on these holdings?—They do; fourteen and fifteen children, some of them. They have fishing and kelp. Down in Renvyle, before the Famine, there was a great herring fishery; 300 boats used to go out from that beach. The fish left the coast and have never returned in the same quantity. The Famine came, and a great many of them were driven off by the distress. A great many of the people emigrated, and there are not so many of them, but they get on very well indeed on the small holdings with the fishing and kelp.

52899. Do you think they are in a condition which does not want remedying?—If you can remedy them by taking them elsewhere, well and good, but I don't think you ought to injure other respectable Irishmen to give a bit of land here and a bit of land there.

5280 You now admit that there is need of improvement?—There are a few who might have more land if you had it to give them, but there is no land there for distribution.

52891. But you admit that at present there is room for improvement—that is, they can be taken away?—I don't myself think it is an improvement; they can get on very well. They are very happy, and some of them would not like to move at all. A great many of them don't make as much use of their land as they could. To my certain knowledge, it is difficult sometimes to get them to put down a full crop. If they have a little more land they will set it to another.

52892. You think, on the whole, it is a very good distribution?—Of the Renvyle Estate, very good.

52893. And a very good arrangement generally that there should be in the hands of a few people 300 or 400 acres of land, while other people get on very well with three acres?—It is all tenanted land. If you come to view Renvyle you will see it is mostly spade labour. The holdings, as I could show on the rental, are not altogether small holdings. Some are thirteen acres, some are eighteen, and one is a hundred, and so on, but it is very well striped out altogether, as you will see if you look at this map. I want also to draw your attention to some land that is given in that return which is mountain land, and is perfectly unfit for dividing.

52894. Could it not be divided for sheep?—They graze their sheep on it now. They pay grazing for it now. It is the only way they could do, because the tenants surround it altogether. There must be some system. If it was used as commonage for the people around it would swamp the others.

52894A. Why? It is done in Scotland?—It does not suit there. If your lordship saw the mountain you would see that it is put to the only use it could be put to, and the use it has been put to, time out of mind.

52895. In fact, you would, I suppose, approach any changes with great care?—I would generally. I think it is very nice if you can buy land elsewhere and the tenants are willing to move, but there is no land for distribution there.

52896. Mr. O'KELLY.—Your home farm is 247 acres?—Yes.

52897. And the total amount of land which you hold is over 600?—No. I hold a great deal more than that.

52898. I am talking of Renvyle?—I hold more than that, but it is mountain holding. All that mountain (*indicates on map*). I am a tenant proprietor of that mountain, and have also the vacant bogs which I bought.

52899. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You are tenant proprietor of these 200 acres?—No, that is the home farm. I bought the home farm. I bought it in the open court in 1896. The Land Commission gave me part of the money to buy demesne and mountain, and I supplied the other part.

52900. If that mountain were taken from you it would be interfering with a peasant proprietor?—Most certainly.

52901. Mr. O'KELLY.—Don't you think it as reasonable to apply compulsory powers to persons acquiring land with the aid of State money as to apply it to the landlord who owns it in fee?—But I don't think it should be acquired for that purpose at all.

52902. Don't you think it is equally reasonable that it should be done?—I could not answer that. If it should be taken it should be taken. But I don't think it should be taken, or my home farm either, and I make good use of it, and three or four countrymen—

52903. I don't want a dissertation. I merely want a plain answer. Is your attachment to this land a sentimental attachment or merely for the purpose of profit?—No. I make good use of it.

52904. Suppose that that land was compulsorily acquired, and you got from the authority that was acting in the matter a sum that would give you your present income, what would you lose if it is not a sentimental attachment?—It is not a sentimental attachment.

52905. Then what would you lose?—In the first instance, I would injure one or two very respectable people.

52906. But you would improve several?—No, you would not.

52907. How would you injure them?—Because you

Sept. 19, 1907. Mrs. Blake.

would take away their only means of living. A great deal of the land in Connemara is mountain land, and those who use the mountain land, or those who buy cattle from people who use the mountain lands would have no use for it unless they could get a good bit of grazing.

52908. You are considerably concerned about injuring those people in your neighbourhood?—Certainly.

52909. But you view with the greatest possible calm the injury done to people holding under the same tenure elsewhere?—I do not.

52910. You said it would be very nice to get land for these people at a distance?—I don't approve of compulsory powers at all.

52911. A condition precedent to their removal is the acquisition of land from graziers?—Not in a place where grass land is very scarce, and where every inch of it is wanted for the people who are there.

52912. CHAIRMAN.—I think you told us that these small holders who live around your farm could increase their income by fishing and kelp?—They do.

52913. We have heard a great deal with regard to fishing. With regard to kelp, is that doing pretty well around you?—Not this year, for this reason—I am sorry to acknowledge that the people adulterate the kelp, they put sand into it, and so the agent had to warn them about it, and he has warned them now for several years; and this year he had to threaten them that he would not take it at all if they continued this adulteration, and he said he would only give something small for it; and then they did not make so much this year. But, if they had chosen to make it honestly they could have made a great deal.

52914. Describe to the Commission how they make the kelp—on what terms?—How do you mean? I have a royalty, if that is what you mean.

52915. What do you mean by that?—I get a certain sum out of the money that is paid for the kelp.

52916. What is the royalty?—I get 12*s.* 6*d.* a ton.

52917. How much is got for a ton?—It depends on whether the work is good or bad.

52918. Is the 12*s.* 6*d.* fixed?—It is fixed for the last few years. It was one-third for some time. Then it was one-fourth. Then the agent asked me to fix it at a settled thing. I supply spread-ground for all that kelp. I make agreements with graziers—anyone I let land to—or, if I don't, I keep a certain portion in my own hands absolutely, and make arrangements that the kelpers are not to be disturbed in spreading this weed.

52919. When you let out land to graziers you say, for the benefit of the kelp people, that the ground on which the kelp is spread must not be disturbed?—Yes.

52920. Is not that rather a loss to you?—Yes; because they don't like the trespass, but I have the advantage in getting the royalty.

52921. It is a considerable loss to the grazier to have the spread ground taken away?—Yes; but I make that agreement with them.

52922. Would not the people who burn the kelp take the spread ground from you?—No. We don't ask them. I keep a great deal in my own hands that I get no rent for, for the advantage of the people.

52923. There is no rent paid for the actual spread ground?—No.

52924. You get a royalty of 12*s.* 6*d.* a ton?—Yes.

52925. No matter what the price of the kelp?—No matter what the price of the kelp.

52926. Do the kelpers collect the seaweed as they like?—They collect the seaweed and dry it on these lands.

52927. Do they collect it for nothing?—They collect it themselves.

52928. They don't make any payment?—Not for the weed. They pay a shilling a year for weed for the land, and they can have any amount of manure for that.

52929. If they want to put seaweed on the land they pay a shilling a year?—Yes, or if they want to cut off some rocks belonging to me they pay so much for it.

52930. Is that in addition to the shilling a year?—Yes.

52931. The seaweed they spread on the land?—Yes.

52932. Deep sea weed?—That is seaweed washed in on my land.

52933. They pay a shilling a year for the right to collect that?—Yes.

52934. Then there is black weed?—That grows on the rocks.

52935. They pay something for that?—If they can get a bit of black weed they are very glad to have it. They pay very little. I could not tell you offhand how much.

52936. With regard to the weed which they burn, where do they get it from?—It comes in from the sea. They could have made a fortune if they had cut weed, but they would not. I made them boats at one time, as they said they could not cut from their canoes, and the agent said it would be very well if I made them boats, and they never cut what paid for one boat. They could have made a fortune if they had done so, for the kelp was then up to £7 a ton, and they would not take the trouble of cutting the weed; that is the weed that does not come in.

52937. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—That is the best?—Yes.

52938. CHAIRMAN.—Is it the usual thing in this part of the world to get a royalty on the sale of kelp?—It depends on the terms on which they have the land. The weed always belonged to me. It has always been there.

52939. Is this all along the coast—Not in some places, because in some places only they have the weed. The weed belongs to the land. Colonel Nolan fought that out in the courts, and he got a rent allowed him in respect of seaweed. Some landlords, like Colonel Nolan, have included the weed in the value of the land. We have always kept it distinct. So did Lord Sligo.

52940. Where you keep it distinct do you think that the fair rent of your holding is different?—The rent of the holdings and the weed have never been considered together.

52941. You say that in some cases they have?—Not on our estate.

52942. On the neighbouring estate?—I don't know anything about it, but I believe they do on some of the estates; but they have not got the weed we have on all these estates. Our weed is particularly good. As one tenant said one time, there was a band of gold round the Renvyle estate.

52943. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I understood you to say that formerly you used to charge a proportion of the price of the kelp?—Yes.

52944. On the kelp agent's advice you altered that system?—Yes.

52945. Did you consult with him as to what would be a fair price?—He approved of the 12*s.* 6*d.*

52946. As a kelp expert?—As a kelp agent.

52947. You told him what it was, and what you proposed to do?—He proposed it to me.

52948. At 12*s.* 6*d.*?—No; he proposed to me 10*s.*, but as I had just bought it at a high price I would not consent to take less than 12*s.* 6*d.*

52949. Then it comes to this, that between the agent's opinion and yours as to what should be a fair price there was a difference of 2*s.* 6*d.*?—Yes.

52950. Mr. O'KELLY.—Suppose the price dropped down, would the royalty be reduced?—No; as arranged now.

52951. CHAIRMAN.—Suppose the price went down, what would happen?—The people would not make it, and I would have to look to see what other use I could make of the weed. I fancy it could be sold for manure elsewhere, because there is abundance of it.

52952. CHAIRMAN.—Have you much tenanted land—No tenanted land except three tenants, who are very good friends. They happened to be on the lot I bought.

52953. Do you take in grazing from the tenants about?—I have done it sometimes. I have also urged them at one time to join all to take the land and I would give them the grazing instead of anyone else, but they would not do it. This (*indicates document*) is the actual return of the work. It is since I was left a widow I paid some of that labour, some of what was done.

52954. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Altogether nearly £1,300?—Not so much. I think £900. £130 of that was done on another part of the estate.

52955. CHAIRMAN.—Why was £1,500 borrowed from the Board of Works if only £900 was expended?—I suppose they thought they would expend that, but they don't seem to have expended it. I got that the other day from the Board of Works. When you as

for a loan, if it is not all taken it is not all charged.

52956. You are not paying interest on the difference?—No, and that does not represent all that was paid out on the place, because my husband raised £2,000 and spent it.

52957. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—There was private money spent as well?—Yes. People are said to have 500 acres when they have not got sixty, and to be absent when they live within a mile or a half mile or five minutes' walk from the place.

Mr. JOSEPH CLOHERTY examined.

52958. CHAIRMAN.—You live at Roundstone?—Yes.

52959. You are a merchant?—Yes, a shopkeeper and a provision merchant.

52960. A great deal of the money paid into your shop generally comes from America?—Yes.

52961. Do you think that is increasing or decreasing?—I would say that they are about the same.

52962. Are the people more in debt than they used to be?—They are gradually falling into debt.

52962A. Into greater debt than they were?—Yes.

52963. You tell us here that it is practically impossible to deal in any other way except on the credit system?—Yes, because the people are so poor.

52964. How do you manage to calculate the credit which you may give? Do you base it upon a calculation of the value of the man's farm?—No. I simply give it to them according to the man's wants.

52965. Where do you draw the line. Suppose a man whom you know to be in very poor circumstances owes you £15, and he wishes to increase it by another £5, do you give it or do you refuse it?—I might refuse, and before he would starve I might give in more or less to tide him over the time.

52966. There must be some limit. No man can carry on business in that way?—We have no limit. When they earn it they are very honest in paying it, and when they cannot pay it we have nothing to get.

52967. You don't have any limit in your mind?—No limit.

52968. Mr. BRYCE.—Are they getting more into your debt than they used to?—They seem to be gradually getting more into debt, and especially this year, because the year was bad and the fishing failed, and they had no employment whatever.

52969. You are speaking of this year only?—It increased a little this year.

52970. But before that it was not increasing?—Some years it would and some years it would not.

52971. Speaking generally, and comparing the present moment with ten years ago, would you say that the people are better off or worse off?—I would think there was more money circulating ten years ago. There were more payments made.

52972. CHAIRMAN.—Why is that?—I cannot give you an account.

52973. Is not it a strange thing after all that has been done by the Congested Districts Board, the money from the fishing and the lace-making, and the remittances from America, that there is less money in circulation than there used to be?—I think the Congested Districts Board and the fishing paralysed them to a certain extent, because they were disappointed and did not catch the fish.

52974. Look at the amount of money brought into this country by the lace industry. That is all in addition. Have not you got a lace class at Roundstone?—Yes.

52975. That would be a great deal of money?—The children in the lace factory are very young, going to school.

52976. They still bring in the money all the same?—The ones who are well able to make lace go to America.

52977. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do they go to America more than they did?—Yes.

52978. Don't answer my question unless you wish. You state in your precis that your turn-over is about £2,000 a year. What do you suppose would be the outstanding liabilities of the people to you?—I cannot give an accurate account.

52979. If you have no objection, can you give an approximate idea?—Yes.

52980. Have you got two years' turn-over?—I think not. It would extend to three or four years or five.

52981. I will put it more plainly. Your turn-over is £2,000 a year. Have you got £4,000 due to you now in the district?—I don't think I have.

52982. I suppose there are a good many provision merchants in Roundstone?—There are five or six.

52983. I suppose the five or six would represent pretty much the same position as you do?—Some of them more; mostly less.

52984. Mr. BRYCE.—How would the people clear off their debts? Do they give you produce, oats, eggs, and so forth, instead of money?—They sell the oats and I pay in cash.

52985. And the same way with eggs?—I buy eggs and pay them the money.

52986. CHAIRMAN.—You don't take eggs or fowl or anything of that kind against a debt?—No.

52987. You are not allowed by law to do that?—I would be allowed if I chose, but I give them all the facilities I can.

52988. Would not you be violating the Truck Act if you did?—The system I bought on first I kept up. I pay them for everything, and they pay me if they choose.

52989. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You pay cash?—Yes.

52990. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You say in your summary that about £200 is paid through you at Christmas from America?—Yes.

52991. Do you mean to say that the money is remitted to you or that the people bring you drafts to that amount for you to cash for them?—These are young people who emigrated to America and their parents owed money, and the money was outstanding until they died at home, and then the children paid the debt.

52992. Direct to you?—Yes.

52993. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Has the waterworks scheme been a success in Roundstone?—It is fair enough.

52994. You own two fishing boats. Did you get those from the Board or privately?—I paid ready cash for them to be built, except that there was a little balance remaining on one of them that I turned over to the Board.

52995. But you got those boats yourself?—I got them built myself, one of them under the direction of the Board. It is a large boat.

52996. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Your object was to employ local fishermen?—Yes.

52997. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You have been fairly successful with them?—Not altogether; but still when an instalment on one that I had would come due I paid. I would not wait to catch the fish.

Mr. MICHAEL CULLINANE examined.

52998. CHAIRMAN.—You live near Roundstone?—At Errisbeg. I have been a schoolmaster there for the last twenty years. My first point is the necessity for compulsory purchase. I suppose that that is pretty well threshed out.

52999. Is there any particular case that you wish to bring before us?—In my locality there are four very small estates bordering on the large estate of Mr. Berridge. It is utterly useless for the Board to buy the small ones without buying the large one, and treating all together.

53000. Why is that?—There is no room on the smaller estates to improve the condition of the people.

53000A. How if you got the big estates would you improve the condition of the people?—I am a tenant of Mr. Berridge's myself. We have a very large amount of common which we allow the tenants of three or four other estates to share free of charge. It would be well in dealing with us to deal with the whole lot, and give them as a right what we allow them as a privilege.

53001. It amounts to this that the only way of providing grazing permanently for tenants on the small estates is by acquiring the grazing which they now use, which is on Mr. Berridge's estate, and treating the whole thing as one farm?—I would prefer to buy

Sept. 19, 1907.

Mr. Michael Cullinane.

a very large district, perhaps now a parish, say the parish of Roundstone, and to treat that as a whole, as one estate. I would like to go further and to treat the whole of Connemara as one estate, if possible, under the management of trustees, so far as royalties, game rights, and things like those are concerned, the trustees to be elected by the occupants, or partly elected and partly nominated.

53002. Do you think could anything be done to improve these people by enlarging their holdings? Would enlarging their holdings improve their condition?—In Murvey, on the Hallam Estate, the smallest holdings are a little less than 4 acres, with a rent of £2 odd. One tenant holds 29 acres, of which the second judicial rent is £1 12*s.*; so I don't see what you can do with that 29 acres. It is not altogether a barren rock It is a kind of wild bog. A poor man who has that at £1 12*s.* has quite enough of that sort of land.

53003. The point you would like to put before the Commission is that in that sort of district where the land is very poor mere enlargement is not sufficient?—No, as it would require a very large area for grazing purposes to be of any material benefit to the individual and this large area could not be economically tilled.

53004. And it does not improve the position of the man to give him more land of the same character?—It does not. Of course it will give him a little more liberty to live, but it won't be of such benefit as a person unacquainted with the place might think.

53005. Suppose you were to give a man more land of that character he would not be able to use a plough, because the land is not suitable?—No. The ploughs are quite foreign there.

53006. It would be all spade labour only?—It must be spade labour.

53007. If you give a man a great tract of very poor land which he has to till with spade labour he will be unable to till it?—He cannot till it, because labour is getting scarce.

53008. He cannot till it?—No. You increase his difficulty to a certain extent if you increase or enlarge his holding on condition that he tills the greater portion of it. This does not apply to the very small holdings.

53009. That rather looks as if, in order to improve these people you would have to remove a great many of these people from the place altogether?—Yes; but then you do an injury on the other side. We attach great importance to the deep sea fishing at our door. Where will we get men to work the boats if you remove them too far?—Of course there can be a great deal done perhaps in the way of removing them, but I would not wish to remove them altogether except within a certain distance. If you must remove some, I would remove them further up the coast. I would not take them away from the sea altogether.

53010. That is if you could find considerable land for them on the seaboard?—Yes.

53011. But you would not wish to see migration carried out if it means that the fisheries would become starved?—They may become starved. They are our most important asset. Of course we want to get something done with the land, but I did not come here with the intention of confining myself to the land, but to the fisheries combined with the land.

53012. You are a great believer in the possibility of developing South Connemara?—Yes. The boats we have in Roundstone are all loan boats. The Congested Districts Board dealt very fairly with us. I had a boat myself for a while, but I gave it up three years ago. Mr. Cloherty and I got two. We got them merely to start the thing for the benefit of the district in order to start the fishing industry at Roundstone.

53013. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—You were pioneers?—Yes, and for no personal benefit whatever; and every penny that I saved, that I had, was paid in to the Board. I could not afford to add anything out of my small salary for the deficiency. The Board kindly forgave me that. For four years I did not put a penny of this boat to my own use. I paid it all up to meet the instalments. I could not meet them, and there were worse seasons sometimes since—worse than any of those during which I had the boat.

53014. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Explain the arrangement between you and the Board?—It was that the instalment should be £30 each half-year. It was a loan boat, that is a boat for which there was a loan, with security.

53015. Chairman.—Did you get your crews together?—I got the crew. I was responsible for keeping the boat manned. The Board supplied an instructor for two or three seasons.

53016. Having done this, you found that the boat did not earn enough to pay the instalments?—The boat was not able to pay the instalments. I could not afford to pay them in full and the Board forgave the balance against me when I gave up the boat.

53017. Your experience of fishing was not very successful?—No.

53018. What makes you think you were particularly unfortunate? With that experience behind you, why do you think the people could succeed where you failed?—The time for repaying the loan was eight years, there being sixteen instalments. Certainly the Board never drew a hard and fast line when there was a bad season; and two or three bad seasons came and the arrears accumulated, so it was hopeless to expect that the next season would make good the deficiency along with meeting its own demand.

53019. They gave you time?—Yes; the poor men getting these boats got frightened, and very few would like to go security under the circumstances, having seen that the boats were not able to pay the amount of the instalment under that arrangement of the eight years loan.

53020. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Why do you think that the fishing will succeed better in the future?—The individual members of the crew as a rule have been pretty well paid in the Roundstone fishing station, but the boat-owner is not. By making the conditions for the repayment of the loan more favourable to the boat-owner more men would be induced to get boats, and the number of fishermen being thus increased would mean larger number of the population deriving material benefits from the fishing industry.

53021. Will you develop that. Under the system that you adopt the men were paid by you?—Yes.

53022. They were in your employment?—Yes.

53023. You would recommend that under a better system the men themselves should be directly interested in the fishing?—In fact, perhaps, anything for a change; but still I really believe that it is better that one man be more directly responsible. I know that the boat and gear would be better looked after.

53024. You were not able to work this yourself?—No.

53025. Would not it be better if one, having a loan such as you had from the Board, were himself free to go out and take part in the fishing?—Yes. I have seen boats where the owners did not go out and they are worked as conscientiously as if the owners did go out.

53026. Chairman.—Are they worked successfully? Is the failure of the boat you had due in any way to the fact that you yourself were not able to go out?—No, because I had an instructor, an Arklow man, who was one of the best men ever in a fishing boat. The failure in my case was mainly due to the instalments for repayment being too heavy.

53027. Therefore it does not seem that the mere transfer of the security for the loan to an actual fisherman would make the difference?—It would, to a certain extent. We could not expect the Board to be giving us instructors for an indefinite number of years, but let us get one permanent resident instructor. The actual fisherman will be free to bring his boat to places where a man would not like to send a boat. However trustworthy a skipper may be, only the man who owns the boat will go further away from home if he expects a more favourable season.

53028. I don't understand yet what you think should be done?—If there were something of the method of payment of which we heard as existing at Cleggan, of giving four-ninths of the gross earnings or such proportion as may be decided on as repayment of the loan on the loan boats, not the same as the share boats. Suppose I have a boat. I work that boat. I should be allowed to pay off that according as the share boats are discharged.

53029. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Would not you adopt the share system altogether; if you did payments would be made as the catch was taken?—I mean to pay them on that very system, but I don't see why the single owner could not be arranged with

on these lines. That is the arrangement that I want to make. It is very hard to keep a crew together in the one boat for three or four years. Therefore it is better to have one nominal owner, the real owner if you like, and to deal with him according to the share system, so much of the boat's earnings going in payment of the loan. In the good year he will pay more and in the bad year he will be relieved, and there will be no anxiety about the balance accumulating so long as he does his best. We have pretty large boats, larger than they have in Cleggan, from about £500, with gear, and that is why the amount of the instalment presses so heavily on us.

53030. Which system does Father Gleeson favour—the share or the loan system?—Father Gleeson favours the share system, because under it the fishermen would have a better prospect of becoming the owners of the boats, and they would not be falling into the hands of shopkeepers, but I differ with him. I think the loan system is best if the loan is paid according to the share system.

53031. Mr. BRYCE.—You want to get the benefits of both systems?—A combination of both.

53032. In the case of the share system the Board takes its chance of getting a profit which might eventually be larger than the price of the boat. If you combine the two systems what you would do would be to fix the price on the instalment system, because you would not be sure of getting sufficient profit out of it on the other system?—I would be satisfied to have the advantages from the Board that they have under the share system.

Mr. BRYCE.—No; because by the instalment system you fix a price, and in the other case the price is not fixed. They make what they can out of it. I don't see very well how you are going to combine both systems.

53034. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Probably you have this in your head. Under the share system the payments are made to the Board as the fish are taken, and that is a considerable advantage?—Yes.

53035. On the other hand, under the share system, the Board is the owner of the boat, whereas under the loan system the fisherman is the owner of the boat. You prefer the ownership of a fisherman or a man like yourself?—I, myself, personally speaking, would prefer the ownership to be in the hands of the individual.

53036. And if it were in the hands of the individual you would recommend that the share system of repayment should be adopted?—As far as possible.

53037. That is to say the payments should not be fixed by the half year, but should vary with the catch?—Yes.

53038. CHAIRMAN.—That appears to be a matter of detail, really for the Board. What we are interested in primarily is what prospect there is of developing fishing around the coast. You have told us you had a boat and did not succeed. You think the system could be better, and I daresay it could; but still I don't quite understand what reason you have for thinking that the fishing is going to be better in the future than it has been in the past?—We were then in our infancy. These were the first four boats in Roundstone. We knew nothing about the details of the system of deep sea fishing. Therefore we made some mistakes. Now we know better. We have eight or ten years' experience, and from that experience we are in a position to point out how the fishing can be successful.

53039. You had an instructor?—He was fishing for the individual boat. We got long lines first for deep sea fishing. Certainly there is any amount of coarse fishing off the land. We found it did not pay so well. It was very severe on the sails of the boat. The sails may last five years if they are properly cared for, but they won't stand three years of long line fishing.

53040. What do you mean by saying that the instructor was acting for an individual boat; was he trying to do the best he could for an individual boat?—Yes.

53041 Still he did not succeed?—Yes, the want of success was due to the unfavourable terms on which the boat was granted.

53042. Then why should he succeed now?—We are getting more accustomed to manage better. We are getting only now the gear we can work with advantage.

53043. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Perhaps this is your point. The fishermen themselves, after years of experience are more capable now of doing good fishing than they were at the start?—Exactly. The fishermen are better now. They knew nothing about this fishing at the start. They can in fact fish anywhere around the west coast of Connemara without an instructor now.

53044. CHAIRMAN.—Is there any other point you wish to bring before us?—We have no industries in Roundstone. It was supposed we would get a technical school for cooperage and other things, and we have not succeeded. There are many little things that if combined would help the people materially. If the landlord's interest could be purchased out and the game and fishing rights could be vested in trustees on behalf of the estate in general it would be very useful. There are very valuable salmon fisheries in Roundstone in the hands of the landlords.

53045. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Are you under the impression that if the Congested Districts Board bought the Berridge Estate considerable improvements could be effected for the tenants?—I am sure that there could be great improvements.

Rev. B. M'ANDREW examined.

53046. CHAIRMAN.—You reside at Letterfrack?—Yes. I represent a very large parish in area, and it is very sparsely populated.

53047. The Twelve Bens are in your parish?—One of them—Ben Gorm—and another where the white marble quarries are. The district was formerly very densely populated, but through the Famine and evictions it is in a condition of desolation now.

53048. What would you suggest?—These tenants on very small holdings are incapable of getting a living from them, no matter what their industry might be. Their valuations vary from fifteen to eighteen and thirty shillings. £4 is the highest. It generally ranges from fifteen shillings to £2. That does not give them sufficient land to make a living out of. There was one property there that in old times had about seventy tenants, and there are not two on it now. It was all arable land and the Congested Districts Board intended to buy it. I brought it under their notice. This is called the Prior Estate. They sent down a representative to see it and value it, and they offered a price to the solicitors who were representing the owners or mortgagees.

53049. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Is the property in court?—No. It is purchased and is now in the hands of a lady in the neighbourhood, who had property of her own—some 400 or 500 acres. Having found out, by a trick, what the offer of the Congested Districts Board was, an increase was offered and the property was transferred to her before the Board even knew of it. That property contains about 1,030 acres of arable land, and there are no tenants on it.

53050. CHAIRMAN.—Where is this property?—It is on the hill coming from Letterfrack to Clifden, down on the road towards Cleggan.

53050A. Whom does it belong to now?—To Mrs. Tulloch.

53051. The Board would have bought were it not that Mrs. Tulloch bought?—Yes. She made an offer after the Board had bid for the estate. She had a large inherited income. She purchased the estate, and it was transferred to her before the Board knew anything about it.

53052. Mr. BRYCE.—Does that adjoin the Twining property?—Yes; Mrs. Tulloch intervenes between Cleggan and Ballinakill. It is a wilderness with signs of cultivation all over the place.

53053. CHAIRMAN.—In your opinion that should be acquired and re-divided?—Yes. The Thompson property, too, down towards Leenane, consists of about 8,000 acres, of which 1,400 acres consist of untenanted arable pasture, and about 2,000 acres more are easily reclaimable and suitable for agricultural holdings. There is a lot of land there that was tenanted in the old times, and it is all arable. There were eighty tenants at one time on the townlands of Foher and Bunowen.

53054. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—These people lived there up to the Famine?—Yes.

Sept. 19, 1907.

Rev. B. M'Andrew.

53055. These people died of starvation?—Yes, and eviction too, on account of not having fixity of tenure. The Cleggan property is unoccupied.

53056. CHAIRMAN.—Do you know the country around Loughnahilian?—Yes.

53057. Is that in your parish?—Yes.

53058. Is not there a road which runs towards Loughnahilian?—Yes. It is a road that I sought to have made years ago. It is a most important road to join North and South Connemara.

53059. At present there is a gap in the centre?—Yes, about a mile and a half of a gap.

53060. How did that occur; was the road originally begun as a relief work?—I daresay it was. We extended it by relief works during the last dozen years by two miles. Now there is a gap of about a mile and a half.

53061. You have asked the Congested Districts Board to complete that?—Yes; I asked them over three years ago and they did not undertake to do it.

53062. That particular place is not a congested area?—It ought to be.

53063. The Congested Districts Board did not finish this road?—No. They would not do it. The gentleman with whom I corresponded privately asked would I be able to get the Grand Jury to contribute half and to keep it in repair, and I consulted some of them and they laughed at the idea.

53064. That district is not congested?—It cannot be congested. There is no one in it, but it unites congested districts.

53065. The Board cannot work in a non-congested area?—I don't know that.

53066. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Unless to relieve congestion in a congested area. If there was a strong case made that work in a non-congested area would relieve congestion in a congested area it might be done?—I don't see why that should not be treated as congested, because it is a poor, wretched, stony district, and there are no houses at all in it.

53067. CHAIRMAN.—Have you heard complaints that that particular spot is not scheduled?—No, because there is no one in it.

53068. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Would there be any local contribution forthcoming?—I think it is very hard to get the County Council to give anything. It is just as hard to get them as it was to get the old Grand Jury to contribute towards these public works.

53069. Mr. BRYCE.—How much money would it cost?—About £500, I think. It would be a most useful road. Another most necessary road I asked the Board to make years ago. There are several villages on the Renvyle property which they have to approach from the sea in their canoes to bring in their meal and other necessaries. They have to divide these things on the rocks below, and carry them up the cliffs. The Board sent down their engineer, Mr. Oliver, to look over it, and he said there were no engineering difficulties. I got a letter saying that the Board would not do any more of these roads without a few members of them going to the locality and seeing what is to be done. They were to go there in a few days, and I am waiting for them ever since. That was about twelve years ago. Sir Henry Robinson, who knew this place well, enabled me with funds placed at his disposal to do it, and through his kindness the road is now made.

53070. CHAIRMAN.—That was done by the Local Government Board, and not by the Congested Districts Board?—Yes, but the other road would be a most useful road for both North and South Connemara.

53071. Is there any other point?—No, except that I would like to see some alteration in the Congested Districts Board, because it has never done anything for my parish. I would like to have some member from the place who would have sympathy with the people.

53072. When you say this place, what do you mean?—Connemara and this whole district, including my parish.

53073. You could not have a representative from every electoral division?—No, but I would have more than one for a county, because people with a practical knowledge of the country, the class of land, the means of living, and the wants of the people generally, should be on it.

53074. You don't think there is sufficient touch between the Board and the local people?—I think not.

53075. Do you think it would be an advantage if the Board were to come here sometimes to hold a sitting?—It would be very advantageous. I scarcely know even one of the officials.

53076. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Have you a Parish Committee?—Yes. That is the only thing we have.

53077. What grant have you?—£100 for the parish, £50 for each district.

53078. How is it working?—Very well indeed. It is the only thing that is giving satisfaction to us.

53079. CHAIRMAN.—Are there any practical difficulties in connection with it?—No. The houses are very bad. There is scarcely an outhouse, and we are trying to get out-houses built.

53080. Are there any difficulties in working the grants?—No; except that the people who want it most are too poor to avail of it.

53081. Is not there a limit of £7 valuation?—Yes. If that were relaxed more might be done. I know worse houses among the class over £7 than some of those below that limit.

53082. Do you think you should be able to help people with a valuation of more than £7?—Some people might have a valuation of over £7 and be poorer than people with a valuation of £3.

53083. At what would you put the limit?—£10.

53084. At present you cannot give any money until the work is completed?—Yes.

53085. Does that have a bad effect?—It prevents those doing the work who require the improvements most.

53086. How would you get over that?—Pay the labour for masons, and so forth, and buy the iron for the roof.

53087. Would you have some system by which it should pay for the material as it is needed?—Yes.

53088. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Were there any industries at any time in your parish?—We had a basket industry, which was the private speculation of an English lady. It worked for some years, until her health failed, and she left the country. She got the Board to take an interest in it and they gave a subsidy for a couple of years. The Board got a Birmingham basket maker to take it up and left it altogether in his hands, and the thing fell through. The Board withdrew the subsidy, as they concluded that the place was not suited for basket-making. I think it is eminently suited.

53089. Are osiers growing there still?—Yes, though they are not cared, and cattle graze where the osiers are sown, but the osiers grow luxuriantly. Mr. Henry gave an acre of land, and the Christian Brothers gave some land, too, for growing osiers.

53090. What was the obstacle to success?—It was not properly managed. The Birmingham gentleman put his son-in-law in charge and allowed him £150 a year where £1 a week would have been enough, and it failed; but it certainly was a most suitable industry for the place.

53091. Do you think is basket-making a possible industry in the West of Ireland?—I think so. Miss Sturge made it pay, and that although she imported the osiers from England.

53092. Do you think the people in your parish would move if they got a chance to go to some other part of the country?—In the time of Mr. Micks a small property was bought and people were removed from a remote part of the parish, and they were doing their best to get the holdings, and it was a considerable distance; so I am sure that they would migrate. Of course there is no occasion to migrate to any distance. There is plenty of room to have economic holdings for everyone in the parish if the lands were acquired. Even the lands that have been under

cultivation near Leenane and Letterfrack are all beautiful land. They are not bogland at all, but sloping and, down to the rivers, and capable of cultivation. The land I speak of, about 3,000 acres from the road near Leenane, about Bunown, and over to the west side of Killery Bay, is all beautiful land.

53093. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Arable land?—Yes. It has been under cultivation before.

53094. You see the marks of it on the hillsides along Killery Bay?—Yes. There is another Bunown in the parish of Clifden. I mean the one near Leenane, on the Thompson property.

53095. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—At the time that the hill slopes were cultivated prior to the Famine, when they went out of cultivation and became grass ranches, I suppose those who were using those grass ranches had not to compete with the foreign importation of cattle?—No.

53096. Now that the supply is coming from abroad, don't you think that it would be a natural and proper thing that these districts instead of being used to graze cattle should go into cultivation?—Yes. They are suited best for cultivation.

53097. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you see no difficulty about labour to work tillage?—It is marvellous what the people will do when they get the land into their own hands. All the lands that are occupied for grazing purposes through Connemara were as bad as the land that you think most uninviting. It is the people's industry that made the grazing lands what they are.

CHAIRMAN.—A telegram has just come from Dublin with regard to those boats which were referred to in the evidence of Canon M'Alpine:—"*Hermon* taken up as all crew left the boat except Sweeny, to whom the boat was then sold on loan. *Topaz* taken up as all crew left boat except Sullivan and Moran, and more money was spent on working and maintaining the boat than it cost originally."

The Commission adjourned.

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH PUBLIC SITTING.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st, 1907,

AT 11.0 O'CLOCK, A.M.,

At the Lace Class Room, Carna.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (Chairman); The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL; JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.; ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esq.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Rev. MICHAEL M'HUGH examined.

Sept. 21, 1907.

Rev. Michael M'Hugh.

53099. CHAIRMAN.—You are parish priest of Carna?—Yes, my lord.

53100. You are nominated by the District Council and by the Archbishop?—Yes. There are about 700 families in my parish, and all the heads of those families are tenant-farmers, and not more, I think, than about ten per cent. of the holdings are economic.

53101. Do you say that they are all tenant-farmers?—They have land, more or less.

53102. There is an estate here purchased by the Board?—Yes, my lord.

53103. That is in your district?—Yes.

53104. I suppose they pay annuities?—Yes; they have purchased their holdings. The people depend for their livelihood on fishing, kelp-making, and American cheques. I have calculated that about £2,500 has reached the parish from America within the last twelve months. The fishing here is scarcely a success, but I may say that the fault of the non-success is not due to the people. They are only too willing and anxious to fish or do anything else that would bring them in money. I think the cause is due to the shortness of the mackerel season, and mackerel fishing, which only lasts two or three months, is really the only branch of the fishing industry that is carried on here, except lobster fishing.

53105. You say it only lasts two or three months in the year?—Yes.

53106. Now, in Arran they fish nine or ten months in the year. They do not fish here for that time?—I will tell you why they cannot fish here. In order to be able to fish here during the autumn and winter we must have a curing station—a station where the fish is cured.

53107. But what is to prevent the men from here practically fishing on the same grounds that the Aran men do, and landing the fish there?—Well, the autumn fishing, my lord, is not the same as the spring. The autumn mackerel come in close to shore, and the fishing is carried on almost entirely, I think, by small boats, not by large boats at all. It is small curraghs that do practically all the autumn fishing.

53108. But I suppose it could be done by the others?—Well, not so well, because the fish approach the land.

53109. But it would be perfectly possible to tow a canoe after the bigger boat, and to fish from the canoe?—But what they do is they go out in the evenings with their nets, and anchor their nets at a distance of a mile or so from shore, so that they can go and rest comfortably at home, and then in the morning they go and lift the nets, and get the fish.

53110. That is very convenient for people, but why is not it possible for a crew of men to own a bigger boat or to go across to Aran to get their nets out, to sleep that night on board the boats, and in the morning to land the fish at Aran?—But it would be still better, if possible, if they were able to sleep in their own homes.

53111. Ah, better, but they cannot arrange that. After all, it is no distance to Aran?—No.

53112. You know the fishing on both sides of Aran is excellent?—Yes.

53113. And the Aran people have done very well?—Yes.

53114. Surely it only requires apparently a little enterprise for them to go across and fish on the very same grounds that the Aran fishermen do?—But you must remember that the season is often very bad for days and weeks at a time, and they would be all that time confined to the large boats, and it would be a better arrangement if they could stop at home and sleep in their own homes, instead of being caged down and imprisoned and tied in the boats at sea.

53115. That would be certainly so if there was fish here. You say the mackerel fishing round here only lasts for two or three months?—Yes, that is the spring fishing.

53116. Well, if it only lasts for two or three months it is possible for them to carry on the inshore fishing outside their own doors, and also the other?—Of course, both. I do not want to set aside the spring fishing at Aran at all. I only want to have a curing station for the autumn fishing.

53117. You see there is a good curing station in Aran. It is well established. The buyers are there, and there are good prices, and I should have thought that they would get better prices by landing their fish in Aran, and going and selling them there, than they would by getting a curing station without much competition here. Mr. Sutherland knows more about this thing than I do, but I should think that that would be so.

53118. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—I have no question to put, because the fishing that I am acquainted with, as it is carried on in Scotland, is entirely different. No man there would ever dream of going ashore after he has cast his nets?—That is the case here, too, in spring; they will not come ashore. In Boffin, where there is a very successful fishery, better even than Aran, they have not a large boat at all; they are all small boats.

53119. CHAIRMAN.—Because the fishing is so close to them that they do not think it necessary?—There is very little spring fishing about that place. During the autumn fishing they come in largely.

53120. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—And the autumn fishing is in-shore fishing?—It is.

53121. CHAIRMAN.—The point you wished to put forward was that you would like to see a curing station established here?—Yes, my lord.

53122. And you think that would meet the case?—I think it would.

53123. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Do you know any locality in Ireland where a fishery was established by beginning with a curing station?—Yes, Aran.

53124. Then they have a curing station there?—Yes.

53125. Is it public or private?—I think it was established by the Board.

53126. And it is successful?—Yes, and in Boffin it is the same thing. I lived for three years in Boffin, and there was hardly a fish killed there in my time, and the fishing is very successful now.

53127. Was there any complaint as to the lack of competition?—I never heard it.

53128. The fishermen get as high prices as if there was competition?—I think so. I never heard of any complaint on that score.

Mr. BRYCE.—Perhaps I might just explain to Mr. Sutherland. The Board originally started the thing at Cleggan for the autumn fishing, and the result was that that brought outside curers there, and the thing is now on its own bottom altogether. The Board does not cure there now at all, but only started the thing.

53129. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—All you want is that the same thing should be done at this place?—That is what I contend for.

53130. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Now for those who carry on fishing the essential matter to success is a safe estuary or port that you could make at night without great risk?—Yes.

53131. Therefore looking at the chart it occurs to me to ask you do you not think that the hydrographic conditions here, with all these rocks and islands, is really against a great development of Clifden as a fishing port?—No.

53132. You will understand that in places where you can make your port at any time you are under no apprehension, but with all these rocks here it is an enormous risk to the boats and to life to attempt to use it, as it is not a place where the men could come in and go out at night?—I am contending altogether for fishing by the small boats and not large boats, and their style of fishing is entirely different from that of the large boats. They simply go out in the evening, anchor their nets the night before, and go next morning and raise those nets, and there is no night work at all probably.

53133. Is the aggregate catch of those small boats such a quantity as would make it profitable to establish a curing station?—Yes. I say that in my parish the bulk of the autumn fishing is done entirely by those small boats, and altogether in Boffin.

53134. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Did you, at any time, go over your project with Mr. Duthie or Mr. Green?—Yes; I often spoke to them about a curing station here, and they even promised me more than once that they would consider the thing, but they never communicated.

53135. What did Mr. Duthie think of it?—He was quite in favour of it.

53136. CHAIRMAN.—Was not Mr. Duthie stationed on this coast for the boats?—He was here, but not so very long.

53137. How long was he here?—About two or three times I saw him altogether.

53138. As a visitor, but I thought he was actually stationed here once in order to try and encourage the fishing?—The man we had to deal most with here was Mr. Shimmin.

53139. Oh, yes; you are quite right; it was Mr. Shimmin. Now he did not succeed very well, did he?—In what respect, my lord?

53140. In encouraging the fishing?—In what way?

53141. In encouraging the fishing. I mean was not Mr. Shimmin sent down to this coast by the Board with the distinct view of trying to encourage the fishing all along this coast, and it was rather a failure, was not it?—Well, it has not been the success it ought to have been. That is what I say.

53142. What was the reason of that failure?—I have been telling you that the people can only fish at present in spring, practically speaking, because the autumn fishing is in-shore fishing, and that must be done by small boats chiefly.

53143. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Why must it?—Because the fish come in.

53144. You wait till the fish come in?—They come in-shore.

53145. The fishermen wait till the fish come near the shore, but they could get them by going out?—If they are there.

53146. They must be there before they come in-shore?—Yes.

53147. But you were saying just now that the fishermen pursue a method which, you will admit, is primitive and might be developed. Would it not be better, in your opinion, that an effort should be made to develop it?—I do not see any reason why both should not be followed, and if the fish come in-shore I do not see what objection can be raised to small-boat fishing, such as I contend for.

53148. We are not tied down to proposing either?—Nor am I. I want to have both.

53149. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Would the men be willing to stick to the boats for a longer period each year?—Yes; I want to extend the season.

53150. You think a curing station here would help?—Yes.

53151. CHAIRMAN.—Where would you put it?—I would put two or three of them along the coast, one at Maam, one at Carna, and one at Kilkerrin.

53152. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Has the market for cured mackerel been so good for the last year?—Well, it has not, I think.

53153. And that is a contingency?—Yes.

53154. Are there hopes that it will revive?—I think the last report I saw was rather favourable.

53155. The market is getting steady?—Yes.

53156. CHAIRMAN.—Is there any possibility of a successful autumn herring fishing here?—Well, of course, that would go hand-in-hand with the autumn mackerel fishing.

53157. Then you could fish for autumn herring out of canoes?—Certainly; they do that regularly.

53158. They do?—I mean they do it in Aran.

53159. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—The Aran fishing has been mainly the mackerel fishing?—Well, I suppose mainly.

53160. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Is the district called South Aran?—Yes.

53161. The official return is £47 5*s.* worth of herrings caught in Aran in 1906, and that is not much?—Altogether?

53162. Yes?—That is very little.

53163. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Do you think that for organising purposes an officer resident as superintendent on Aran would be capable of attending sufficiently to this coast, or should there be a distinct man for this coast, so that you should have an officer independent of the officer in Aran?—I think it would be well if there was an independent officer. I suppose he could do it from Aran, but I would rather have an independent man to devote his time to the fishing here at least for a time. Later on it would not be necessary.

53164. CHAIRMAN.—What size district do you think he could manage?—Well, the whole of this parish, we will say.

53165. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—What is the length of the sea coast?—I suppose about twenty miles. It goes from Kilkerrin all round the coast almost to Cashel.

53166. If you follow the coast line from Kilkerrin it is 100 miles?—That is if you count all the little creeks; but I am speaking of an even line round.

53167. Are the means of communication good round the whole of that—the roads and railways?—There are no railways at all.

53168. But the roads are good?—Fairly good.

53169. CHAIRMAN.—Now, I think you want to say something about transit?—Yes; I do. Not only do I wish to have this autumn fishing promoted in the way I speak of but also to have the winter fishing assisted; that is, the fishing for ling, cod, skate, conger, plaice, and sole; and in order to have that fishing a success we ought to have improved means of transit; we must have a cheap and quick means of sending the fish to the market.

53170. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—For your fresh fish?—Yes, the fresh fish.

53171. You would not want railway transit for the cured fish?—No.

53172. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—What is your nearest point of railway communication?—Recess.

53173. CHAIRMAN.—Would it be possible, in the ordinary winter fishing, or early in spring, when the steamer is running from Aran, to send the fish across there?—No; you could not do it from here.

53174. You think it would be necessary to have a steamer coming here?—I would rather go in for a motor service.

53175. But she used to come to Kilkerrin?—She used at one time. It would be, of course, a great improvement on the present state of things for her to come to Kilkerrin, but really when she came to Kilkerrin she was of very little practical service in this way that you never knew when she was coming. There was no telegraph communication, and you did not know whether she was coming or was not coming.

53176. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Had she no stated times?—She had, but then she never carried out her sailings.

53177. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Is there lobster fishing here?—Yes.

53178. How is that managed with regard to transit?—That is another difficulty, and that is exactly where this motor service I speak of would come in usefully.

Sept. 21, 1907.

Rev. Michael M'Hugh.

At present they must send them up in carts over that bumpy road as far as Recess.

53179. Can you keep them in submerged boxes?—We keep them in boxes, and send them over that bad road in carts, with the result that they reach the market dead.

53180. Can you give any idea of the number of lobsters taken in the season?—I could not give you the number of lobsters, but I have been asking the fishermen, and they tell me that they only make in the season between £10 and £15 in lobsters.

53181. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—The men who engage in the lobster fishing?—Yes.

53182. Where do they generally catch the lobsters?—All along the rough coast just outside. This will give you some idea (*Paper handed in*). If we had this quick transit that would not happen. The fish would reach the market in good condition instead of being dead.

53183. What time does it take to travel to Recess from the village of Carna?—Four or five hours.

53184. But you could not be sure of catching the train?—No; and you must start early to be sure of that, and the longer they are on the journey the worse for the fish.

53185. Mr. Bryce.—There is telegraphic communication opened now to Carna?—Yes.

53186. And it would not cost much to extend that to Kilkerrin?—No, and I hope to see it extended.

53187. And if your steamer came and gave notice, that would be all right?—If she came regularly.

53188. That would be the cheapest method of remedying the matter?—I do not know about the cheapness of it.

53189. She used to come regularly, as far as the days were concerned?—She was supposed to come regularly, but she never did.

53190. The irregularity was in the time rather than in the day?—It was in day and time. Sometimes she would not come for weeks, and then she came when she had to come.

53191. Mr. Kavanagh.—Would the County Council do anything to the roads, do you think, if the motor service was projected?—I cannot speak for the County Council.

53192. But you are aware that no motor service could go on the roads as they stand at present?—I am aware of that.

53193. But have the County Council ever been approached to repair the roads?—I think they have, not in connection with this scheme however, but in connection with another proposed motor service, and I think they refused.

53194. You are aware that there was a proposal, by Lord Iveagh, I think?—Yes.

53195. But the roads must be repaired before that could be undertaken?—Of course, that is clear.

53196. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—How often was the steamer supposed to call to Kilkerrin?—Only once a week, my lord, and that would not do at all.

53197. Mr. Bryce.—That would be all right for the cured fish?—Yes, but we do not want a weekly service for that purpose. A steamer once a month would be good enough for that.

53198. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—It is not of use at all for the fresh fish?—Not a bit.

52199. How often should it call to be of use for the fresh fish?—At least three times a week, or every other day.

53200. Mr. Sutherland.—Does not the difference of conditions in Inishboffin and Aran as regards fishing as compared with this place arise from the fact that there they can fish outside, because they are exactly on the spot, but the small boats here cannot fish outside?—Why?

53201. On account of the long distance they have to go outside. Is not that a handicap?—The fish come in quite close to the shore.

53202. My point is about the outside fishing, in reference to what Mr. Sutherland asked you, why can't they fish outside?—The large boats can fish outside, and they do.

53203. Are there any large boats in Carna regularly fishing outside?—Certainly.

53204. And do they make it pay?—They do, but you will never have the fishing industry a success if it depends on the large boats alone. You must have the in-shore fishing as well.

53205. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Were those large boats in existence before you came here, or have they been acquired by assistance from the Board?—By assistance from the Board.

53206. And am I to understand that the large boats established by the action of the Board have been a success?—No. What I say is this, that a fishing industry carried on by the larger boats alone is not a successful industry.

53207. I am asking you a general question about fishing, as regards the result of the establishment of the large boats that have been helped by the Board. Have those large boats, as far as remunerative returns go, been a success?—What do you mean by a success?

53208. What is the result?—The result is such that the boats still carry on the industry even as it is.

53209. And it pays?—It pays to a certain extent, but they are not able to pay the instalments on their boats.

53210. And therefore in that sense it is not a success?—In that sense it is not a success.

53211. The Board assist the large boats, and they are carrying on the business, but they are not able to pay their way?—They are not able to pay the instalments on the loans.

53212. Although, being large boats, they can follow the outside fishing?—They do.

53213. And to what do you attribute that?—Well, you see, there are two instalments each year due on these boats. Very likely they will succeed in paying the spring instalment, the May instalment, but they will not pay the other; they cannot; they do not fish.

53214. They do not fish?—Well, they cannot fish, for the reason that I stated; the autumn fishing is not a success along here, and I say that the small boats are the boats best suited in the autumn fishing.

53215. That would equally apply to Aran and Inisboffin?—And so it does.

53216. And if so at Aran and Inisboffin the fishing is not a success by reason of the failure of the autumn?—I say it is the small boats that make it a success. That is what I contend. That is the point.

53217. Mr. Sutherland.—Your contention, I take it, is that the small boat is better adapted for the autumn mackerel fishing than the big boat?—Yes.

53218. But do you not think that the large boat could be used for the same purpose?—I should think that both classes of boats should be used.

53219. With the large boats you could do the work of the small boats, but not *vice versa*?—The large boats certainly cannot touch the inshore fishing.

53220. But without the large boats there is no possibility of working on modern commercial lines?—I do not at all go in for doing away with the large boats, but I say we should have both; and the small boats should be supplied with nets.

53221. If the fishermen get the necessary large boats with the help of public money, I suppose they could supply the small boats themselves, and make them useful?—They could.

53222. So that the small boats are a thing that the Commission and you need not care about if they get the large boats?—I do not know about that.

53223. You see, everybody here has got a small boat, and it would be a great thing if you could have them utilising these small boats, when they are not used otherwise, in killing these autumn fish, and that is what I want to draw your attention to. But as long as you use the small boats for the inshore fishing you will have a small fishing?—I say, have the present fishing along with the inshore.

53224. Sir John Colomb.—Is there much turf transit here?—No.

53225. The people who use the small boats use them exclusively for sea-fishing?—Yes.

53226. They do not earn a livelihood by carrying turf?—No.

53227. Mr. Bryce.—These hookers are used for turf, are they not?—No; not largely. They take meal, flour, and other goods from Galway.

53228. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Is there any place where boats are built?—Yes.

53229. Where?—Mweenish.

53230. Large boats as well as small boats?—Yes.

53231. Well built?—Very well built.

53232. And you have a fair supply of small boats?—Nearly every householder has a small boat.

53233. And you have some large boats also?—Yes.

53234. And for the small boats you require an advance of nets?—Yes, and a curing station.

53235. And a curer?—Yes.

53236. What you put before the Commission is that there is inshore fishing in autumn that may be more successfully followed in small boats than in large boats?—Yes.

53237. And you consider that if there was a curing station established the men could be induced to fish a greater number of months than they do now?—Yes, certainly.

53238. That I take to be a general summary of what you want to put before the Commission?—Yes; that is what I want to put before the Commission.

53239. CHAIRMAN.—When Mr. Shimmins was down here, did he give any instruction?—He had instructors on the large boats. I do not think there are any instructors now.

53240. When those instructors were working, were they successful in the large boats?—I think they were very useful in the beginning, certainly. They did not require them since so much.

53241. Was there any falling off in the takes after the instructors were gone?—No, I should think not. At least, if there was any falling off I do not think the falling off was in any way to be attributed to the fact that an instructor was not on board.

53242. Were there any instructors put into the small boats?—There were no small boats fishing.

53243. Even then?—No.

53244. Was there no step taken to supply any of the small boats with nets?—No.

53245. Or instructors?—No.

53246. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Is there a local demand for herrings to any extent here?—Oh yes, there is a limited local demand. Of course, the people generally fish and kill whatever they use themselves.

53247. How long do you reckon the season when the fish are inshore, and within the range of the small boats?—I should say September and October.

53248. And for September and October you wish to have a curing station?—Yes.

53249. Just for that limited time?—Yes; for the autumn season.

53250. And would a temporary arrangement, sufficient to bring the curers here for the two months, meet your purpose?—That would meet my demand.

53251. You do not look to the prospect of establishing curing stations during a large portion of the year as being of any use?—I think all those curing stations are only for a short season in the year everywhere, as far as I know.

53252. And what you desire is to create a market, and by creating a market to encourage the small boats to fish?—Yes.

53253. Were those small boats built by private enterprise or were any of them built on the loan system?—Most of them were built on the loan system.

53254. The small boats?—Yes.

53255. And do you mean to say that actually the Congested Districts Board encouraged the building of small boats on loan without providing them with nets?—Yes, my lord; but not for fishing. They use them for collecting seaweed and making kelp, and things of that sort.

53256. Then the loan was not advanced for fishing at all?—Not for fishing at all.

53257. Not for the purpose of fishing, but for other things?—Yes.

53258. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Is there any demand for the larger boats now?—Oh, yes.

53259. You saw the report of the Agricultural Department on fishing, lately issued, did you?—I do not think I saw that.

53260. They say that the larger boat now comes into competition with the steam trawler, and, therefore, is of very little use, and the smaller boat will be the fishing boat of the future when once the Irish fisherman goes in for steam trawlers?—Very likely that is so. That rather bears out what I have been saying.

53261. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Do steam trawlers come and compete with those boats here?—Yes; in Galway Bay they do.

53262. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do any of the big boats here trawl?—No.

53263. None of them?—Well, I do not think so.

53264. Then, what are the big boats used for—is it mackerel?—Yes.

53265. And herring?—Mackerel and herring.

53266. And any long-line fishing?—No long-line fishing, and that is exactly what I want to do. Long-line fishing must be done by the small boats.

53267. Now, you want to say something about kelp?—Kelp is rather an important concern here. At least, the people make a great deal of it. Without exactly having the figures, I say that, on the average, between 900 and 1,000 tons is bought every year in Kilkerrin, and I should say about the same quantity at Cashel.

53268. And the price is not as good as it used to be?—Not as good as it was years ago, but as good as it has been for the past ten years, at any rate.

53269. What is it now?—Well, I think £4 is about the highest price, but I should say £3 would be the average price.

53270. Do you mean by giving these figures £6,000 a year?—Yes; I do not say my people get all that, but it comes to the district.

53271. CHAIRMAN.—And you think that could be improved?—Well, I think it could be improved. I think the present method of burning the weed is very wasteful, and much of the value of the ingredients is burnt away, and goes away in smoke; but what I really contend for in connection with the kelp industry would be this—if it were possible, to have a works opened here for treating the weed and extracting the products of it. There is a very large quantity of this raw material on the spot, and we want employment. The great need we have is the want of employment, and as long as we have the need for employment and the raw material here I do not see why we should be exporting it away to other places.

53272. Do you know any place where this process that you suggest is carried out?—Yes.

53273. This better process of burning?—I do not know that.

53274. In the present process in the open kiln 50 per cent. of the ingredients is wasted?—Yes.

53275. And you suggest that instead of that a better process of burning should be established, I suppose, by the Board?—Yes.

53276. Have you got any place in your mind where that is carried on?—No, I have not, but I believe it has been done in places not on these shores.

53277. You do not know what amount of money it would cost to build a thing of that sort?—No, I do not at all; but it is a laboratory of some kind, of course.

53278. Do you know that the whole future of kelp is extremely doubtful?—Precarious—at least we are told it is, but that is because of the condition of the iodine market. But I say that the kelp industry, my lord, so far as I know, is not dependent on iodine alone. It has other ingredients as well. It is used in soap manufacture. It is used, I believe, in the manufacture of paper. I think some American people use it for paper. And there is another chemical substance which I am told is a very valuable commodity contained in it—namely, algin. This is used in the cotton trade.

53279. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—And there is potash?—There is potash, I know.

53280. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Algin is not a chemical element?—It is used as such.

53281. It is not. It is a compound. The name is derived from alga, I suppose?—Yes; alga is seaweed.

53282. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You suggest that for this district there should be a central station for burning kelp, with the necessary appliances for burning it in a suitable and economic way?—Yes.

53283. Whereabouts would you propose a site for this?—At Kilkerrin.

53284. And I suppose the general outline you have in your mind is a kelp manufactory, very much on the lines of a creamery, to which the people would bring the seaweed?—Well, not necessarily on the lines of the creameries.

53285. But what I ask you is this—suppose the Congested Districts Board does establish a factory at Kilkerrin how are you going to work it?—What I would suggest would be that the Board ought to make inquiries and try to ascertain if any private firm would be willing to open a works of that kind at Kilkerrin, and, if so, I think they ought to hold out some inducement to the firm to do so.

53286. CHAIRMAN.—What would the firm do—would they buy seaweed?—Buy seaweed, and of course give employment in extracting the product—whatever product they might extract from it.

53287. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—But such a firm before they expended money in the erection of buildings and the erection of the plant necessary would need to have some guarantee that the amount of seaweed brought would be sufficient to work the business profitably?—

Sept. 21, 1907.

Rev. Michael M'Hugh.

They know exactly at present the amount of seaweed available, and they know, furthermore, that the quantity would be sufficiently large to enable them to carry on this work at a profit.

53288. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—They know that already, do they not?—They do. As a matter of fact, I may tell you this—I was in communication last year with a company who were quite willing to open works at Kilkerrin.

53289. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—And what did they require—if they agreed as to terms, can you give any idea of the terms?—I cannot, because I could not enter into that.

53290. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Would it not be much better if it was done on co-operative principles entirely, and the profits would then go to the people who cut and brought the weed, in the same way as with creameries?—Yes, but you must of course train the people to a co-operative system; but they have not any experience of it, and you cannot get them to adopt a system of that kind at once.

53291. You understand that a great deal of the profit would go if it was taken up by a private concern?—Yes.

53292. And how is it bought from them at present?—It is bought by the ton.

53293. It is bought by the ton after burning?—Yes.

53294. And will they buy all the people burn?—Well, they do, as a rule. Perhaps at the end of the season the company might stop buying; but, as a rule, they buy all that is offered to them.

53295. How do they test it?—They have some chemical test for it. I do not know what it is.

53296. And they reject anything that does not stand the test?—They reject anything that is not up to a proper standard, and they give a reduced price for what is of inferior quality.

53297. What they reject is of no use?—That is what they say, of course. The people sometimes contend that those tests do not work out satisfactorily.

53298. They are not quite satisfied with the test?—The people are not satisfied with the test.

53299. How many buyers are there in this district?—Only one. I believe, unfortunately, the kelp buyers have formed a ring or syndicate.

53300. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—How many are there?—I do not know.

53301. Would you be surprised to know there is only one firm?—Yes.

53302. Is not it to Glasgow they send it?—Yes. Ten years ago the Sheppy Glue Company came down here and bought kelp, which they used in the manufacture of glue. They bought kelp for three or four years—at least, for three years—and towards the end of the third year they were approached by this syndicate, and told—"We can supply you with all the kelp you require for your purpose at a cheaper figure than you can buy it."

53303. That is the iodine?—No; glue.

53304. The syndicate is an iodine syndicate?—The principal firm of the syndicate is an iodine company, but there are other companies connected with it, such as the Sheppy Glue Company, which have nothing to do with iodine, nothing whatever.

53305. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—At what period of the year do they burn the kelp?—It begins about the middle of April, and ends practically about the 1st of October.

53306. And is it at all dependent on the weather?—Oh, very much.

53307. It varies with the season?—It varies with the season, but once they get to October the kelp-burning is at an end.

53308. And it is very variable?—Yes.

53309. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Is there a royalty charged on the weed?—No.

53310. They get the weed free?—Yes. Of course, there is a certain sum, I think, added on by the Land Commission to the rent, in view of the facilities the tenants have for getting this seaweed.

53311. Is there much difference in price according to the quality of the kelp?—Well, the highest price is £4, my lord, and towards the end of the season the price very often runs down to £2 10*s*.

53312. Does the buyer pull down the price occasionally on the ground that the kelp is not up to his standard?—Yes.

53313. To prevent depreciation in that way would it be a practical thing to have an inspector on the coast who would certify that the kelp was made in the proper way?—I am afraid not, for this reason—the inspector would, no doubt, do his duty properly, and giver a proper certificate, but you cannot bind the buyer to his test. He will have his own test.

53314. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Can they sell as much as they burn?—Well, generally speaking.

53315. There is always a demand for it?—As a rule, there is a demand, but there is only the one buyer, who represents the syndicate.

53316. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—There is no competition. It is a monopoly?—It is a monopoly. The syndicate has formed a monopoly.

53317. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Is it not a really difficult thing to test kelp once it is made?—It is.

53318. Could any system be adopted by which an inspector would be able to see that done locally, to see the kelp in the process of making. Would not that give security to the buyer?—No doubt it would give security to the buyer, but all the same they would not be bound by that report.

53319. That is all you want to say about the kelp?—Yes; then coming to the land, I think that the land here, bad as it is, ought to be bought because although the holdings are quite inadequate, still I think that a great deal may be done on those slum estates by the Board or any sympathetic body such as the Board, in improving the amenities of life in those places by building new houses for the people, and making roads to the sea and to the hills where they have their stock and cattle, and generally making them more comfortable than they are.

53320. What electoral division is Carna in?—There are three electoral divisions.

53321. Which union?—Clifden. There are three electoral divisions—Skanive, Knockboy, and Owengowla.

53322. CHAIRMAN.—Have you got a parish committee?—We have a parish committee, my lord.

53323. What grant have you got?—£100 a year.

53324. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—I understand it is working well too?—Very well, but the people are so very poor they are not able to avail themselves of the assistance the committee offer, and it would be a great matter if we could, in exceptional cases, give larger grants than the rules permit us to do at present.

53325. CHAIRMAN.—Will you develop that a little?—The people are so very poor. A man will want to build an outhouse for his cattle and we will give him £3 if he puts on an iron roof. Well, you see the price of iron has gone up so very high that it is, I suppose, double the price it was ten or even five years ago. The £3 that we can offer him will hardly do more than pay half the price of the iron for him. If we were enabled to make him such a grant as would purchase the iron, that would be sufficient.

53326. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—That is, you put it to the Commission that there are some people so poor that they cannot avail themselves of the grants as at present given by the parish committees?—Yes. Well, I represented that fact, or the committee did, quite recently to the Board, and they came to our assistance in this way. They offered us the iron a little cheaper than we could buy it. It makes probably close on a pound of a difference in each grant.

53327. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—You only want the material?—Yes; if they got the material free they would get the building made themselves; they would get the stone and everything else done if we were able to give them the iron free.

53328. You say that you would like something done to ameliorate the condition of the people where they are now?—Yes.

53329. Seeing the estates round about here, do you not think it would be better to get to migration at once?—Well, of course, if we cannot get employment for them at home one way or another I think migration must come.

53330. And any money, if it were a reasonable sum, spent on that would not be thrown away to a certain extent?—Yes.

53331. But you have always in your mind that it is necessary to migrate from here somewhere?—Yes, unless they get employment.

53332. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Suppose experience shows that such local employment is not sufficient to improve the condition of the people, do you think the people would be willing to migrate themselves?—Yes; I think a certain number will go at present. The

others will follow if you quite satisfy them that their condition will be improved. There is no doubt about that.

53333. And do you suppose that the people would be the more willing because they are better off in the state of poverty here?—The better-off would be more willing.

53334. Which class would you migrate—the very poor or the well-to-do?—I would rather migrate the rather better class and give their land to the poorer ones at home.

53335. CHAIRMAN.—May we go back to the parish committees. Tell me what else you had to say. You told us you would encourage the building of out-houses?—The building of out-houses and dwelling-houses.

53336. Would you actually encourage the building of dwellinghouses, too?—Yes; we give £5 to a man who wants to build a new dwellinghouse—up to £5; and the old house is generally turned into an out-house for his cattle.

53337. But do you take any steps to secure that when you are giving a grant for the erection of a dwellinghouse you are not increasing congestion?—Do you mean subdivision of land?

53338. Yes?—Oh, yes, we do. We do not allow a new tenancy to be created. In fact, under the rule we can only give a grant to a man who is a tenant and produces the landlord's receipt.

53339. Do you think that practically the result of what you do leads to sub-division?—No.

53340. Then what else do you do besides these things?—Of course we assist a man to improve his house in various ways, getting windows in, and doors, and perhaps a fire-place, and things of that sort.

53341. How long have you had your money?—I think four or five years.

53342. How long would you say it was necessary to expend your £100 upon work of that character. Do you think that in five years' time from now you would be able to do all you can do with regard to the houses?—I think in five years' time, but I think there will be cases all along that will not be able to avail themselves of our offer.

53343. Do you find any practical difficulty with regard to the rule which forbids you to give a grant till the work is completed?—Well, we do not always carry out that rule. Sometimes we have to advance it, but we are not supposed to do that.

53344. There is a limit of value?—£7.

53345. Do you find any practical difficulty about that?—As a rule, all our valuations are under £7 in the parish.

53346. Is there anything not connected with the houses, to which you apply the funds of the parish committee?—We have done a little in the way of road-making.

53347. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—If you were supplied with a package of seeds—turnip seed, and still more, parsnip seed and carrot seed and onion seed for distribution to men, who, in your knowledge, were sure to use it well, do you think that would be a good project?—Yes. This very year the Agricultural Board have started something of that sort down here, and we have an inspector here at present from the Board.

53348. CHAIRMAN.—An agricultural instructor?—Yes.

53349. From the Department?—Yes. He has been distributing seeds of that kind among the people and giving them instructions how to grow them.

53350. What is his name?—Croghan. He is at Athenry. That is his headquarters. They have an agricultural school there.

53351. But he is at Athenry to-day?—He has been called away by Mr. Gallagher, who is the principal man there.

53352. You have always taken a great interest in the affairs of the parish?—Yes, I have.

53353. And do you think the Parish Committee would be a good agency for encouraging small holders generally to cultivate vegetable plots attached to their little cottages?—I should think it was, my lord, a very good idea.

53354. CHAIRMAN.—How would you work that out? His lordship suggested that the Parish Committee should be given the seed to distribute?—Yes.

53355. I suppose you would charge them for the seed—you would not give it for nothing?—Well, the Agricultural Board, I think, give the seed for under half price.

53356. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—To encourage them at the start, would you make a very considerable reduction in the price?—Yes.

53357. Would you look upon that reduction as an educational contribution?—Yes; quite so.

53358. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—What does the instructor teach them—how to cultivate boulders?—Yes; it is rather difficult sometimes.

53359. CHAIRMAN.—Is £100 enough for you?—It is as much as we can manage, I think, at present.

53360. You cannot manage any more?—No. Later on we may be able to do more; but I find it is quite as much as we can manage in the year. We have the instalments going on to the 1st of March.

53361. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I see that in the three electoral divisions 86 per cent. of the holdings are under £4?—Yes.

53362. Is that lamentable state of affairs the product of sub-division?—Yes, I should think, partly.

53363. Do you think that the tendency to subdivide is less now than it used to be?—It is less.

53364. You do think so?—I do.

53365. You think the people themselves are becoming alive to the evil of it?—Yes, they are; to the evils of sub-division.

53366. They are becoming alive to the detrimental effects of sub-division?—Yes. Now with regard to emigration. Of course, there is emigration from this place to America, and I have a return here which shows that 80 persons have left this parish within the last twelve months—young people, boys and girls.

53367. Those are the young and the healthy?—Yes. Thirty-eight emigrants returned within the last twelve months, and fourteen of those who returned went back again; leaving a net loss of 56 persons by emigration during the year.

53368. Those that returned, I presume, only came over for a holiday?—They came over to settle down and get married, if they could. Some failed, and then they went back again as a last resource.

53369. And did they return from America with money?—Yes.

53370. And you say they came back here to get married and settle down?—Yes.

53371. And would they settle down by buying holdings?—Well, in some cases they were girls who got married; in other cases men came back and bought holdings.

53372. Do you want to say anything about the lace?—No; I did not intend to say anything about the lace.

53373. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Some of your lace-workers went away?—Oh, yes, unfortunately.

53374. CHAIRMAN.—How is the lace going on?—That is the trouble we have. The girls all go to America. They will not stop at home.

53375. Is there any danger of the lace-class collapsing?—Oh, I do not see any danger of that; but it is not so successful as if they stopped at home.

53376. You are always having new material?—Yes; we have always fresh comers.

53377. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—How long is the class established?—About seven years.

53378. CHAIRMAN.—What is the most that a good worker can make?—If she works hard she can make 10*s.* a week.

53379. That, of course, is nothing to what they can earn in America?—No; and I think the greatest difficulty in the matter is this: that the girls will not stay because as long as they stay at home the parents get all the money from them; and no matter how long they may stay at home, at the end of their years they are as poor as they were when they began, because the money goes.

53380. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Is not that also the case with the young men?—I suppose it is. But there is a far greater tendency among the girls to go than among the boys.

53381. A greater tendency?—I can see a greater tendency; because girls do better in America than boys, for they have better wages, to begin with, and they make more money, and save more.

53382. And what do you consider for the last year of the lace-working was the aggregate amount of the money paid in earnings?—Of course, you can get that.

53383. Is there any way of getting over that difficulty—as regards the parents taking the money?—You might stop the money, and establish a savings bank.

Sept. 21, 1907.

Rev. Michael M'Hugh.

I think that was tried by the nuns, and it is hardly a success.

53384. The money earned is now paid through the medium of the instructress?—Yes.

53385. Could anything be done in the way of retaining the money?—That is what I thought of doing—to retain a portion of it, and have it invested in some way or other.

53386. Would that be resented?—I am afraid it would be more or less resented.

53387. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—But in Ireland children have been in the habit of giving their money over to their parents as a matter of course?—Yes.

53388. Sir John Colomb.—You say it tends to emigration, but if a girl had a portion of her earnings saved in bank would she not accumulate a fund that would give her the means of passing to America?—Well, you see, the passages are generally paid to America. They do not pay their own.

53389. They cannot emigrate till their passage is paid?—No.

53390. If she accumulated the money with which she might pay her own passage, would it not tend to increase the possibility of emigration?—I do not know. If a girl had something in her own pocket she would have a way of being able to get married, and settle down.

53391. Mr. Sutherland.—You do not suggest that there is a necessity for preventing them. At what age do you think a son or daughter should cease to contribute anything to the parents?—I do not know that you could place a limit.

53392. But is it not rather a virtue?—Of course it is a virtue. That is the very difficulty that we have been speaking of. As long as you have a boy or girl handing their earnings over, and that it goes to the support of the family, she is left penniless herself.

53393. That is a question of age, is it not?—I do not think so at all.

53394. You are not talking of a girl of twelve or thirteen?—No.

53395. Do you not think it is the duty of a boy or girl of twelve or thirteen to hand it over?—But I am not talking of boys or girls of that age, but of twenty.

53396. Mr. Bryce.—You said eighty people went to America during the past twelve months. What proportion were boys and girls?—Well, there were several families.

53397. And of the remainder, what proportion were girls and what boys?—Two-thirds, I should say, would be girls.

53398. And the remittances that come are mostly, I suppose, from the girls?—Yes, I should think so.

53399. Well, now, these girls that come back—what sum of money, on the average, would they bring with them?—They bring from £50 to £200. I know them to have brought up to £300.

53400. And this has been going on for years. I think you said thirty-eight came back and fourteen went away again?—Yes.

53401. That would leave twenty-four, and those were mostly girls who stayed?—Yes, mostly girls.

53402. And have they married?—Some of them.

53403. And the others are possibly thinking of being married?—Yes, and some may go back yet.

53404. That has been going on for some time. When a girl marries and puts that additional capital into a holding is it a purchased holding?—It is. You generally see some little improvements about the house.

53405. A better method of cultivation?—I do not know about the cultivation much, but you see that the home is brighter, and happier, and nicer all round.

53406. In what way is the capital applied—solely to the improvement of the house?—Yes, and also the stock—to the purchase of stock.

53407. They purchase stock?—Yes, they do.

53408. But if the holding was not able to maintain more than a certain amount of stock before how do they manage with the additional capital?—They put it into the bank.

53409. Have you any agricultural banks here?—No.

53410. None?—No.

53411. In the primary education here what number of children are on your rolls?—We have about ten schools. I never added up the number.

53412. Perhaps you could say what the proportion is to the number on the rolls?—I am sorry to say it is very low. The attendance is very bad along this coast.

53413. What is the percentage?—About sixty.

53414. That is not so bad, I think?—But anything under sixty is very bad, and sometimes it is under.

53415. Chairman.—Is not that unusually high?—Well, it is unusually low.

Mr. Bryce.—Not for Ireland.

53417. Sir John Colomb.—The attendance is 60 per cent. of the roll?—Yes.

53418. Mr. Bryce.—You think the attendance bad. To what do you attribute the bad attendance?—I attribute it, first of all, to the fact that the parents themselves are illiterate, and they do not attach the same importance to education as educated people would. And then there is also the fact that they want the assistance of the children at home. Their holdings are, in many cases, holdings in rundale, that is, patches here and there, and whenever they send out their cattle they must send out somebody to mind them, otherwise they will trespass on a neighbour's land.

53419. Do you know that since the operations of the Board the school attendance has improved?—Yes; the children are not so urgently required at home as they were.

53420. Do you think that the smallness of the attendance of the children is in any degree owing to the great distances the children have to go?—No; they have no great distance to go.

53421. Because the schools are so placed as to well cover the area?—Yes.

53422. And do you think, generally speaking, that a steady improvement might be effected in the attendance, and still more in the results of the school teaching if food were provided?—I think it would be a very good idea, because these poor children who come in the morning have nothing to eat till they get back about 5 o'clock, or whatever time they reach home.

53423. Do you think it would be a good thing if the National school provided a certain amount of elementary instruction in agriculture?—Yes; I think so.

53424. And in other industries?—Yes, it would, certainly.

53425. It would be better than carrying them on to the higher subjects in the standard?—I should say so. It is more practical.

53426. Chairman.—It was done once?—It was done once.

53427. And it was abandoned on the report of a Committee?—Yes; but it was never carried on efficiently.

53428. Sir John Colomb.—Is it your observation that the more illiterate boys and girls are, the more inclined they are to emigration—that is to say, in the tendency to emigration is there any relation between the illiterate and the others?—The tendency to emigration is amongst them all, and I do not think it is greater in one class than in another, educated or otherwise. They all want to emigrate.

53429. It is just the same?—Just the same.

53430. Mr. Kavanagh.—Do you think that the lace class tends to promote emigration?—No, I do not think it does. I should say it is a check on it.

53431. Do you think that if there was no lace class here the girls would emigrate to America just the same?—They would. If it has any effect at all it is in keeping them at home.

53432. Have you any domestic economy classes here?—Yes; we had some classes in domestic economy.

53433. Mr. Bryce.—Have they been of advantage?—Yes.

53434. It is stated in some places that that rather stimulates emigration because it enables girls to earn better wages?—I do not see that.

53435. Sir John Colomb.—In the distribution of seed are any further steps taken to lead young girls or women to cook?—No.

53436. And therefore, although they get the vegetable seeds to grow they are really not instructed how to make use of the vegetables when they are grown?—No.

53437. Do you not think that would be a very necessary thing?—I think it would be a very good thing.

53438. So as to educate the taste and improve the facilities, and give the people a taste for better diet?—Yes.

53439. Do you not consider that the question of food is a very important one?—Yes.

53440. And that a variety of vegetable in diet is extremely important?—Yes.

53441. Mr. BRYCE.—Have not the domestic cookery classes taught them to cook—do they teach them to cook vegetables, or what do they teach them to cook?—This vegetable seed distribution that we are speaking of now came into operation only this very year, last spring.

53442. What is the food, generally, of the peasant class here?—Vegetable food, bread and fish.

53443. You mean potatoes?—Potatoes.

53444. They were taught to cook potatoes?—Yes.

53445. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—And cabbages?—Yes, there are a few cabbages.

53446. What else were they taught to cook?—They were taught to cook plain dishes, such as a herring, for instance. They were taught to cook fish—such as a lobster or mackerel.

53447. CHAIRMAN.—Has it had any appreciable effect upon the domestic economy?—I do not think you could exactly see it at once, but I am sure it has. Now, for instance, they can make nicer bread.

53448. If you go into the houses now would you see any change in the food?—You would see nicer bread.

53449. But you do not see the effect in any other way?—No.

53450. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—But do you think that the houses are better kept than if the girls had not attended these classes?—Yes.

53451. It is not merely elementary cooking they learn, but they learn housekeeping?—Yes.

53452. How to keep a house in fair order?—Yes.

53453. CHAIRMAN.—And washing and ironing?—Yes, washing and ironing.

53454. Have you sufficient improvement in that way?—I am not a judge. I could not say.

53456. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You were answering Mr. Bryce about the food of the children going to school?—Yes.

53457. And in winter have the children any milk to get in the morning when going to school?—No, indeed, they have not.

53458. They do not get milk?—No, they do not. In any case there would be very little milk.

53459. Very little milk in the district?—Very little.

53460. Not enough to supply the children in the district?—Not enough.

53461. Would there be a considerable proportion of children in the district who do not have a milk dietary during the winter?—I should say so; quite a number.

53462. Quite a number who do not see milk for months?—Certainly for weeks. They might depend on their neighbours. If their neighbours have a very little they might give them some.

53463. Mr. BRYCE.—What are they fed on?—The children are fed on potatoes and fish, and bread and tea if they have it.

53464. Tea largely?—Very largely.

53465. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Too largely?—Too largely, indeed.

53466. Mr. BRYCE.—No oatmeal porridge?—Never. Sometimes they have Indian meal porridge.

53467. What is done with all the oats grown here? It is sold to shopkeepers about, who sell it for feeding purposes.

53468. In old days did not the people live on porridge at all?—They did, but that was a long time ago. We had mills in those days where those oats were ground into meal. In this district even you had them. That is not done now.

53469. Are there any co-operative societies at all here?—No.

53470. CHAIRMAN.—Now, you have told us about the improvements which are effected by the Parish Committee in the houses, and you have also told us of the improvements effected by the re-striping of the lands, and so forth?—Yes.

53471. And I want to know what is your view as to how improvements effected either wholly or in part by public money ought to be maintained?—After the improvements have been carried out?

53472. Yes?—I think the tenant should be bound to keep them in order.

53473. That is just the point. How would you do that?—The Board have inspectors, and I think it ought to be their business to go round and visit those holdings once or twice a year, and see how they are kept.

52474. Supposing the inspector sees that they are unsatisfactory what do you suggest he should do then?—I really think the Board should have some power to deal with a case of that kind.

Sept. 21, 1907.

Rev. Michael M'Hugh.

53475. To prosecute?—Yes.

53476. Supposing you found it necessary to make good an improvement, is there any way in which the Board could get back its expenditure?—I suppose there is, but I am not quite sure that the law would allow it.

53477. If the law gave them the power, is it practically possible with a very poor population. Supposing the inspector was to say, "You have allowed your fence to fall down. It was a fence originally made by the Board, and you must put it right," and supposing he gave him a month to put it right, or six months, or any time you like, and at the end of that time he came back, and found that it was not done, and then he said, "I am going to repair it, and I shall have to recover the money from you," is it practically possible amongst a poor population for that money to be recovered even by process?—Very likely a case would occur where it would not be possible, but I think, generally speaking, they could recover it.

53478. What is the system you think ought to be adopted—to prosecute the man for allowing the thing to get out of repair?—Yes.

53479. Or would you do that at first?—No; I would first give him notice that if he did not put it into repair I would prosecute.

53480. That you would prosecute?—Then if he did not put it in order I would prosecute him for the outlay.

53481. Then, would that apply also to things like manure heaps and that sort of thing. At present through the agency of the Parish Committee the manure heap is removed, and an outhouse built. Supposing the next generation neglects the out-house and gets the cattle back into the house, and gets the manure heap at the door-step, would you then put the sanitary law into operation?—I would, certainly.

53482. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Now, I should like to ask you a question alternative to what his lordship the Chairman asked you about maintenance. Do you think it possible that in the annuity there should be a certain small sum put down for maintenance which is in no case recovered, but always remitted in the case of the works being maintained?—I would prefer the other system.

53483. CHAIRMAN.—Now, tell me one more thing. The Board has bought property near here?—Yes.

53484. When they bought that property were they able to enlarge any holdings?—Yes. Some holdings they enlarged.

53485. And that means that they were able to acquire some extra land?—Yes.

53486. Is there any other property about here where these same conditions might apply?—No; I am afraid not.

53487. Now, on the property that has been acquired you say some holdings were enlarged. In your opinion, in a place like this would it be best to acquire any land that was available, vacant, untenanted land, and enlarge some of the holdings with it, or would you be inclined to think that it would be better for the Board to retain that land, and use it as a commonage?—Well, it depends on the character of the land. The mountain land I would give to the tenants as commonage. If the land was of fair quality I would rather have it distributed among the small tenants for enlargement of their holdings.

53488. But supposing that the land is of such small extent that you could only enlarge a few holdings, even if you could bring those holdings up to an economic standard in a very thickly populated place like this where there are a great many uneconomic holdings, is it best for the Board to enlarge three or four holdings, or four or five, even if you make those economic, and leave the rest in their poor condition; or would it be better for the Board to hold that land for the benefit of the village generally as a grazing plot, allowing the people to send in their cattle?—I think a great deal may be said for both views, but if the land is of good quality I would prefer to have it used for crops rather than for grazing.

53489. That means that a few would benefit, and the rest would have to remain as they were?—Yes; but you cannot help that.

Sept 21, 1907.

Rev. Michael M'Hugh.

53490. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—In any case it would not serve all for grazing?—No; it would not go round.

53491. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—To follow up that I should like to know would you have a limit?—I would limit each person's right to commonage.

53492. And everybody would have a stint?—Yes.

53493. But the mountains here would not provide for everybody, and therefore you would have to make a selection?—Yes; I would give one stripe to one village and another stripe to another village, and so on.

53494. But not to individuals?—No; to communities.

53495. How would you regulate where the individuals should use them?—Everybody on the townland would have a certain right.

53496. But suppose the land would not go round?—As far as it would go.

53497. How would you make the selection?—I think those living most convenient to the grazing ought to have the first right.

53498. That would be your general principle?—Yes. There is just one other matter in regard to the improvement scheme carried out by the Board on estates purchased by them. I think their work on the whole is on the right lines, but there is a rule of the Board which I do not quite follow. They will not give a new house, for instance, to any tenant but a man whom they have changed from his original residence. And it works out in this way, that if you have a man living here in a wretched cabin, no matter how bad it is, they can do nothing for him—at least, they will not build a house for him unless he is changed.

53499. CHAIRMAN.—I think I understand how that occurs. Of course, if they move a man they have got to build a house for him, and as they have to build a house for him they build a good one. The other man has a house of some sort. I suppose, in order to save money, they think a poor house is better than none?—But then you have the house which he occupies a real eye-sore.

53500. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Is not there another matter affecting that. In an over-congested district the great thing is to attract a man to move; surely the great point in the relief of congestion is getting someone to move, and if they know that by moving they will get a new house, does it not increase the tendency of the man to migrate?—It does, indeed.

53501. And, again, if you make the rule universal, that whether a man stays or goes he will have a new house built for him, that tends to stop the desire to migrate?—Yes; but I think the rule should be modified in some way, so as not to allow these wretched cabins, which are eye-sores in the district, to remain.

53502. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Would it meet your view if there was a grant given to assist in improving the old house? I think the Board will give a grant?—They give a grant of £10, but in many cases the people are so poor that they cannot avail themselves of that grant, and the old cabin remains.

53503. They do give a grant?—Oh, yes; they offer a grant.

53504. CHAIRMAN.—And they can get a loan in addition?—They can get a loan, in addition, of £10.

53505. And, I think, in some cases more?—Not here. It depends on the rent.

53506. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I understand that in part of your parish there has been land sold to the tenants?—Yes.

53506A. Where no improvements by external authority have been carried on, do you notice any improvement in the condition of those who have become owners as compared with others who have not?—I do.

53507. And, therefore, whether such improvement is carried on or not, may we take it from you that in your experience in this parish the effect of the transfer of this land to the tenant has been that the condition of the tenant has improved?—To some extent.

53508. Do you attribute that to the reduction he got or to the sense of ownership?—Partly to the reduction and also to the sense of ownership.

53509. Mr. KAVANAGH.—In the case of migrants about this district—supposing you took one out of every three and amalgamated his holding with the others, would it make the remaining man any better off, do you think?—Oh, it would.

53510. Do you think so?—Yes.

53511. Do you think he would be able to work two or three more holdings of the same class and size?—Indeed he would.

53512. And you think it would make him better?—Yes; much better. That is what we want—more land.

53513. But it is the class of holdings I refer to—whether you think he could work three such holdings?—Yes.

53514. If he had them?—If he had them. And they are anxious to get more land, and there is no trouble about working it.

53515. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You have got a nurse in this district?—Yes.

53516. Do you consider that the general influence of the nurse is a humanising and improving influence?—It is; and nothing that has been done in this district has helped more to brighten the homes of the poor than this nurse.

53517. And, therefore, you regard the appointment of those nurses as a very important factor in the improvement and elevation of the people?—A very important factor, indeed.

53518. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Have the people on this estate the Board has dealt with been very considerably improved in their condition?—Oh, they have, my lord.

53519. Mr. BRYCE.—Is there spraying done generally here?—Oh, it is.

53520. And very successfully?—Yes.

53521. And by machines?—Well, generally by machines.

53522. And more successfully by machines than by hand?—Oh, yes, better.

Mr. W. J. D. WALKER* re-examined.

Mr. W. J. D. Walker.

53523. CHAIRMAN.—In the previous evidence you gave last February you stated, I think, that Lady Dudley's Nursing Fund was affiliated with the Queen Victoria Jubilee Nurses Institute?—Yes.

53524. Will you explain to the Commission what relation the Victoria Nursing Institute has to Lady Dudley's Nurses Fund?—Simply this: that the Queen Victoria Jubilee Nurses Institute provides properly trained nurses for district nursing. In no circumstances do the Jubilee Nursing Institute provide funds for the maintenance or upkeep of nurses. Lady Dudley initiated and organised a scheme to provide district nurses. She collected all the money to maintain these nurses in poor parts of Ireland. There are at present fifteen nurses. The upkeep and maintenance of these nurses is wholly provided for out of the funds that are raised under Lady Dudley's nursing scheme. Without such a scheme it would be quite impossible to have nurses in these districts, where they are so very much required. The further development of Lady Dudley's scheme, of course, depends entirely on funds provided by subscriptions, and numerous applications for nurses have had to be refused on account of the insufficiency of funds. As far as the Jubilee Nurses Institute is concerned, it is simply their function to train nurses. Lady Dudley's fund might get a nurse from anywhere, but under no circumstances do the Jubilee Nurses Institute maintain nurses in any district. That is the essential difference between Lady Dudley's fund and the Jubilee Nurses Institute.

53525. Is it not also a fact that with regard to those nurses put out under Lady Dudley's fund an additional training has been given them extra to the one which they get under normal conditions?—Yes. They are specially prepared for district nursing. The nurses in the congested districts have been selected with very great care, with a view to efficiency and thorough training.

53526. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—How far has the Congested Districts Board co-operated in this very laudable scheme?—In a few cases the Congested Districts Board have given a grant for furniture. In other cases houses have been built. Up to the present houses have been built at Annagry and Aranmore, in the County Donegal; Glengariff, County Cork; Caherdaniel, County Kerry; Dooks, County Kerry. One is being built at present at Spiddal, and one is about

* For former examination see the Appendix to the Fourth Report of the Commission [Cd. 3509, 1907], p. 30.

being built at Belladangan. The Board provided the money for building those houses, but in every case Lady Dudley's fund pays the interest on the outlay in the form of rent.

53527. In the replies that Father M'Hugh gave me, and gave to the important questions from Sir John Colomb, he testified to the humanising results accruing from the operation of this scheme and its influence in raising the standard of comfort in the households of the people. Do you think would it be well if a Board like the Congested Districts Board saw its way to give more substantial help?—Yes. I think it would be well within the powers of the Board, and I don't believe that money could be spent to better advantage. Anyone who has practical experience of the nursing scheme in the West of Ireland knows that a great number of valuable lives have been saved by the nurses. Independently of that, they are very useful in going into the houses of the people, and inducing them to adopt better sanitary methods. The relations between infectious diseases and insanitary conditions are very intimate, and the prevention of the spread of infection to a great extent depends on cleanliness in their homes; besides this the nurse has a most humanising effect on the people. Everywhere that a nurse is located the people speak in the highest terms of her, and both clergymen and the people themselves unite in assisting the scheme in every way in their power. I think it would be well within the scope of the Board to give further assistance. The fund is compelled to get £1,500 a year or more to support the fifteen nurses in the West of Ireland, and that is entirely raised by outside subscriptions collected by Lady Dudley.

53528. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I am very glad to hear that, because I was under a misapprehension. I think this has arisen out of a question of mine, No. 19537,* and as the misapprehension was general, it is extremely pleasant to have that cleared up in the way in which you have cleared it up—that the Jubilee Nurses Institute simply create the supply which would be needed, and that so far as Ireland is concerned, if it had not been for Lady Dudley's benevolent scheme, the supply would not have been utilised for the poor districts?—Quite so.

53529. Do you agree strongly with the last witness, that in dealing with congestion and the deplorable results of congestion as affecting the conditions and the minds of people, the very greatest importance is to be attached to the supplying of trained nurses under Lady Dudley's scheme in these districts?—Yes, very great importance.

53530. Therefore, you look upon it as part and parcel of the business of the Congested Districts Board to pay great attention to that with the view of carrying out the policy of the Board?—Yes. I will give you a practical observation of the nurse here, which I consider of the very greatest value for all the congested districts. The nurse here (Nurse M'Coy), from her experience of outbreaks of typhus fever, has come to the conclusion that typhus and other infectious diseases in the West of Ireland originate at the time that the manure heaps, which are close to the cottages, are cleared away in the spring. A very interesting illustration of this was a recent outbreak of typhus at Dooks, County Kerry. Two of Lady Dudley's nurses in succession have had typhus there. There were eighteen or nineteen cases in the outbreak this year, and there were some twenty-five or twenty-six cases last year. This year it was traced, and the report of the Local Government Board Medical Inspector shows that the typhus, which was prevalent in June and came to a maximum in July, originated in a house where the manure was quite close to the door and window, and all the other cases of typhus fever resulted from that one case, and were contacts from it. This corroborates the practical observation of Nurse M'Coy, that to have the manure close to doors or windows is very dangerous, and likely to originate typhus, especially at the period of removal in the spring.

53531. Are you aware that in the vine districts in Switzerland this is the case too, and when the manure is put out they have diseases?—That requires to be better known than it is in the West of Ireland.

53532. CHAIRMAN.—Is there anything you wish to say with regard to the lace classes in this district?—I have given that very fully in my evidence. This is the lace-class room in which we are sitting, and the Commission should know that this schoolroom was put up by a Manchester relief committee for this work free of expense. A tablet outside shows by whom it was erected. Of course, the success of this class is greatly checked by emigration. One year the turnover of this class amounted to £900. On account of girls going off to America next year it was down to £400. But since this class-room has been opened here nobody has ever been refused work. There has always been plenty of work for everyone who came inside the door. I should like to see a better attendance than there is, but the girls who do attend can make from 8*s.* to 10*s.* a week if they work.

53533. You say you are handicapped by a great many of the girls going away?—Yes.

53534. There are always new ones coming forward?—Yes, but we don't get them in such numbers as I would like to see, or such numbers as the population of the district would lead one to expect.

53535. Why is that?—We have done our very best to keep the number larger, but I suppose that the probability is that the expectation of the people going to America prevents them from coming to learn the industry here.

53536. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—On the other hand, may it not be that they look on lace-making not as a permanent work but merely as accomplishment?—No; I don't think so. I think that the reason we don't get a larger attendance is this, that having emigration in view they don't take the trouble to learn.

53537. You give me the impression that you expect that these women will remain on here always as lace-makers. Am I right in that, or do you expect that they will come here and learn lace-making as part of their general education, and then pass through?—Not at all. I look upon it as a constant industry, just as at Clones, where you have married women who do a lot of work in their own houses.

53538. On the other hand the circumstances may be such that they look upon it merely as an accomplishment?—The sooner that impression is eradicated the better.

53539. CHAIRMAN.—A lace-class of this sort is a purely voluntary thing for anybody to come to?—Yes; any girl can come.

53540. It is in no way allied to the system of education under the National Board?—Not at all.

53541. Is there any way in which the attendance could be stimulated by attaching it to the system of National education? Is there any possible method by which girls in the National schools could have a taste for lace-making stimulated so that the lace-class could be regarded as a sort of higher technical branch?—I think the best preparation that could be given in National schools with a view to the development of lace-making would be a thoroughly sound practical teaching of drawing; and if the girls in National schools learned plain sewing, as they are supposed to learn it, and devoted some time to it, and if drawing were practically taught, as far as the National school could go, it would be an enormous advantage to them. It would help these lace-classes very much in the West of Ireland if the pupils were thoroughly instructed in drawing before they came to the classes. Besides, in teaching lace-making in primary schools we would get into conflict with the Factory Act, and that is a difficulty. We don't want a girl to come to these classes under fourteen years of age, as otherwise there would be a violation of the Factory Act, unless they have passed the second stage of fifth standard, and are over thirteen years of age. There have been complaints that lace-classes have made children negligent in attending the National schools. The Board have issued repeated circulars telling teachers not to take in any girl who was under fourteen, unless she had passed the second stage of fifth standard in the National schools, and was not under thirteen. Also where a teacher comes to know that girls remain at home and that the young children in that family are not attending the National school, the teacher has been instructed not to employ such girls. I think it would be better for them to attend to their education until they could pass in the second stage of fifth standard at thirteen years of age, and certainly not to come to the lace-class until they were fourteen if they had not that educational qualification.

53542. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Adverting to the nursing once more, am I to understand from you that all the Congested Districts Board have done up to this with regard to assisting the programme of providing nurses is to find the capital necessary to build

* See Appendix to the Fourth Report of the Commission [Cd. 3509, 1907], p. 43.

Sept. 21, 1907.

Mr. W. J. D. Walker.

houses and to charge interest by way of rent on the houses?—Quite so.

53543. Therefore, there is no unproductive expenditure by the Congested Districts Board at present in relation to nurses?—No, except in a few cases in which a small grant of £25 was given for furniture. In the way of direct support of the fund or bearing any portion of the expense, or anything of that sort, the Board gave no contribution whatever. You will understand that a nurse in a town of 3,000 to 5,000 people will easily attend the population in that town, but in a district like this, where the nurse goes to Kilkieran, and nearly up to Cashel, and some distance in the direction of Roundstone, it is very much more expensive to keep up a nurse than it would be if she were attending to an urban community. She has to spend money on car-hire, the upkeep of a bicycle, or else a pony and trap. So you can understand that the expenses of a nurse in a scattered district are much larger than they would be where the population is located in a town.

53544. Also, is not this the case, that taking the towns there are opportunities of getting considerable subscriptions in aid of the fund, whereas in a district like this you cannot look for local subscriptions?—Quite so.

53545. That being so, don't you think in a district where there is not a reasonable chance of local subscriptions being forthcoming to enable Lady Dudley's system of placing a nurse in the district to be carried out, that such a case might be considered as within the province of the Board, and that they might contribute something in order to place nurses where no local subscriptions can possibly be looked for?—I am very strongly in favour of that, and there is another argument in favour of it. If you have got an urban community of 5,000 people there will be five doctors as a rule in a town of that size; but at Belladangan, for instance, you have a district twenty miles long and ten miles wide, with one dispensary doctor to cover it, and to look after some 8,000 people.

53546. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Had you something to do with furnishing the Commission recently with an important report on the kelp industry?—I sent a letter to them which I had received from Mr. J. C. Stead, of 1, Finsbury Circus, London, with regard to the possible development of a process which he suggests for the treatment of kelp.

53547. Have you anything to say to the Commission on that yourself?—I think it is the most valuable and practical suggestion that has been made to the Congested Districts Board on the subject in my time. Mr. Stead appears to be a thorough chemist, and to understand what he is talking about. The reason I sent in the letter was that I thought if the Commission considered the letter they might possibly think this a hopeful direction in which a development might be made.

53548. Mr. Bryce.—I suppose it would be a great advantage if it were possible to have cottage hospitals established?—Yes. The Poor Law Commission recently issued a strong recommendation of cottage hospitals in districts such as Belladangan or districts like this. If you have got a fever patient here you have got to drive him in the ambulance over the hills to Clifden; and if a patient has a temperature of 104 degrees when starting, if he is alive at all when he reaches his destination he has a very bad chance. If you had a cottage hospital on the spot the people would have more confidence in it, and would come to it, and I believe that it would save life.

53549. Do you consider there would be any objection to expressing a strong opinion as to the desirability of the Congested Districts Board contributing to an extension of the nursing system and the Congested Districts Board giving grants towards the establishment of cottage hospitals?—I am strongly in favour of the Board contributing in these districts towards the maintenance of trained nurses, but the funds at present placed at the disposal of the Board are insufficient. It would take a very large amount of money to carry out a scheme of cottage hospitals, and this lies more within the scope of the Local Government Board. It has been considered by the Local Government Board. I have seen reports in favour of a cottage hospital at Belladangan, as it is so very far from Oughterard, the nearest place where there is an hospital for the people to be treated.

53550. Father M'Hugh said that the lace-classes have had no appreciable influence in keeping girls at home. Is that your experience in the West of Ireland?—No. I know a great number of districts in which the emigration has been reduced, and where the girls stayed at home on account of it. I think you visited Banada. You will find there is not lately anything like the emigration there used to be there, and there is nothing like the former amount of emigration from Derrypark, over in Maamtrasna Valley, or at Rossmuck.

53551. Mr. Kavanagh.—Do they get employment in America as lace-makers?—I have heard of some girls who went to New York and worked at lace-work in America, but the vast proportion of the girls from here go into domestic service.

53552. Then the lace-teaching is no further advantage to them?—No; beyond the fact that coming to the class has a very good influence on them.

53553. But as lace-makers they don't get employment, as a general rule, in America?—No.

53554. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Would this be the class of district in which it would be necessary to levy a heavy poundage rate in order to get for medical charities the contribution that would be produced in other districts by a light poundage rate?—Yes. The total Poor Law valuation of a district like this is so small that a poundage rate to be effective must be extremely high. If you strike a penny in the £ in a district like this you will perhaps get a £10 note, whereas in places in which there is a better off population, as in Meath or in County Down, you would get a large amount of money with the same rate.

Mr. Thomas Hazell examined.

Mr. Thomas Hazell

53555. Chairman.—What do you wish to bring before the Commission?—I live at Cashel and am kelp agent here.

53556. Can you tell the Commission your view as to the future of kelp?—I am sorry to say that the outlook is very bad.

53557. What is the reason of that?—Very severe foreign competition.

53558. In iodine?—Yes. It is got elsewhere as a by-product. It is got in South America. Also the Japanese make it in the same way as we do here, only they make it more cheaply and more honestly.

53559. I understand that the foreign-made iodine is not made from seaweed?—In Japan it is.

53560. In Germany?—They get it out of the ground, and in South America the same way.

53561. Is this foreign iodine undercutting you?—Yes.

53562. Why then are you continuing to make iodine from kelp at all?—Because we can just keep it alive. The company makes something, but only in a very poor way.

53563. How many companies are engaged at present in making iodine?—Three or four, or perhaps five.

53564. Are you an agent for the Glasgow company?—Yes.

53565. That is the principal company?—I think so.

53566. Is there any working agreement between the companies as to price?—I cannot tell you anything about that.

53567. Can you give the Commission no information on that subject?—No.

53568. Do you find other agents around this coast buying kelp?—Yes; not immediately here, but they buy in Clare, Mayo, and Donegal.

53569. Is not there a sort of arrangement by which there is a distribution of the coast line between agents?—Every agent has his own district.

53570. Is there an understanding that the Glasgow company should put an agent on this coast on condition that they should not buy, say, on the Clare coast?—I cannot say that. The Glasgow people have all the kelp on Clare.

53571. Is there any sort of mutual arrangement as to prevent competition among agents of dif-

rms?—There is a company buying kelp at Aran. buy kelp out of the Aran district at Kilkieran.

53572. I thought you told us you did not find ompetition of other agents in this district?—I did ot say so.

53573. Do you actually find that practically you ave to compete in price with the agent of some other rm in this locality?—The price happens to be the ame this year.

53574. In the course of your travels this year did ou ever meet anybody else buying on behalf of other rms?—Certainly.

53575. Do you find that you have to compete with hem?—Both buy on the same shore sometimes.

53576. Do you find you have to raise the price in rder to get the kelp as against the competition?—Not lately; not within the last ten years.

53577. Is not that due in any way to the want of ompetition?—I cannot tell you anything about that.

53578. Does not it strike you as odd that the price hould be almost uniform?—It is not always the ame. We are paying more than the other people at resent. We are paying the highest price in Ireland t present.

53579. Then there is a difference in price?—There s just now.

53580. You are paying a higher price than the thers are offering?—Yes.

53581. In this district?—Yes.

53582. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you also pay a higher rice in districts where there is no competition?—The igher the price we pay the better we like it, because ve get better stuff.

53583. The price is higher because you make a better election?—Yes; because it is brought to us more onestly.

53584. You have heard Father M'Hugh suggest that here is a certain amount of loss incurred by the preent system of burning in open kilns—is that your xperience?—There is a certain amount of loss, I uppose.

53585. Father M'Hugh stated that it was 50 per ent.?—I cannot say that, but I would say that there s a lot of it very carelessly burned.

53586. Do you imagine that a considerable amount would be saved if the system of burning were altered?—No, I don't think so.

53587. Would not there be a greater amount of aluable by-products?—The by-products are not so aluable as ten or fifteen years ago.

53588. Is that due to foreign competition also?—Some of the by-products are cheaper elsewhere.

53589. CHAIRMAN.—If the stuff were burned in the way that Father M'Hugh suggests would it put up the price?—These people could easily prepare the kelp 25 per cent. better than they do by simply working honestly and giving better weed. We are paying £4 a ton at present, and I have no doubt that we would pay more if it were brought honestly to us, but it is not.

53590. Are you paying £4 a ton now?—Yes.

53591. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—You mean by "honestly" burning the proper kind of weed?—Yes, and keeping sand and stones out of it.

53592. Do they do that on purpose?—Yes. On two shores in Ireland our company stopped buying.

53593. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Was not there some excuse in the fact that the agents did not discriminate in the price?—I don't know that, but I have seen the kelp with about 30 per cent. of gravel in it.

53594. Such an article would be worth very little?—Worth nothing.

53595. With a view to securing the production of the very best article what kind of means would you take?—They can make the kelp at least 25 per cent. better than they do by burning only the proper kind of weed.

53596. They won't have the May weed all the year round?—The May weed is not good all the year round.

53597. Is not it the best weed?—It is the best at the proper time of year. If it does not come at the proper time it is worth nothing. They are all good in their times.

53598. On some parts of the coast they run it into dry ash. What do you think of that?—That leads greatly to adulteration.

53599. Is not there an equal danger of adulteration if they run it into the solid?—Not so much.

53600. Were you present when one of the witnesses was asked the question about whether it would be desirable to have an inspector on the shore who would look after the actual process of making the kelp?—We are able to do that ourselves, and I don't see what good an inspector would do. We would test the kelp in any case.

53601. Are you able to test it?—Yes.

53602. Before you buy kelp you are pretty sure of the quality?—Yes.

53603. You are able to test the kelp run into the solid?—Yes. I am at it thirty years. I have no doubt in the world. The only doubt I have is that I am too lenient.

53604. Are you always sure that you don't err in your judgment with reference to the quality of the kelp?—Perfectly sure.

53605. Because I was frequently told that it was not at all easy to be sure that the kelp was good or bad?—You are often told a great many things.

53606. I know that and I wanted to hear from you?—Our test is a perfectly proper one.

53607. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Is it a scientific one based on chemistry?—Yes.

53607A. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Is it tested in the factory after it is sent on there?—No. I test the kelp here and price it.

53608. And your test is according to a scientific rule?—Yes.

53609. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—If you are able to test kelp and to tell the people that according as the kelp is good or bad the price goes up or down, what inducement remains for anybody to adulterate kelp?—That is what I cannot tell you, and I tell them that every year.

53610. If you put it to the people that the price depends on the quality of the article will the article be adulterated?—I have been notifying that to them for the last twenty years every day.

53611. Any adulteration must be based in their minds on the chance of the kelp when adulterated being sold as good?—That is right. I suppose they like to chance it, and they like to make the weight.

53612. Surely if they know that the kelp is to be submitted to a test and the price will be pulled down on account of the adulteration they won't adulterate?—They will do it, and they do it.

53613. If they know that the good article brings a better price will they adulterate?—They do it every day. It seems a strange thing, but that is my experience of thirty years.

53614. CHAIRMAN.—Suppose you were burning the kelp yourself and the weed was brought to you, would you be able to have any system of paying for the weed as brought to you?—It would be too expensive.

53615. Suppose instead of them burning the weed you burn the weed, and they bring the weed, could you take the weed as it was brought to you, with due regard to the amount of kelp that the weed was going to make in the burning?—Yes. It generally takes about five tons of dry weed to make a ton of kelp.

53616. With your knowledge of the kelp industry, if a man were to bring you five tons of perfect weed would you say absolutely what the value of the weed was?—Yes; pretty well.

53617. Then there is nothing to prevent the Congested Districts Board being able to do that, too?—If the Congested Districts Board or any other Government money comes in our people are willing to retire.

53618. But suppose that the Congested Districts Board got the weed and burned it and so on, and saw that it was not adulterated?—With the foreign competition that there is if there is any interference with Government money then the thing will become impossible.

53619. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Still at present your people take all they can get?—At present I have orders to take all the good kelp I can get this year at £4 a ton.

53620. Do you get sale for it?—I am buying for a company.

53621. Your company gets sale?—They manufacture it.

53622. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—That is a considerable rise?—What?

53623. To £4 a ton from £2?—I never heard anything about £2. That was never the price.

53624. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Is it £4 a ton now?—Yes.

53625. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—What is paid for inferior kelp?—I don't want inferior kelp.

Sept. 21, 1907.

Mr. Thomas Hazell.

53626. Is not it bought now?—We won't buy it now. It is worth nothing.

53627. You say if Government money comes in your people would clear out. It is interesting to know how that works out. You say that four or five firms manufacture iodine out of kelp. These companies don't depend on kelp alone for their iodine. They also import iodine?—I don't know about that.

53628. Don't you think they import a great quantity of their stuff?—I don't think so. I think our people hold sufficient iodine to supply the world for years, and it is the same way with the South Americans. The supply of iodine is greater than the demand.

53629. Do you say that the kelp alone would supply the iodine market?—I think so.

53630. You don't know what proportion of the iodine held by these four companies actually comes from kelp?—I know nothing about any company except my own.

53631. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Suppose that the Congested Districts Board started a factory at Carna to make iodine out of kelp, would that make you leave here altogether?—I think so. If there was anything to be made out of it there would be other companies besides ourselves.

53632. Mr. KAVANAGH.—You could buy from them?—We work our own.

53633. CHAIRMAN.—There might very easily be buyers here?—There is nothing to stop them.

53634. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You buy, from the producers, kelp by the ton?—Yes.

53635. Do your prices vary with the quality as tested?—Yes.

53636. And the maximum that you buy at is £4?—Yes.

53637. What is the minimum—what is the point at which you say you won't buy at all?—Where it is rubbish.

53638. Can you tell me what is the lowest price?—I don't want anything under the full price, but I do buy down to £3.

53639. There the variation is between £3 and £4 where you purchase?—There may be an odd lot, but for the rest of the year I won't take these odd lots. I only want the best kelp at the full price. Nothing else pays.

53640. With regard to Japan, are the Commission to take it that in Japan they burn the kelp in exactly the same way as in Ireland, only that they are more industrious and more careful in the way they burn it?—Quite so.

53641. Everything else is the same?—Yes. They manufacture iodine from the weed the same as here.

53642. Do you say that kelp burned in Japan, at the other side of the world, pays for the transit to these countries because it is so much superior to Irish kelp?—They could make it just as good here as in Japan.

53643. My point is this—if they are burning kelp in exactly the same way on the other side of the world, and can put it on the English market at the same price as the kelp here, and yet pay the cost of transit here, it shows that there must be a superiority in the industry or honesty of the Japanese?—They are doing that.

53644. And can you tell the Commission that the price is exactly the same?—I believe so, from what I have heard and read.

53645. Therefore, that is strong evidence of great human intelligence and honesty of the Japanese in the method of preparing the kelp?—Yes; I say that the kelp in this country could easily be made 25 per cent. better than it is.

53646. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Would not it pay your company to give practical instruction to the people?—The people know how to do it already quite well and satisfactorily.

53647. As to the way they should burn the kelp and the weed they should look for?—They know all that.

53648. How does the matter of honesty come in if the man is to be paid only according to the quality of his article, and that you are always able to protect yourselves?—We try to.

53649. CHAIRMAN.—All you want is the best possible kelp delivered to you?—That is right.

53650. Then it seems to me that the best way that that could be carried out if the present system of burning is bad—— ?—It is not bad.

53651. You say it is full of adulteration?—The adulterate it.

53652. I call that bad. If the present system bad obviously the way to get over that would be f the Board to prepare it, and to hand you this goo kelp?—You should inquire from my company abou that. I am only their servant.

53653. That would be a good way of giving you t real kelp?—It would be one way.

53654. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Suppose there was a l of kelp burned by the Board in the proper way and lot burned in the usual way, you would take the bes and give the highest price, no matter who produce it?—Certainly.

53655. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Are you speal ing for your company when you tell us that in ca the Board established a factory for extracting t iodine your company would retire?—Yes. The tra won't stand any competition. If there is Governmer money brought into it our people will retire.

53656. Then I take it that your company wi scarcely object to the Chairman's suggestion, whic goes no further than preparing the kelp for you buy?—I don't know anything about that. You mu inquire from the company.

53657. CHAIRMAN.—You are not prepared to tell th Commission that you would cease buying if by an agency, through the Board, you were to be given th kelp that you would ask for?—I cannot tell you tha The trade is in a very bad state, and if there is an competition, especially with public money, our peop will simply retire.

53658. Is it competition to give you what you as for yourself?—You can take it from headquarter about that.

53659. Is it competition for the Board to give y what you ask for yourself—namely, kelp of the be quality?—I don't think it is.

53660. Mr. BRYCE.—When kelp is presented to yo by people who collect it you make a test, and natural when you have made a test and ascertained the pe centage of the iodine, and that the standard is s much you offer the same price to anyone who produc kelp of that particular quality?—Yes.

53661. There would be no distinction between on man and another in the price that you gave?—The would not.

53662. Did you hear what Father M'Hugh sa about the other uses to which kelp could be put, an that the glue people use it?—The by-products don amount to what they did ten or fifteen years ago.

53663. The main thing is the iodine?—Yes.

53664. CHAIRMAN.—Is your test a private test?—Yes.

53665. Is there any way of checking the accura of your test?—There is a check when it goes to th works.

53666. That is still private?—Yes.

53667. Is there any organisation or body on beha of the sellers who would in any way have any mean of checking the accuracy of your test?—No.

53668. That is a thing your company would have n objection to?—What?

53669. To have a public test made?—I don't kno whether they would or not.

53670. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—May I ask you what pr portion of your kelp you get from Ireland?—I cou not tell you that, because our people buy in Norwa and the north islands of Scotland also.

53671. Take the western islands of Scotland—is your firm used to buy up in Uist?—I think couple of firms buy there.

53672. Sandford?—He is one.

53673. That is not your firm?—No.

53674. The point I wish to ask you is—do you nev pay a higher price for the kelp you get in th Hebrides than for that in Ireland?—I don't kno what they pay there.

53675. Did you ever complain of adulteration there —Yes.

53676. Do they do the same thing?—They did; wh ther they have changed or not I don't know.

53677. You say that the adulteration consists pri cipally of stones?—No; of inferior weed here pri cipally. There are some gravel and stones, but w have that pretty well checked.

53678. I thought that the quality of the kelp d pended on the sort of weed?—Certainly.

53679. If they produce inferior weed it is their loss? Yes; also our loss.

53680. Where does the dishonesty come in there?—Because we offered a certain price for certain weed, and we don't get it. We don't want to have other weeds at all.

53681. Do you get honest people in Norway?—I don't know anything about that.

53682. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I do not understand you to accuse the people of dishonesty?—What I say is that the kelp could easily be made 25 per cent. better than it is. On at least two shores in Ireland our people have had to retire owing to the addition of stones and gravel.

Sept. 21, 1907.

Mr. Thomas Hazell:

53683. You also say that the people know perfectly well what is the proper weed?—Certainly.

53684. Therefore, with regard to instruction, there is no necessity for instruction?—Not in the least.

53685. Mr. KAVANAGH.—They lose 25 per cent. on purpose?—They could easily make it 25 per cent. better than it is.

53686. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—And get 25 per cent. more price?—I am sure that if the kelp were properly made our company would pay at least 15*s.* or £1 a ton more.

Mr. CHRISTOPHER O'CONNOR examined.

53687. CHAIRMAN.—Where do you reside?—I reside at Letterard, near Carna, in the Clifden rural district. I am familiar with the condition of the small landholders in the Carna parish and on the estates of Richard Berridge, Esq., and Colonel Nolan. I intend to give evidence on behalf of the Carna Branch of the United Irish League. The parish of Carna (which is comprised within the electoral divisions of Knockboy, Mweengowla, and Skannive) contains 32,769 acres, and has a population of 4,180. It is divided into about thirty-five townlands, of which twenty-six are inhabited and nine are not. These nine, which are of a mountainous character, are in the hands of graziers.

Mr. Christopher O'Connor.

53688. What do you mean by saying they are in the hands of graziers?—Graziers are the tenants.

53689. Whom do they belong to?—Richard Berridge is the landlord of some of them and Colonel Nolan of others, and Mrs. Newtown of others. There are fourteen islands off the coast, ranging from two acres to sixty-one acres in extent. These small islands are owned by graziers. The total area of grazing lands in the parish is 7,894 acres, having a valuation of £110 15*s.* Of this, however, only about 200 acres are suitable for tillage. The number of small islands owned by graziers is fourteen, having a total area of 68 acres, and valuation £115 17*s.*

53690. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—When you say owned by graziers, you mean graziers and tenants?—Yes; the graziers are the tenants. All the inhabited townlands border on the sea; six of these townlands have been already purchased by the Congested Districts Board. In the other twenty townlands the holdings are small and uneconomic, especially on the Berridge and Nolan estates, principally on account of sub-division of holdings being allowed on these estates. On the Nolan and Berridge estates there are, with perhaps two or three exceptions in each townland, from two to four families living as tenants-in-co on each holding. The Nolan Estate is the most congested estate in the parish, as very few of the tenants have more than from four to six acres each. Though there is little grazing land suitable for tillage in this parish, there are large tracts of good grazing land suitable for tillage in other parts of Clifden rural district. The best way to solve the question of congestion in this rural district would be to give the Congested Districts Board power and money to buy out the landlords in the whole rural district of Clifden, and to purchase the grazing lands from the graziers, and to migrate families from the congested places to the grazing lands within the rural district. On some of the estates there is little grass and suitable for tillage, while on other estates there are large grazing farms suitable for tillage; therefore tenants to be migrated ought not to be confined to the estates on which they have resided, but should be transferred from one part of the rural district to another part. The holdings in the congested townlands can be enlarged by striping the grazing farms suitable for tillage and changing some of the cotenants to these farms. It is advisable that all grazing farms to which seaweed rights are attached should, as far as possible, be bought out and striped for the purpose of migration. For instance, the townland of Rosroe, in the Moyrus (Cashel) electoral division, containing 1,042 acres, with seaweed rights attached, is a grazing farm on the eleven months' system. If this farm were striped up it would give land and seaweed enough to from twenty-five to thirty tenants.

53691. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—What estate is that on?—The Berridge estate. There is another farm near it of 219 acres, with seaweed rights attached, which would give land to five tenants. I refer to this because the Board have refused to buy the Berridge estate on the ground that there are no grazing farms on the estate; and for that reason I point out that there are two farms, one of 1,240 acres, which is very important, with seaweed rights attached, which could be striped up into small holdings.

53692. Mr. KAVANAGH.—What class of land is that 1,000 acres?—All arable land. The tenants on that place were all cleared out at the time of the Famine. It is a grazing farm now on the eleven months' system. There are also good grass lands suitable for tillage in the electoral division of Bunowen, Doonloughan, Cleggan, Renvyle, etc. Some of these farms have valuations as high as 10*s.* an acre, and are let to eleven months' tenants. That is in the dispensary districts of Clifden and Renvyle. In most of the congested townlands in this parish, principally in Mweenish and parts of other townlands, the landholders have no more than four to six acres, consequently they live mostly by kelp-making, fishing, and on money received from children in America. It would not be advisable to remove any of these inland, but to change them to some other maritime townland elsewhere.

53693. What is your reason?—When they have but a few perches to live on they cannot till much. They depend a great deal more on sea-fishing and kelp-making, and I think most of them would not make a living inland; but if they could be changed to these maritime townlands to grazing farms, with seaweed rights attached, it would be a good thing.

53694. That is to say, if they were to be migrated you would like them to be changed to land of pretty much the same class as that which they are on?—Near the sea anyhow. On the other hand, there are many landholders who make no use of the sea except to gather seaweed in spring for manure. Young men and middle-aged men of this class could be changed to inland parts of the county. The people are quite willing to migrate provided a number of them from the same townland or parish be migrated to the same place.

53695. That would have the advantage of preserving old associations?—Yes. They would not go in twos or threes, but ten or twelve from this place would go to live to the same place inland or anywhere else. I suppose in Mweenish Island one-third of the people would want to be migrated. They would not live inland, but change them to some other maritime townland in the Clifden district, or anywhere near the sea, where there is grazing land.

53696. People accustomed to the sea would be like fish out of water if removed to inland places?—In Mweenish and other places the land is worn out by constant cropping. They have to till the same land every year. That is one of the chief causes of potato failure. Potatoes will not be productive if sown in the one place, which is tilled over and over again, without sometimes being allowed to lie fallow for three or four years.

53697. Mr. KAVANAGH.—How many acres of the land around here would make an economic holding?—That depends on the valuation. I consider that a holding to be economic should be over £5 valuation.

53698. How many acres could a man really work?—About forty or fifty.

53699. Suppose you migrated one out of every three and gave his holding to his neighbour, could he work

Sept. 21, 1907.

Mr. Christopher O'Connor.

two or three of those small holdings?—Yes; if a tenant's holding were large enough to enable him to allow three or four years to intervene between two crops of potatoes on the same land the crop would be better in quality and larger in yield. At present, on account of the smallness of the holdings, they have potatoes and corn every second year, and the land is worn out. I have seen potatoes sown on the same land four years in succession.

53700. You think an addition of the land that you see round here would make a man better off?—Yes. All it wants is to be reclaimed.

53701. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—The reason is it would enable him to give the tillage land a rest?—Yes; to carry on some rotation of crops, and let the land lie fallow for three or four years.

53702. Sir John Colomb.—Do you mean you would sow grass seed in it, and have it in rotation grass for two or three years?—Yes. I have seen several places where new holdings were striped out, and there were fine potato crops these bad years, when the potato crops were very bad on the old holdings. In all the maritime townlands the cattle are subject to a disease called in English "pine," which causes the cattle to pine away and die. There are two cures for this disease—one is to send the cattle to grass on a mountain for four or five months each year; the other is to give the cattle large quantities of bran and Indian meal. As the mountains are in the hands of graziers, the majority of the people must adopt the bran and Indian meal cure, which causes a serious inroad on the resources of the people, and is only a passive cure.

53703. I suppose that the disease is really due to want of proper feeding?—No; they must get a change of grass, for cattle near the seashore get the disease called pine. They must be changed to the mountains for three or four months each year.

53704. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Is it from something that grows along the sea that they get it?—No; it is from the nature of the land. There is another disease called cripple, which they get on the mountains, and which is cured by sending them to the shore.

53705. The bad grass on the mountains gives a sort of rheumatism to the cattle?—Yes. Cattle don't die of the cripple, but they get stunted. That is easily cured by feeding, but cattle at the shore must be changed to the mountains.

53706. So it would be a material improvement in the condition of the people to have access to the mountains and to the shore also?—Yes. There is a scarcity of bog in the maritime townlands, especially in the Knockboy electoral division. Formerly a few acres in each holding consisted of bog, from which the people got their turf supply. In most places these bogs are now run out. Half the people of Letterard get their turf supply in Moyrus. The people of five other townlands go three miles to Culleen bog for their turf supply. This bog will be used up in the near future. Then the nearest bogs to these people will be the mountains, at present in the hands of graziers in the parish. There are seven or eight townlands in Knockboy electoral division so situated. It would materially improve the condition of the people if the mountains were purchased from the graziers, and one of these mountains given to each maritime townland as an appurtenance to the holdings. Each of these mountains is a townland in itself, and range from 377 to 2,981 acres in extent.

53707. Do you mean the grazing on these mountains?—Yes.

53708. What is done with them now?—They are only used for grazing.

53709. What class of animals do they carry?—Cattle and sheep.

53710. Would you give them back in common to the people?—Yes. No improvements were ever made on these mountains, and no boundaries, except the boundaries on the Ordnance Survey Map. When one of these mountains would be given to a townland it should be striped, and a stripe given to each holding in the townland as an appurtenance. These stripes need not be fenced. The mountain should be fenced all round with wire fencing. By doing this it would benefit the people in three ways: (1), By putting their cattle on this mountain it would effect a saving in the purchase of shop stuffs for their cattle. (2), They would have bog for cutting turf for fuel. (3), The people would have a place to put their sheep during the spring, summer and autumn months.

53711. Mr. Sutherland.—Where?—On these mountains. They could use the grass of the mountain in common, but have it striped up for bog.

53712. You would have two divisions?—No. Suppose there are twenty holdings in a townland, then you make twenty stripes of the mountain, and allot a stripe to each holding. These stripes need not be lock-spitted.

53713. Sir John Colomb.—The striping would be only to give each man his proportion of turf, but the cattle would run all over it: the commonage would be only for grazing, but the striping would be for the purpose of turbary?—Yes. The principal manure is seaweed. The seaweed is carried by the people on their backs, like beasts of burden, because in most places there are no roads connecting the public roads with the seashore, which would enable horses and asses to be employed. A public road now touches some part of every townland except one, but in some townlands these roads do not touch the seashore anywhere. Therefore, if short roads were constructed to connect the public road with the seashore, the people could get their seaweed to the fields with far less trouble and hardship. More crops could be raised, and lands further from the seashore could be tilled, and, consequently, would give better returns, because the lands near the seashore is worn out from constant cropping for want of a more up-to-date method of conveying seaweed and sand from the seashore.

53714. I suppose that very few of the tenants have got horses? I suppose there is a horse here to only every twenty or thirty tenants?—Yes, but they would all have horses or asses if they could have a way of drawing the seaweed to their farms from the shore.

53715. How could they keep horses if their farms were so small?—Two or three on each townland would probably have holdings large enough to keep horses, and about three horses would do the work of the townland.

53716. They would be hired to the neighbours?—Yes.

53717. Therefore the biggest holders would get the greatest benefit from the road?—They would be all benefited. It would save great hardship, because at present men and girls have to carry weed on their backs. The bogs also could be reclaimed by draining, liming, and bringing sand from the seashore. Short roads should also be constructed to any grass lands striped up.

53718. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Where would you find the lime? Would you take it from Aran?—Yes. There is plenty of lime there. The people have kilns of their own.

53719. You would bring turf over there and bring back the limestone?—Yes.

53720. Does not the turf go over there?—Yes, but not so much as it used to.

53721. A hooker bringing over turf could bring back limestone?—Yes. The large fishing boats going from here to Aran could bring it easily. The want of bye-roads has prevented many acres of land from being tilled, and reclaimable bog from being reclaimed. Boundaries between the holdings would want to be made, and the housing accommodation on the Nolan and Berridge Estates improved. From the foregoing it will be seen that there is much room for improving the condition of the people on the Nolan and Berridge Estates, although the Congested Districts Board have declined to purchase the Berridge Estates, although the landlord is quite willing to sell. The reason given by the Congested Districts Board for declining to purchase, being that it would be of no advantage to the tenants as the estate was already striped, and that there were practically no grass lands for distribution. There are, in fact, several acres of grass land fit for tillage on the Berridge Estate, to which tenants could be migrated. There are about twelve small islands off the coast uninhabited. They are from three to sixty-one acres in extent, and are in the hands of graziers. In some townlands there is a scarcity of seaweed for manure, then the people buy seaweed from the owner of the adjacent small island. When the people of a townland have not a sufficient supply of seaweed attached to the townland, I consider that the seaweed rights attached to the adjacent small island ought to be purchased from the owner; but leaving the owner of the island the grazing rights of the island if he so desires.

. Then the seaweed is to be divided into stripes tween the tenants, and the boundaries of the stripes ainly marked out. I consider that the best thing to do ith the Knockboy Farm would be, to convert it into agricultural model school. The whole farm is al-ady well drained. The people could then be shown e best methods of tillage on a large or small scale, d with and without seaweed. The people require, so to be shown the good effects of liming land. The tting or houghing of the potato stalks by an insect the land causes heavy loss to the potato crop. The ming of the land would prevent this.

53722. CHAIRMAN.—Are there many trees on the nockboy Farm now?—Yes. It is not all planted. is a couple of miles from here. Some of it has en successful.

53723. Is there anyone to look after it?—Only a retaker. There were agricultural model schools or rms in Ireland formerly, but the Government of e day did away with them and left us the model ational schools. If they left us the agricultural hools and did away with the others they would have ne right.

53724. Do you think could Knockboy be used to ow the people the way land could be reclaimed?—es; to teach the proper rotation of crops and how reclaim the mountain.

53725. Would there be any chance of bringing sea-eed so far inland?—Yes, from both ends. It can brought from Carna and from Bertraboy Bay. It as brought when the caretaker was in it before.

53726. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—How far would it be om the shore?—It is within a convenient distance, ly two or three miles on each side. It could be sed to show the people the best methods of tillage. n those small holdings of three to five acres they on't know anything about the rotation of crops, be-use they have no means of carrying it out them-lves.

53727. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It would have is advantage, that it would be the same class of nd that they have themselves?—Yes; the very same lass. Some of it is good and some middling. The rection of a corn mill in this parish to which the eople could bring their oats to be ground would give he people a good substitute for the potato and for he Indian meal which they use in summer. Many eople would now use oatenmeal instead of Indian neal but for the dearness of the former. There was small corn mill in this place in old times but it as taken down about twenty years ago.

53728. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Why?—It was only on a mall scale, but it was very useful long ago.

53729. Did they stop because they had no custom?—es. It was built by a small landholder. It was uilt in a place very far from a road, and the people ould not bring oats or anything except by carrying it n bags on their backs, and it was very hard to bring nything to it. I remember seeing it in working rder, but I never saw it working, although it was very ood while it lasted. It was not working principally ecause the only path to it was through a wet moun-ain.

53730. It was in working order and not working; herefore it was not required?—The people would use t now if they had it.

53731. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—When was it orking?—Eighteen or nineteen years ago.

53732. There may have been a considerable change ince then?—There is a considerable change.

53733. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Indian corn is more sed?—The people are giving up the Indian meal al-ogether.

53734. I heard some witness say that most of the ats were sold for feeding horses?—They are sold to hopkeepers. They sell here for from 4*s.* to 5*s.* a wt. They would make a better use of it if they got t ground in the corn mill, and it would encourage he people to grow better grain. A carding mill to which people would bring their wool to be carded would get good demand.

53735. CHAIRMAN.—At present they card by hand?—It is too slow. The carding machinery would do as much in a couple of hours as a couple of women would do during the winter.

53736. Do they, as a matter of fact, card still?—They do. The people make good use of wool here.

53737. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Do they manufacture it themselves?—They card it themselves and spin it.

53738. They never ceased doing that?—They did not.

53739. It has always been there?—Yes; in every house in the parish.

53740. It is a native industry?—Yes, it is.

53741. Is all that grey cloth which one sees on the children made at home?—It is all made in their own houses.

53742. They are both factory and market for it themselves?—Yes.

53743. That is a real industry in the place?—Yes. Every house has from five to thirty sheep, and they will make all the clothes they wear from the wool of their own sheep. They card the wool, spin it, warp it, and send it to the weaver. We have hand loom weavers in this parish—plenty of them.

53744. They have that education themselves?—Yes, from old times.

53745. And they require no technical education?—No.

53746. That is a real industry—a living industry?—Yes, and it is thriving, and there is no sign of it failing.

53747. And it never had a subsidy from any public body?—No. It got no help from any side.

53748. They have the raw material, the sheep and the wool, and whenever it is necessary they card, spin, and weave it, and clothe their children?—Yes.

53749. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—When you say that every holder has twenty or thirty sheep, what holders do you speak of?—Farmers. Those who have not wool will buy it from one another. They let them up on the mountains. They could not keep the whole of them.

53750. They hire grazing?—Two or three of the townlands have commonage rights. There are only eight townlands in the hands of the graziers. Five other townlands have commonage rights to the mountains. Then the people on other townlands also graze cattle and sheep on these mountains.

53751. That is, they take grazing?—Yes.

53752. In your proposed re-arrangement of this part of the world you would not interfere with the five that are grazed by the tenants?—No.

53753. CHAIRMAN.—As a matter of fact, does any money pass? You say that the five townlands have grazing in common, and that the people of those townlands have the right to graze their sheep and cattle on this common?—They don't get any right for sheep, but they pay a shilling a month for cattle.

53754. Do they pay for sheep?—Some of them do and some of them don't.

53755. How is that arranged?—It is not an easy matter to put the sheep off the mountain, but the people would keep a great deal more sheep if they had these mountains to put them on than now. There are no boundaries to the mountains, and the sheep go astray on them.

53756. The people of the adjoining townlands who have no grazing get the right to put their sheep also on this commonage land?—Some of them do and some of them don't.

53757. They don't pay anything?—Some of them do and some don't.

53758. Most of them don't?—They are not so particular on these mountains about the sheep, because it is wild mountain, as they are about the cattle.

53759. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—When you say the people don't take much notice, is it the five townlands you speak of?—Four of them give leave to their neighbours to put their sheep on.

53760. Does the same thing apply to the other townlands that you want the Board to buy?—No. The graziers who own these mountains take no grazing stock, and would not allow a single beast to trespass on them.

53761. Therefore, a certain number of people are getting grazing lands for nothing?—They must pay on these mountains, but an odd one will not.

53762. On all grazing lands sheep have to be paid for?—Some of them do and some of them don't.

53763. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You say that this woollen industry has been here from time immemorial?—Yes.

53764. Has there been any improvement in the weaving in recent years?—No improvement. It is the same old style.

53765. Has there been any instruction given?—No instruction has been given yet, and they use the same common loom.

53766. They have no new looms?—No new looms. They have the same kind of looms as were there 100 years ago.

Sept. 21, 1907.

Mr. Christopher O'Connor.

53767. Do you think was there ever any application made to Mr. Walker to consider whether instruction should not be given and new looms introduced?—I never heard anything about it. Father Tom Flannery when he was parish priest here tried to get the people to introduce new methods of weaving, and when he was connected with this Manchester lace business he was trying to make them learn, and he brought some of them in to learn it, but I think they did not follow it up.

53768. You put it to the Commission that it would be an improvement if there were a carding machine provided?—Yes, a carding machine to hurry it on. A carding machine would card as much in two or three hours as the whole household would during the whole winter.

53769. Apparently you draw a distinction between carding and the other processes in the manufacture?—Yes.

53770. Carding is a laborious operation?—Yes, the most laborious part of the whole business, but we don't want to do away with our hand-loom weavers.

53771. But you think that the amount of labour expended on carding is very considerable for the results?—Very considerable.

53772. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Are there many weavers here?—There are.

53773. Can you give us an idea?—We have a weaver in every second townland.

53774. Do you think are there twenty weavers?—There ought to be about twenty weavers.

53775. Always working?—They have farms of their own. They work their farms.

53776. Are they hereditary? Does the son often succeed the father as weaver?—Yes. That is what happens. The son succeeds the father. He will look after the crops like any farmer in spring and summer, and he will work at his loom in winter.

53777. Is most of the bed clothing supplied in that way?—Yes.

53778. And a great deal of the clothing worn by the children?—Nine-tenths of the clothes worn by the people of this parish are manufactured in their own houses.

53779. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The carding is done in the houses?—There is a carding machine in Clifden, and the people are more inclined to go there now than to spend their time carding.

53780. The carding is done in the winter?—Yes, the hand carding is done then.

53781. What would they do if they were not carding in the cottages?—The women would have plenty to do in the winter. They do some of their carding, because their own carding is better than the carding done by the machine. They would do some carding, but would not do all.

53782. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—The machine leaves lumps in the wool?—Yes.

53784. It does not card so evenly?—It does not. Some of the graziers, who own the mountains, recognising the necessity there is for making the mountain appurtenances of the maritime townlands, have already expressed their willingness to surrender them whenever it is considered necessary to do so. Some of the landlords have also expressed their willingness to sell. But while some of them may be willing to sell at a reasonable price, there are others who are asking too much. There ought to be compulsory powers to deal with these latter, and also with any graziers who would ask too much for giving up their grazing rights.

53785. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Are these graziers 11 months' men?—Some of the graziers are 11 months' men, and some are yearly tenants.

53786. Then the mountains are divided up among yearly tenants?—The graziers, I think, are yearly tenants, most of them.

53787. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Do they keep anything on these mountains?—Cattle and sheep part of the year, but the mountains are practically going to waste.

53788. It appears to me there is no stock on them?—They put some cattle of their own on it, but they take in no grazing stock.

53789. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—When you say that graziers expressed themselves as willing to sell the you mean that yearly tenants are willing to give up their land?—Yes.

53790. For nothing?—No; I suppose they won't give it for nothing.

53791. Then it will be a question of price for them?—We don't want to take it off them for nothing. We want to give them something.

53792. You would give full value?—Yes, but not too much.

53793. You would not leave them worse off at the end of the sale?—No. I would give them a right price, but not too much.

53794. Are these men year-by-year tenants?—Some of them are.

53795. Are any of them judicial tenants?—No, but they are not 11 months' tenants.

53796. Do these yearly tenants put on the sheep?—No; they do not.

53797. Who are the people who put on the sheep without anyone taking much notice?—The people in the townlands who have commonage rights are more liberal than the graziers. They are not very particular, because the mountains are not divided among the tenants.

53798. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—In fact the sheep on both sides trespass on each other's land?—Yes. There are a few good quays in the parish, but piers, with short approach roads, to enable the people to land seaweed for manure and to be used as harbours of refuge in bad weather for small fishing vessels are much required in some places, especially in Letterard. In Letterard they have four fishing boats and about fifty-six landholders, and they have two quays built of stone without cement, built in the two worst places in the whole townland. Each quay has a rocky entrance, and boats could not come in during bad weather. Within a short distance of this place there was a natural harbour, which had a clear entrance and a clear place for anchorage in front.

53799. CHAIRMAN.—Who built those quays?—They were built in 1879 as a kind of relief works, but they were built in the two worst places. There were other places where they could have built better quays with less money, with a clear entrance and clear anchorage outside.

53800. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Where is Letterard?—About five miles from this place, in the Knockboy electoral division. The fishing carried on here consists of mackerel fishing and herring fishing with large boats, and lobster fishing and general hand-line fishing with 2-ton and 3-ton boats. The deep sea fishing (mackerel and herring) in this locality is not as successful as it was some years ago, still it is an industry of considerable importance in the locality, and a large number of people are employed at this industry during the summer and autumn months.

53801. CHAIRMAN.—Why is it not as good as it used to be?—The mackerel season got later every year. The first year the mackerel started here the people could take mackerel in the middle of March. Now very few of them take mackerel until the 1st of May, and then the mackerel season gets later. It goes to the middle of July and it certainly is not as successful as it used to be before; and the mackerel is not as plentiful around this coast as it was formerly.

53802. Did the mackerel fishing stop earlier in the old days?—It used to hold on for the three months of April, May and June. Sometimes now it holds on to the middle of July.

53803. Does beginning later make much difference if you go on later?—No.

53804. You say that it goes on longer now?—It does.

53805. Then how does it make much difference if it goes on later?—The late mackerel is not so plentiful.

53806. Otherwise it would not matter about beginning late?—No, because the weather in March is very rough, and for one night on which you could go out there might be five nights on which you could not go out.

53807. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you say that the herring fishing is not successful here?—It is not as good as it was; still there is a good deal of money earned by it. The fishing boats, costing from £400 to £500, are obtained by loans from the Congested Districts Board repayable in sixteen half-yearly instalments of from £25 to £40 each. The arrears on some boats are now so large that the owners do not expect to ever see them paid off. The Congested Districts Board have lately adopted a good plan for collecting the arrears, viz., by appointing a receiver over the earnings of the boat during the fishing season. The Board allowing the owner one-fifth of half the net earnings towards the up-keep of the boat and gear. I think the Congested Districts Board ought to extend the appointment of receivers by appointing a receiver over every boat that

would be even one half-year in arrear. In order to reduce the amount of the half-yearly instalments I consider that the prices of the fishing boat and its fishing gear be obtained by separate loans, *i.e.*, that the body of the boat, with mast and sails, be purchased by one loan, and the fishing gear (*i.e.*, nets, ropes, corks) by a separate loan, and that sixteen years be given to pay off the loan on the boat and trimming gear, and eight years to pay off the loan on the fishing gear. If this were done it would reduce the amount of the half-yearly instalments, and the boat-owners would make increased efforts to pay off the loans. Again, the fishing boats of this place are only employed at fishing from mid-April to mid-October. There are always six and seven months of each year idle. An effort ought to be made to establish winter fishing in the locality.

53808. CHAIRMAN.—You think that the plan recently adopted by the Congested Districts Board of appointing a receiver over the earnings of the boat to collect arrears is a good one?—Yes.

53809. Does not that amount practically to the share system?—It does. It is a great pity that the Board did not adopt that plan long ago, before boats ran into arrears of £100 or so.

53810. In your opinion, the share system would work better than the loan system?—I think it far better to appoint a receiver over the boat than to take it away from the fishermen.

53811. The Board gives out the boat under two systems. Under the loan system the boat is handed over, and the price is paid back in half-yearly instalments. The other plan is one by which the Board retain possession of the boat, and take a certain share?—They don't in this case. They appoint a receiver during the fishing season only, over boats obtained under the loan system.

53812. That is very nearly retaining possession?—The owner can do what he likes after the season.

53813. The principle is that the man should get a certain share, and that the Board should set aside a certain share towards the cost of the boat?—Yes.

53814. That is the plan you like?—Yes. But before the Board adopted this plan boats ran into arrears, and when a fisherman spends seven or eight years of his life at deep-sea fishing he is not much good for anything else on the land, and it is a hardship to have a boat taken from him.

53815. You would be quite content when the boat was new that it should be started on this plan?—If the boat ran into arrears it should be adopted, but it should not be adopted when it was quite new. A new boat would be £40 a half year. If there were £80, or a year's, arrears the Board should appoint a receiver over the boat until it is collected, and let him have his boat again free, but it is not on the share system.

53816. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—You say that sixteen years should be allowed to pay off the loan on the boat and trimming, but you know that boats deteriorate very rapidly?—These boats are strong enough to last thirty years.

53817. It depends on how they are kept?—They are kept very well.

53818. CHAIRMAN.—Where is the fish landed?—At Roundstone, and Aran for mackerel.

53819. None of the fish are landed here?—None of the fish are landed in this parish. The bulk of the fish must go to Roundstone.

53820. The herring fishing corresponds with the autumn mackerel fishing?—Yes; they are caught together.

53821. The mackerel is more valuable than the herring?—Some of the fish buyers take both, whichever the boat comes in with after the night. We have mackerel around this place, but the small boats have no nets to catch the fish, and if the Board would give loans to purchase the necessary nets of seven or eight pieces for, say, from two to five ton boats, they could still catch a great deal of mackerel and herring in the autumn and winter.

53822. For six months they fish, as you have described. How do you propose that these boats can be employed except in the mackerel fishing?—I believe the fishing boats cannot be employed much longer than that; but they should get nets for small boats of five tons and under to enable them to fish.

53823. No improvement can be made as regards big boats?—No; but they should get nets for the small boats, and let them fish for the herring in these bays around this coast. They have no nets to catch them, and when the fishing boats have to give up the herring fishing the small boats could continue it, because the herring does not stay out in the deep, like the mackerel. It comes into the bays and creeks, and the fishing boats that have a deep draught of net cannot take them. I have often seen Connemara men going away when the fish came in, as the water was too shallow for deep nets, while the small Claddagh boats would be able to get good catches. The nets of the fishing boats are too deep to shoot them in these bays, because they lose them; so that it would be a good thing to get nets for the small boats that would not be so deep as the nets with which the fishing is carried on at Cleggan.

53824. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—About what would the nets cost for these small boats?—About £3 10*s.* apiece.

53825. How many of them would there be?—About six.

53826. One cargo of fish would pay for that?—And the small boats could fish the whole winter, and there would be no cost. If the weather is bad, it would cost about £2 a week to support these men in the large fishing boats in a place like Galway; but if they had the nets for the small boats, they could fish when the weather permitted, and could remain at home when the weather was rough, doing something on their land.

53827. One successful night's fishing would pay for the nets?—It would pay for them.

53828. Very well, then—why don't you get them? What is the use of talking about it?—The herrings are in the bay at present, and the fishermen have no nets.

53829. You know the ropes by which these nets are let down?—Yes.

53830. They have only to shorten the ropes if the sea is too shallow?—No; because the nets for the large fishing boats are deeper than the nets for the small boats. I know a man who tried to shorten his nets in that way and shot them among rocks, where there were lots of herrings, and he lost all his nets, because the nets are too deep to sink them among rocks.

53831. CHAIRMAN.—Don't the autumn mackerel nets have to be put down in the spring?—They might be put down in the winter, but not in the spring, because the mesh of the autumn net is smaller than that of the spring net.

53832. What about the lobster fishing?—The majority of the people are more inclined for lobster fishing and general hand-line fishing than any other class of fishing at present, as they can attend to their farm operations and to lobster fishing at the same time. Lobster fishing is an industry that could be greatly improved and developed in this parish. Until this year there was only one fish company buying lobsters here, and the people were not satisfied with the low prices given by this company. Some of the fishermen now send their own lobsters by rail to fish salesmen in London, Manchester, Dublin, etc., who sell the fish on commission for the fishermen. Although the fishermen only take the lobsters out of the store tank just as they are about to send them off, still many of the lobsters die before they reach the market. In some cases half the number in each box die, and in others all die except two or three in each box. In this way fishermen sustain heavy losses, as dead lobsters are not marketable. As the fish salesmen sell only on commission, the whole loss falls on the fishermen.

53833. I understand that in the old days a fish company used to buy lobsters from the fishermen?—Yes.

53834. Then because the price was not satisfactory the people refused to sell the lobsters to these companies?—Yes; some of the people refused.

53835. And the difficulty is that the lobsters die?—Yes.

53836. Did they die when the fishing company used to buy them?—No, because they carried them in a boat with tanks to keep them alive.

53837. Would not it be possible for the fishermen to do the same thing now?—No one could do that except a company; they would not have money.

53838. Could not you have some sort of arrangement among yourselves by which you could send lobsters in a tank to Galway by hooker or fishing boat?—On account of the bad weather at times that would not be practicable.

53839. In what sort of boats did the fish company take them away?—In large boats like small schooners. Hookers here would not do on account of the bad

Sept. 21, 1907.

Mr. Christopher O'Connor.

weather, which might delay them getting to Galway so that the lobsters might die.

53840. If they were in tanks they would be all right?—The people would not like that. They would rather send it off by rail if they could.

53841. Is not that because you don't combine among yourselves? If they combined they could do it?—Hardly.

53842. Why not?—These people who fish for lobsters have not the way to do these things.

53843. It does not require much money to do that. I should have thought it was only a matter of organisation?—Before the railway was made they used to send lobsters by boat to Galway and they often lost the lobsters altogether, one day being calm and another day rough, so that the boat would have to be in the harbour and the lobsters would be dead before they got to market.

53844. How long will a lobster live in a tank?—A long time.

53845. If you gave it a change of water will it live a week?—Longer.

53846. No matter how bad the weather it would not take a longer time than a week to go to Galway?—Sometimes they would be all right and other times they would lose the whole cargo.

53847. Why would they lose it?—On account of bad weather.

53848. How would the weather affect the lobsters if they were in a tank?—The schooner would not be able to sail in bad weather and it would have to put in.

53849. That would not matter?—If the tank was got it would be all right. They would rather send it by rail from this place to the station.

53850. It would be less trouble?—Less trouble. Recess is sixteen miles from the coast. They are sent in common carts. It takes four hours to do the journey, and on this journey the lobsters die, especially in warm weather. I know a case in which the fisherman had to send the cost of carriage to the fish salesman, as the whole box of lobsters was dead.

53851. Would not it be better to chance the bad weather?—No. They got too much of that before here. Some of the fish buyers were here before, and they used to lose too much by it. They would gain sometimes and lose other times.

53852. In selling to the fish buyer?—No, but in getting the boats to go to Galway A quicker mode of transit from the sea coast to the railway station is greatly needed. If a service of motor buses from the sea coast through Carna and Kilkerrin and Rosmuck to Maam Cross Railway Station was established it would be a great boon to the fishermen and to others in this parish—the motor buses to be utilised for the carriage of goods and passengers. This place would then be within easy reach of the Galway, Dublin, and London markets. Market tickets at low fares are issued from Maam Cross to Galway on two days every week.

53853. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You are a Rural District Councillor?—Yes.

53854. In order to have a motor service your roads would require to be improved and your bridges strengthened?—Yes.

53855. Do you suppose that the District Council would contribute anything towards putting the roads in order?—I am certain they would.

53856. Up to what amount would they be willing to increase their rates in order to make the necessary improvements?—They would not object to a penny in the £.

53857. That would be only a small sum and would not go far?—For the whole rural district—the valuation is £18,000.

53858. Would not the expenses of improving the roads and strengthening the bridges be considerable if there were to be a motor service?—I am sure they would.

53859. The other parts of the country would object to this?—No, because they are going to get the benefit.

53860. But you quite realise that the roads must be improved and a large expenditure must be incurred on them for a motor service?—There must indeed.

53861. But you believe that the county would gain substantially?—I think that Connemara would gain if there was a service running through Carn, Kilkerrin, Rosmuck, and Maam Cross. That would go into the Oughterard rural district and the two districts could contribute. These motor omnibuses could carry both goods and passengers. Better prices for both kelp and lobsters would be obtained if there was more competition in this parish in the purchase of lobsters, kelp, and dried seaweed. At present only one company buys kelp and one company buys lobsters in this locality and therefore these companies can give whatever prices they choose. I have compiled and handed in a list of the grass lands and small islands in parish of Carna.

53862. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—How do you propose that drawback of having no competition for kelp and lobsters should be remedied?—With regard to the fish, curing stations should be established and private buyers would come in and buy.

53863. Why do you suppose they would come. If they will not come without any competition at all how will they come with the competition of the Congested Districts Board?—No, what we want is a curing-station for the place. The Board first purchased them at Roundstone and then left it to private buyers afterwards.

53864. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Did you hear one of the witnesses say that the people burning the kelp lost 25 per cent. by their own carelessness?—Yes; it was said they put sand and stones into it.

53865. Do you believe that?—I think that the price of the kelp must go by the supply.

53866. But the evidence was that if they would burn properly then they would get a price that would be 25 per cent. better—why don't they do that?—They burn the kelp in kilns seven feet long and three feet wide, and it burns the whole time day and night, and the kelp runs into liquid, and it is on that the loss is; but if a man instead of burning all the weed in one kiln made three or four kilns there would not be so much loss, because the kelp would be in little lumps, and would not stay burning long enough to run into liquid matter at all.

53867. It would be a better class of kelp, and at a better price?—A certain quantity of weed would make more kelp by burning in small kilns than in one large kiln.

53868. But the evidence was that when burned there would be less of it, and that way you would not get the price?—If instead of burning all in one kiln they burned in three or four kilns the burning would not be continued as long as in the big kiln, and there is a great waste, because in the small place most of the kelp would be a fine dust, and little would be lost. The reason the people prefer the large kilns, although they have more loss, is that in the continuous burning of the whole thing the kelp runs into a liquid mass, and all this dust is taken into the liquid mass.

53869. CHAIRMAN.—What is the price of kelp now?—It varies every year.

53870. Mr. Hazell says it has not varied for ten years. That is not your experience?—That is not my experience. A few people got £4 a ton. Most of the people get less than that.

53871. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Why is that?—£4 is only a nominal price. The general price is down to £3 15*s.*, £3 10*s.*, and £3. This year is the best, because last summer the weather was so wet that the people could not dry the weed, and there was not so much kelp made this year as other years. That is the reason why the price is so good this year.

53872. You have no explanation as to why one person gets a different price from another?—It is supposed it is the quality of the kelp, but it is not.

53873. CHAIRMAN.—Is some of the kelp better than other kelp?—The agent wants only certain kinds of weed in the kelp that is red weed and courlagh. He does not want the black weed on the foreshore. Any kelp containing black weed is called bad kelp. It is not altogether by the test they go in finding out whether the kelp is good or bad, but by getting information from the people around as to who is drying red weed or black weed, and so on, or a man from the agent goes round, and he sees a man drying weed for kelp, and there is a cock of black weed near it, then, without testing it at all, they would not give the full price.

53874. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Then that is the way they estimate the price? They don't rely on the test?—They don't.

53875. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—The tangle kelp always gets the highest price?—Yes. The information as to who is putting black weed in the kelp is mostly by spies. Sometimes this kelp when sent in by one man is rejected, and when brought in by a neighbour of this man later on it is taken from him.

53876. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—From that it would look as if they paid more attention to the

quality of the man than to the quality of the kelp?—That is so.

53877. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—What the agent goes by is the quality of the man?—Yes. I know another case in which a man was reported to the agent for cutting black weed, and there were two men of the same Christian name and the same surname in the locality, and it was the wrong man was put down for it, and his kelp would not be taken at all from him, although he had good kelp, and it was sent home. Then he sent it down to two or three neighbours in lots of three or four hundredweight, and it was taken all right.

53878. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—So the adulteration consists in putting less valuable kelp into the more valuable kelp, and putting in the black weed instead of the tangle?—Yes. Of course, I have no sympathy at all with people putting in stones.

53879. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You heard Mr. Hazell talk of a scientific test. Did you ever know any man who saw the test applied or who knows what it is?—I saw the test a few times, but of course I don't know what it is.

53880. What did he do?—He tested it in a glass. He broke a bit of the kelp, and put it into a glass and poured some liquid over it that would dissolve it. That was the test that I saw.

53881. Does he not fix the price before he does that?—No. He fixes it afterwards. I have known times where his test failed. I was not there at the time, but I heard it.

53882. CHAIRMAN.—How many buyers are there?—I only know the one company that buys here. That company has an agent here. He has sub-agents, and they buy for him.

53883. Mr. Hazell told us that there was another buyer here who was not giving as good a price as he was giving. Have you heard of such a person?—Not in this parish or Roundstone parish. Hazell is the only buyer of kelp round here; but there was a company started a few years ago buying dried seaweed here, and they used to give 1*s.* 6*d.* a cwt. for it. This stuff was stored at Roundstone. The company held on for a few years. They are not buying now. When the company was buying the dried seaweed Mr. Hazell commenced buying it, and he gave 1*s.* 7½*d.* a cwt. for it, and he held on for a couple of years, but when the other company stopped buying the dried seaweed they stopped it.

53884. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—1*s.* 7½*d.* for dried seaweed; how much would that be for dried kelp?—It is considered that 5 cwt. of dried seaweed would make a cwt. of kelp.

53885. That would be more than £7 a ton?—Yes. The company gave £7 for as much seaweed as would make a ton of kelp. He stopped when they stopped.

53886. Do you think would he be able to pay that money now?—I am sure he would, and that if the other company commenced buying the seaweed to-morrow Mr. Hazell would commence buying again.

53887. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—How long ago is this?—Only within the last couple of years.

53888. Can you at all remember what was being paid for kelp at the time this man started buying dried seaweed?—He gave a very good price for it. He gave up to £4 10*s.* a ton for it. The year that the company started buying seaweed he gave a good price for the kelp, whether it was good or bad.

53889. Are we to understand that when this man started buying seaweed the kelp itself manufactured was £4 10*s.* a ton?—Yes; he gave £4 10*s.*, the highest price, and reduced very few people that year. It mostly depends on the supply. Before the mackerel and herring fishing began all the people were at kelp-making. The price was very low at that time. That is over seven years ago. A few at the first of the season would get £4, but at the end of the season, about August or September, they would get down to £2 or £1 10*s.* a ton. I saw kelp sold for £1 a ton. Then a lot of the young men went to join the mackerel and herring fishing, and there was not so much made. Since then any season that the mackerel and herring fishing are good the price of kelp is good, too, because the usual amount of kelp is not made.

53890. Do I understand that, in your view, the more successful the fishing the less kelp is produced?—That is my experience, and the price goes up.

53891. The better the fishing the higher the price of kelp?—Yes. If the three industries were kept on, mackerel and herring and lobster fishing, there would be a good price all round.

53892. You have handed in some figures as to grazing lands in Carna parish. I see from them that a Mr. Hazell has three lots, amounting in all to about 3,000 acres. Is that the same man who appeared here to-day?—That is the same man.

53893. So he is both a grazier and a kelp agent?—Yes, and a land agent.

53894. Mr. BRYCE.—Does it pay the people better to sell the weed at 1*s.* 6*d.* a cwt. or to sell the kelp at £4 a ton?—They would rather sell the weed at 1*s.* 6*d.* a cwt. if they got a permanent buyer.

53895. What do you consider the equivalent price at 1*s.* 6*d.* a cwt. of the dried weed would be in kelp?—£7 10*s.* a ton. The man who was buying it fixed the price at £7 10*s.* for as much dried seaweed as would make a ton of kelp.

53896. You think that that perhaps explains why it was that Mr. Hazell said that he would not like the Government to come here and buy dried seaweed?—It would not do any harm, because when you buy the dried seaweed for a while the other company buys it.

53897. If the people get £7 10*s.* for dried weed instead of £4 for kelp it is quite clear that the company which makes the iodine is not going to make so much out of it if they buy the dried weed?—They won't make so much out of it, but the people would get a better price. They would rather sell it for 1*s.* 6*d.* a cwt. than make kelp of it.

53898. Do you think it would relieve congestion if the Berridge Estate was bought?—Yes. The Berridge and Nolan Estates should be purchased by the Congested Districts Board.

53899. How would that relieve the congests?—Because there are some grazing farms on the Berridge Estate and they could transfer some of the people out of it.

53900. Could any use be made for the cattle of the people down in this region out of that long stretch of mountain to the south of Recess?—Yes.

53901. Would not that be too far away for the people here to send their cattle?—No. There are people in Mweenish at present sending their cattle up to the mountains at this side of Recess. These mountains are not fenced and the people must go once a day to look at these cattle, especially in the winter. Then they will carry a couple of sheafs of straw or a little bit of hay and feed them in a certain place, so that they will stay in the vicinity of that place and not stray away, but where there are no boundaries they must go every day to look after them, up to near Recess, to these mountains you speak of, where they keep sheep and cattle, so that they will know where to find them if they go looking for them.

53902. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—That is the reason you are advocating that although the land should be striped for turbary the commonage should be well fenced?—Yes; to keep cattle and sheep.

53903. Would you have a herd there or anybody to look after them?—There would be no need whatever.

53904. If you fence off this place you must have gates?—Yes.

53905. Who is to mind the gates?—The people themselves.

53906. You propose, I think, rightly, that where the land is taken up for that purpose a good fence should be run at the expense of the Congested Districts Board around the place?—Round the mountains.

53907. You must have gates?—One or two gates.

53908. Who is to be responsible for keeping those gates closed. You will have a dozen or twenty people concerned. What is everybody's business is nobody's business, and I want to know who is to mind the gate to prevent other people turning in their cattle?—That is a matter of detail that could be arranged afterwards.

53909. That is an important matter, because there is no use in having a fence unless the gate is closed?—Everyone minds his own cattle.

53910. How can that be done if the men are down here and the cattle up there?—The people go at regular times, once a day or every second day to look after them.

Sept. 21, 1907.

Mr. Joseph Kelly.

Mr. Joseph Kelly examined.

53911. Chairman.—Where do you live?—In Cashel. I am a schoolmaster there. Having been deputed by a committee at Roundstone, of men selected to aid in the subject of healing the ills begotten of congestion, and the deplorable state of the country arising out of the wretched land system which prevails, I most respectfully beg to submit my views. I have been for over twenty-five years an inhabitant of the "congested districts" of Connemara. But can I, in a strict sense, call these districts congested, which embrace so many thousands of acres, broad acres which appear never to have been intended by God or nature for the habitation of men. Yet on these many thousands of people are doomed to live and toil, trying to cultivate little patches, between the boundless wastes of bog and swamp, and to extract from them by excessive toil and manuring, a scanty and unhealthy crop, chiefly of very inferior potatoes, for no other farm crop will thrive even as well. Here and there among the boundless wastes may be found some tracts, more or less large, of a much better quality. None such are now in the possession of the smaller tenants. They are the lands made fertile by the small tenants and their fathers in years gone by, and from which they were driven out, that they might, by reclaiming the more barren patches among the rocks and swamps, create some large farms for others and thus increase the landlord's proceeds, at the cost of more than human toil and privation to themselves. These are usually farmed by some professional gentleman or local merchant. Many such transfers I remember well to have been, during some twenty-five years or so, which preceded the twenty-five years I have referred to above, as having been passed in Connemara, I have seen it in a district almost similarly circumstanced. My province here is rather to give my views as to the means which, if adopted, some amends for past outrages on a nation might be made, and the comfort and well-being of the people might be, in a measure, secured. The first remedy I should suggest would be compulsory purchase from the landlords. While these gentlemen stand as they have stood, exclusively aloof from the people, knowing nothing and caring less about their wants and their miseries, prosperity cannot come till they are bought out, at the all-round fair value of their mountains and barren rocks, and anything that is of any value as land in them is distributed among the unfortunate tenantry. I shall just relate how the present "rent" is made out, even allowing that the Land Commissioners have in many cases fixed what, in their opinion, is a "fair rent." It is paid in dollars, exchanged for British money, sent from America by the sons and daughters of the poor people of Connemara, who thus enable the old and the younger members at home to keep, as they invariably term it, "the roof over their heads," Compulsory Purchase, as there appears no sign of voluntary sale or purchase, and which will revive an interest on the part of the tenants, long ago destroyed by the system that has prevailed, is, I am convinced, the first and most essential step towards remedy. A reprehensible landlord practice was established and prevails invariably in the district from which I come—Cashel—as also in other parts. Each little holding, called a "stripe" is occupied by two or more tenants, so that if any fails—as many must do in adverse seasons—in being able to pay the rent, the co-tenant's rent will not be accepted without that of his yoke-fellow, so he must redeem the whole "stripe" or suffer the horrors of eviction. These carry with them in Ireland, a painfulness unknown in other countries. They leave no resource but the emigrant ship, when available, or the union workhouse. By what Department should Compulsory Purchase be made? Purchase, in any form should be, in the interests of the people, made through the Congested Districts Board. Our country is blessed (?) with an excessive number of Boards and Departments, many of which are sadly wanting in efficiency. We have seen so much good work, so much material progress accrue from the presence of the Congested Districts Board in the localities they have purchased that all in this district earnestly desire and hope that these benefits may operate among themselves in the near future. Dissolution of the Congested Districts Board, or even merging it in with another Department would materially hamper the situation and would probably transfer the most successful operations of this Board and their staff, into the hands of others more foreign to the duties they would have to discharge, and therefore less inspiring of the popular confidence. This in itself would be a great hindrance to that progress which is so urgent. The Department of Agriculture has left almost untouched the district I come from. An instructress of the Department lectured here, for some six or eight weeks, a few years ago, but, in my opinion, without any permanently useful effect. A technical subject must be taught more practically and sustained till it makes some lasting impression, otherwise it is almost worthless. The poverty of the people, begotten through the circumtances I have stated, is mainly responsible for serious shortcomings in other respects. All that the land system has left is unerringly reckoned and valued by the local shopkeeper. Even sometimes the landlord himself is "done" out of the Shakesperian "pound of flesh." The local magnate anticipates him and captures it, at the value he, himself, will lay on. Such are the men of dubious prosperity in Connemara, and from which the Bench and the public Boards are filled. Even the poor man's vote, which the Legislature has conferred on him as a safeguard to his freedom, is not his own. It must be recorded in favour of the man in whose "books" he is, otherwise a closing of the "books" and a process or perhaps a writ will follow. This matter was brought before you by an impartial witness a few days ago. Among the Industrial Resources I would reckon our valuable and extensive tracts of green and other marble. They are worked on a small scale, but the scale should be extended and developed. The valuable granite too is another resource entirely neglected. The manufacture of peat, as in Donegal, might be tried. Frequent wet years would render it remunerative. Kelp-making is of considerable importance on other parts of our coast. In this district of Cashel it is almost nil for local reasons, and the little which can be obtained is of inferior quality. A school of lace-making or needlework, such as those in other parts of Connemara, would benefit materially this district, and perhaps retard emigration among girls as they grow up. A woollen factory here would also tend to retain the young men; but for all that may be seen from the present outlook, I could not see my way to say to any young men "do not emigrate."

53912. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—How long have you been living at Cashel?—Twenty-five years.

53913. Do the people speak Irish up there?—Yes.

53914. Do you teach it in your school?—Yes.

53915. Have you any manual instruction in your school?—I have a carpentry school, which I conduct myself.

53916. Was it Mr. Tuke first spoke to you about it?—I spoke to Mr. Tuke, and it has been developed.

53917. Sir John Colomb.—Do you think it would be a good thing if the National schools gave some agricultural education to the boys?—Unquestionably.

53918. Would you think it a good system to have a good plot attached to the school and make the boys work on it, under the intelligent supervision of a master, for the production of vegetables?—Unquestionably it would be a good system, because technical subjects like farming cannot be taught theoretically. Formerly, under the old system, we taught it theoretically from books, and it was of very little use.

53919. As you agree it would be a good thing to have a plot to grow vegetables do you think it would be a good plan that the schoolmistress should teach these girls how to cook those vegetables so as to have good food soups and so on at home?—Yes, but the difficulty about that is the room for cooking. The schoolhouses are very limited.

53920. But suppose you put up a little galvanised kitchen, arranged just like the homes of the girls, do you think it would be a good plan that the schoolmistress should teach the girls how to cook and give a meal to the children?—It would be an excellent plan.

53921. Do you see any great difficulty in carrying out a programme like that?—The only difficulty is the building, and perhaps some qualification may be necessary to enable them to cook properly.

53922. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—What Sir John suggests commends itself to you if you had the room and the teacher with the qualifications to give the

instruction?—Yes, We had, some four years ago, an instructress from the County Council under the Department. The instruction was given in the workshop, conducted by me. It was too theoretical and of little value. Later on we had one from the Congested Districts Board, who did much better.

53923. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Less theoretical and more practical?—More practical, and perhaps less theoretical.

53924. Mr. BRYCE.—Do you think it would be a great advantage to the school children if they had some food given them—do you think they would be able to learn better?—They would be able to learn better unquestionably; and yet, by this system of giving them food in schools, their little pride is touched, and I consider that some better means could be devised than by supplying food in schools. Unfortunately, we had to fall back on that some years ago—five or six times since I came to Cashel.

53925. What other means would you suggest?—If their condition was improved school feeding would not become necessary.

53926. What is the percentage of those on your rolls who attend the schools?—About sixty-two. We have the compulsory clause of the Education Act in force in the Clifden Union.

53927. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—It is actually in force?—Yes, for the last year. It has improved the percentage of attendance.

53928. Mr. BRYCE.—What was the percentage before the compulsory clause was put in force?—From fifty to fifty-five; now it is from sixty to sixty-five. Then the number on the rolls is much higher, because there are some who remained outside, and did not attend at all.

53929. So, altogether, there is a very large improvement?—Yes.

53930. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You were a school teacher at the time the parents had to pay fees?—I was.

53931. Is it your experience that the parents were more anxious and more insistent upon the children attending the school when they had to pay fees than when the fees were abolished?—It is not my experience at all, because we got very little fees in Connemara; but we had, unfortunately, to enter fees as received so as to secure instalments on the results system. We had to invent fees.

53932. To get results you had to put down fees which were never got?—Yes.

53933. Mr. BRYCE.—What is the percentage of illiteracy in this parish?—The percentage among the rising generation is very small. Among the older generation it is considerable.

53934. But, altogether, you are at present satisfied with the way in which education is going on?—I am not satisfied with the system which was introduced. When the new system was being introduced we expected to get something more practical. Instead of that we got what we call Bevisism, after the name of the inventor, Mr. Bevis, which consists of paper-folding, and nonsense of that kind, that a man of my age believes to be practically no good. Of course there is something educational in it; but the amount of education which it gives is not worth the time that it requires. Better could be devised.

53935. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You would prefer something that would lead up to the occupations of life?—Yes.

Mr. MARTIN MONGAN examined.

53936. CHAIRMAN.—You live at Carna?—Yes.

53937. What is your occupation?—I am a farmer, and I keep a small hotel and shop.

53938. What do you want to tell us?—What I would like most to impress on you is the desirability of improving the fishing industry.

53939. I suppose you would agree with the previous witnesses?—Yes—Father M'Hugh. I used to deal in kelp myself.

53940. Did you act as agent?—Yes. I get a lot of it made already in the parish. I know something about it.

53941. Do you buy it now yourself?—No, but I used to. I get it made up and sold to this agent, Mr. Hazell.

53942. You act as sub-agent?—No. I employ the men, and get the kelp made and sell it to Mr. Hazell. I used to sell it to another firm for five or six years. I sold it to a firm in Guernsey, but the gentleman who bought it went away owing to his ill-health.

53943. How do you set about getting and preparing the weed—what do you do?—I employ men. I am a tenant of some islands convenient, where there is supposed to be the best kelp-weed in Connemara. I employ men to collect it and to work it. The way I employ them is this: I supply the boats and weed, and give them some little assistance, and I get one-third of the earnings and they get two-thirds. The kelp is sold in my name.

53944. It is collected in your private boats?—Yes; and I supply the weed.

53945. The seaweed is burned on your land?—Yes.

53946. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Does the seaweed grow on the land?—On the foreshore; very near the land in some places. They burn it for themselves, and when it is sold I get one-third of the profits.

53947. Do you see that they prepare it properly?—As a rule I do if I possibly can.

53948. You keep your eye on them?—I do as well as I can; but I cannot be always there.

53949. You know pretty well that the particular kelp which you sell is very good kelp?—It is considered some of the best quality; I get the best price.

53950. What price do you get?—I get £4. When I myself was buying I was giving £4 10s. At that time Mr. Hazell was giving £5, because I was buying.

53951. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You were squeezed out?—The firm was squeezed out. I was not. The gentleman got ill.

53952. What do you think is the average amount that a good kelper would make in a season?—The present summer was very wet and very bad for making kelp, so that the price was fairly good, as good as it was for the last five or six years. There was one man working for me for a couple of months, and I think he gave me £10 and himself £20, but he had a good family, and he was a good hard-working man.

53953. That was earned not only by the man but by his family?—Yes.

53954. What did his family consist of?—He had three boys and himself, who were off and on between them collecting the seaweed and looking after the farm. Two or three months was occupied in this way, as near as I could go.

53955. Was that all the labour employed or had they any other help?—That was all—himself and his two sons.

53956. CHAIRMAN.—As you were engaged in this industry here I suppose it would not be likely that anybody in the place here save Mr. Hazell would come to buy kelp without your hearing of it?—That could not be.

53957. Have you heard lately of anybody buying the kelp except Mr. Hazell?—Not in this parish since I was buying it.

53958. How long ago is that?—About five years ago. There is a man named O'Flaherty in Aran that buys kelp for some firm. That is all that is in Connemara or perhaps in Connaught.

53959. Why do you think is it that nobody else comes in opposition?—I could not tell you, really.

53960. Do you think there is any arrangement?—I heard there was. That this company for which Mr. Hazell acts as agent bought all the small companies out; but that I have only from hearsay.

53961. When you yourself were buying had you any reason to suppose that the firm you were acting for had any sort of arrangement?—Upon my word I have no reason to believe it; because the gentleman wrote to me as he was only a single man, and in bad health, he had to give up the business. His name was Mr. Belt, of St. Mark's, in Guernsey Island, and he wrote me since that if his health improves he would take to it again.

53962. Did he put a limit of price to which you might go?—I promised him I would be able to supply him with so many hundred tons of kelp at £4 10s. a ton. He took my word, and I supplied the kelp, and he wrote to me to say that he was very thankful.

53963. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You were able to keep your contract on your side?—I expect so. I did not lose anything myself.

Sept. 21, 1907.

Mr. Martin Mongan.

53964. You supplied it all?—Yes, every pound, and he paid me every penny arranged on.

53965. Have you any idea what kelp was a ton at that time?—Mr. Hazell gave £5, though I could only afford to give £4 10*s*. There were some people who did not give £5 or anything like it, but he did give £5 on some occasions.

53966. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Did this come under your observation, that within recent years there was a company buying the dried seaweed?—Not in this parish, but in Roundstone, the adjoining parish. My weed was sold there by my men, and it paid them one and a half times as well. We make a good deal of kelp, and five tons of my sort of weed which I dry myself and burn honestly without any mixture would make a ton of kelp that would bring £4. If I got 1*s*. 6*d*. a cwt. for the weed it would make £7 a ton, as the 10*s*. would cover the expenses of the men going to Roundstone with the boat.

53967. Did your men do that occasionally?—Not for me. I kept to the same firm, but the people who took seaweed from my shore that I had sold to them brought it back to their own advantage. They had nothing to do with me.

53968. Chairman.—Did you make any test when buying?—No. I only took the test of my own opinion. I am dealing with kelp as long as I remember.

53969. Did you ever hear of some form of scientific test mentioned by Mr. Hazell?—I have it tested very often. They ground the kelp into powder, and put it into a glass and poured some vitriol on it, and then according to the way it boils they can tell whether it is right or wrong.

53970. Mr. Sutherland.—Had you reason to complain that these people acted dishonestly to you in not paying for the kelp?—No; I had not. I must say I firmly believe that some of the people put in what is not allowed. Some of them put in blackweed. I saw some of my own people doing it some years ago. I had to dismiss some of them, but that is not carried out now. It is very, very seldom that that occurs.

53971. The people dealing with you do not adulterate now?—Not that I know of. I sold it to Mr. Hazell this year, and he gave me full price, and I am very thankful to him.

53972. Chairman.—In those days you sold it to a gentleman in Guernsey?—Yes. He was in opposition to Mr. Hazell.

53973. Did you get a sub-contract from him now?—No, but I send over my kelp, and if it passes the test I get my price.

53974. You don't now take any other people's weed?—No; my men take in the seaweed, and go down with the kelp.

53975. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—And you are not paid until it is tested?—No. What I am anxious to say, and I say to the men, is—make it properly, and you will get the full price.

53976. Sir John Colomb.—You have in your dealings with Mr. Hazell satisfied him that you give good kelp, and he pays the best price?—Yes. My kelp is the best, and I get the best price.

53977. Mr. Bryce.—Mr. Hazell said that if the kelp were properly made it would be worth 25 per cent. more?—I think if you made it all into iodine you would not get a penny more.

53978. He said that if it was properly made a man would get 25 per cent. more?—He did not say that one man got one farthing more. I believe if it was all made into iodine you would not get a halfpenny more.

53979. Chairman.—Don't you think if you make yours of the proper quality you ought to get this 25 per cent.—I don't expect it. I am very lucky to get what I do get.

53980. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—When you were selling the kelp as agent to the gentleman in Guernsey did you represent at any time that you were at a disadvantage as compared with Mr. Hazell, as he was not allowing you to pay as much for the kelp as Mr. Hazell was paying?—I don't know whether I told him that or not, but I may have, because he was down here.

53981. I was anxious to find out from you whether this gentleman said he could not afford to give a bigger price?—I presume he would be able to buy it. It was going at £4, and I said I would be able to supply all the kelp he required at £4.

53982. Before this agreement between you and him the kelp was going at a top price of £4?—I could not exactly say whether it was £4 or £4 10*s*., but there are plenty of people here who know it. I believe it must have been £4 10*s*., and I believed I would be able to satisfy him by getting the best kelp. Knowing the men who had the best kelp, I convinced him I would give him the best kelp, and he was quite satisfied.

53983. Sir John Colomb.—You trusted to your knowledge and experience of the kelp to give him the best?—Yes.

53984. There was no scientific test?—Not a bit.

53985. You had to buy from a great number of kelp-makers?—Yes.

53986. Did you send anybody round to see whether the people were putting in black weed or not?—Yes.

53987. You think that that was necessary for your own protection?—I believe it did some good. I had some trustworthy men to see that this man or that man did not use bad weed, and I often went myself. I was younger then than now.

53988. In making a contract with all sorts of people to supply the kelp it is necessary for an agent to exercise supervision?—I would do the same thing to-morrow if I was promising to sell you kelp.

53989. Did the price drop when you gave up buying?—Immediately after, I believe.

53990. Mr. Sutherland.—How many hundred tons of kelp would this person produce in a good year; your contract with this Guernsey gentleman was for 500 or 600 tons?—Yes.

53991. You did not get the whole of it?—No, nor the one-third of it.

53992. So that probably the production of this parish would be 1,500 tons a year?—I believe it is never less, if it is a good season.

53993. Sir John Colomb.—Do you think would it be a good thing if, for instance, the Congested Districts Board at certain times, say once a month or once every six weeks, ascertained what price was being given in other counties, and let its people in every district know what price was being given for kelp?—I don't see what good that would do. They know that every week. They know it in Dublin as well as they know it here.

53994. My point is that suppose the price went up in other places they might know it, and it might be to their advantage?—You may be quite certain that there is no place in Connaught giving a bigger price because there is no firm, I might say, except the North British Company, except a man in Aran.

53995. Chairman.—Mr. Hazell said there were five firms buying?—Not here. Perhaps there might be in Donegal. There could not be in Connaught or would know it.

53996. Sir John Colomb.—Suppose the price of kelp in different districts was different, and you found a man here offering £4 a ton and a man somewhere else offering £5, don't you think it would give some help to have that made known?—Yes; but when you have only the man in the market what can you do? If you go to a fair to-morrow, and I am the only buyer, you must bring your cattle home again if you don't sell to me at my price.

53997. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—How much were your own men who were working for you able to make in a day on an average?—Two men would collect about three tons of seaweed on a good day like to-day of the best quality of seaweed. It would take eight boats of that to make a clear ton of kelp if there are no mixtures put in it, as far as I can judge.

Rev. Father M'Hugh.—It would take about twenty tons of wet weed to make a ton of kelp.

Witness.—It would take about eight boat loads of weed to make a ton of kelp if there are no mixture or anything put in it. That would be something like twenty-four tons of wet weed.

53999. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—It requires eight days to get a ton of kelp?—Two men would require eight days. Then it will take a week at least to dry that and to cock it.

54000. How much labour will go into the drying?—It all depends on the weather. If the weather were like this a man who cut seaweed to-day could cock that to-morrow, according to the state of the tide.

54001. There are eight days on the sea for two men cutting the weed, that is sixteen days for one man for a ton of kelp, and the ton is £4?—Yes, and then there is the burning of it. It would take a good deal

o burn the ton, and then a day or two to go to the tore with it.

54002. Then you get one-third?—Yes.

54003. On an average what have they for themelves?—You can calculate that; twenty-two days ltogether, and then you would require weather like his for it.

54004. If you got one-third they would have about s. 6*d.* a day?—If they were sure of that they would e paid well, but then they never do that. If there as bad weather they would take a month.

54005. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—As the seaweed is in ocks, suppose a gale of wind comes on do they lose t?—No. The wind never affects it. The rain is what ffects it.

54006. A previous witness said that the better the ishing the less kelp is produced and the higher the rice: do you agree with that?—No. I don't think hat would affect the price of kelp.

54007. In your experience you don't say that the ncrease of fishing reduces the quality of kelp proluced?—I don't think it does. There are only a few ittle boats here.

54008. Mr. BRYCE.—You are a shopkeeper here and ave opportunities of knowing the circumstances of he people. Do you think, contrasting the present imes with several years ago, are the people better off r worse off?—I think they are as well off.

54009. They are not worse off?—Not in my opinion.

54010. Do they pay cash more for the goods they buy n your shop or go into credit more?—I think they go nto credit a good bit.

54011. Any more than they used to?—I could not ay whether it is more or less.

54012. How long is it before the people pay up? Suppose a man buys £1 worth of goods in the course f a month, how long is it before he pays cash for it? —It may be for years, perhaps.

54013. Suppose your turnover was £1,000 a year, ow much of the £1,000 would be outstanding at the nd of the year?—I don't think it would be less than £300. The people are very honest, but sometimes they annot afford it. If they have got a good year at the ishing or the kelp, or they have land or stock they will pay up, but I might say we have very little real and. I have thousands of acres of land and would ot be able to support a cat on it.

54014. Mr. KAVANAGH.—I suppose you have very ew really bad debts, and that it is only a matter of ime?—It is only a matter of time. Some time ago our people went away to America on the free emigration, and that gave us a great sweep. I suppose here was £300 or £400 that I never expect to see.

54015. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You dropped hat amount?—Yes. I think it is a great deal more han that.

54016. Is that in cases where families were cleared away and died out?—No. They went away to America.

54017. Don't you find on the whole that people who go to America and who are directly responsible for debts and who come to have some money on the whole are very good at paying?—Yes. If some of the family go to America and the others stop at home they are very proud and like to keep their credit very high, but at the time of the emigration years ago, when Mr. Duke was here, when he brought a lot of the people out of the country, bag and baggage, the debts were brought away with them, and I never saw the money afterwards.

54018. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—A good many of them remit home in other places?—A great many of them did not come here. There were a lot of them sent away out of this place; a good crop for themselves.

54019. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Would you be inclined to give up, on being fairly remunerated for it, any land you have that would be useful for the parish?—I would. I gave some land to the Congested Districts Board at Knockboy, on which they expended £9,000 or £10,000, and if they buy more land from me, giving me fair compensation, I will give it to them.

54020. You would not advise them to repeat the experiment?—That is their own business. I had Knockboy. It was an evictead farm belonging to a friend of mine. I got it, and the parish priest that was here got me to give it to the Board.

54021. I think the Board was not the original purchaser. It came as an evil inheritance to the Board? —Something like that.

54022. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Would you be inclined to buy it back again?—I would, but at a very poor rate. There was an Englishman bought it for £1,100, and within twelve months he was evicted; and that was the only eviction I saw in Connemara for twenty years, and that was done by the Board. What the kelp industry will be we don't know after to-day or to-morrow, but if you want to do us good in this district there is one thing that will not fail if we get any help, and that is the fish. I was the first man ever brought a fishing boat to this place. I have a few of them, but what we require is some sort of convenience for bringing the fish to market. If there was a motor service from here to Rosmuck and Kilkerrin I believe that this place would be resorted to by fishing boats. I have not the slightest doubt in the world about that.

54023. CHAIRMAN.—What do you want to establish—a fresh trade or a curing trade?—We would like a curing station at Crumpaun. There is a natural pond below at the pier, of about two acres, and if that were arranged a motor service, provided fish landed to-night, could be sent on to Dublin in the morning.

54024. Would not it do if a steamer stopped at Kilkerrin?—We had a steamer before and all the telegrams in the world would not send up a dozen of lobsters if you had not some way of sending them up.

54025. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you mean a motor service for shell-fish for certain periods of the year? —I believe it would pay for the whole year.

54026. What you say is that the greatest loss is in connection with shell-fish on account of the want of transit?—Yes; lobsters and herrings principally.

54027. With your knowledge of the county I suppose that you know that the first thing to do is to strengthen the bridges and improve the roads for a motor service. Do you think would the County Council give a substantial contribution towards that?— I know very well, as one of the District Councillors, we would give a little at all events, and I know very little would be expended on the road from this to Maam Cross. That would do us. We take in the Oughterard as well as the Clifden district. The valuation of one is £150,000, and of the other £170,000, and a penny in the £ would produce £135. If we got £135 I believe we could do what is necessary.

54028. Would you put the road in order for £135? —I believe we would. That is for the fish. We would send it to market that way.

54029. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It seems that a moderate sum would put it in order?—It would. Very little would be necessary; but it is nonsense for me to put this to Lord Dudley who travels the place very often.

54030. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Did you ever drive in a motor car on that road?—Indeed I did not. I never sat in a motor car, and I suppose I never will.

The Commission adjourned.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH PUBLIC SITTING.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH, 1907,

AT 11.0 O'CLOCK A.M.,

At the Schoolhouse, Spiddal.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (in the Chair); The Right Hon. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL, G.C.S.I.; The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL; CONOR O'KELLY, Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.; ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esq.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Sept. 24, 1907.

Rev. Mark Conroy examined.

Rev. Mark Conroy.

54031. CHAIRMAN.—You are Parish Priest of Spiddal?—Yes.

54031. You have been nominated by the County Council?—I have been asked by the Galway County Council to give evidence before this Commission. As a native of West Galway, I have during twenty years taken a practical interest in the congested areas of Cararroe, Rosmuck, Killanin, and Spiddal, in which successively I have had or have spiritual charge. In the congested districts of East Galway, where, as in most of the congested areas of Ireland, congested divisions are surrounded by fertile tracts of grazing lands suitable for the relief of congestion by the enlargement of holdings at present uneconomic, the problem of congestion is comparatively easy of solution. But the conditions are entirely different on the seaboard of West Galway, where, in spite of emigration, the population, not less, I believe, than in the pre-Famine days, and occupying in rundale totally insufficient quantities of land of the worst quality, are confined between the ocean and the mountains, and where in many localities grazing lands for the enlargement of uneconomic holdings are almost non-existent. On West Galway seaboard the evil of congestion is at its acutest, but the Congested Districts Board, while it has in some places expended large sums of money, on engineering works especially, has not done much to solve the problem of congestion, and the Estates Commissioners, a body created for the purpose, among other objects, of remedying the evils of what has been called the rigid and rotten community system on slum estates, have helped but little in the solution of the problem. If we are to hope for better results in the future compulsory powers of land purchase must be conferred on these bodies. The extent to which migration would be necessary would depend on the possibility of establishing at Costello Bay and other bays similarly favoured by nature, communities living chiefly on fishing and kindred industries—kelp-making, Carrigeen moss jelly making, and other industries relating to the sea. On account of the strong winds and the ground swells of the western seaboard and the migratory habits of the fish, fishing in local waters in small boats of the "nobby" class is difficult to make a success, as appears from the recent report of the Fishery Commissioners; but the fishing and other industries of Ireland, now decadent under foreign rule, flourished under the fostering care of a home Government.

54033. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Is it known that fishing ever flourished in this part of Ireland?—It is, Sir Antony. Fishing was very flourishing at Costello Bay.

54034. But in Spiddal, in the district between here and Galway?—I do not know that it ever flourished here. I am not aware of it. The younger men of the suggested fishing stations should be enabled to follow the migratory fish around the British coasts, as do the Scotch, French, Manx, and other fishermen. Curing stations should be established. The wretched rundale system should be abolished, in some places by striping, in other places by exchange of plots, and in other instances by an amalgamation of holdings facilitated by loans on easy terms from the Congested Districts Board. In this way the holdings would be rendered much more productive, fences would be maintained, mountain land would be gradually reclaimed, and a sense of exclusive ownership of self-contained holdings would lead to improvements in the houses and surroundings as well as of the land. In National schools and technical instruction classes great importance should be attached to domestic economy suited to the actual conditions of the people, and a knowledge of the common diseases of animals, especially swine, should be imparted. Potato blight and swine disease are the two great causes of periodic distress in West Galway, and the immediate urgent need of the country is to make an end of these two scourges. Advice and encouragement should be given for the improvement of the egg and poultry business, and the celebrated Connemara ponies should be spared, and not improved out of existence. The success of the crochet classes at Spiddal and Costello show the importance of promoting other suitable home industries. The experience of this locality confirms the report from all sides of the success of the Parish Committee system, but the funds allocated to the Joint Parish Committee of the two parishes in this neighbourhood have been quite inadequate. In this country, where industries were killed by Acts of the English Parliament, I believe, with Mr. Micks in his report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, that the work of the Department should not be purely educational, but the Department should advise and encourage by financial aid the starting of industries, as otherwise it will be only educating young men and women at the expense of Ireland for the benefit of other countries to which they must emigrate. Those who successfully set up the Galway Woollen Factory, and the Galway Granite and Marble Works have done something to stop emigration and promote the welfare of the people. The recent Viceregal Poor Law Commission has recommended the establishment of local cottage hospitals. To such hospitals I am strongly opposed. They would be a great expense on the county without any adequate return. They are seldom needed in a purely agricultural county, where accidents endangering life or limb are not frequent as in mining or manufacturing districts. In most or all cases a patient fit to be removed to the local hospital could equally well go to the union or county hospital. In the rare cases where he could not be so removed to a distance he could be as well treated in his home with the services of a district nurse, and such local hospitals would sometimes be not well-conducted, and would not inspire confidence. The district nurses sent by Lady Dudley's Committee have saved many lives as well as relieved much suffering, have instilled ideas of sanitary science, and have exercised humanizing influences. Their presence in sufficient numbers would go far to obviate the necessity for local hospitals, and they should be assisted by the Congested Districts Board. Without cheap and fast transit

acilities there can be no progress on this sea-board, nd no successful fishing or other industry. The ailway from Galway to Clifden is practically useless o the great bulk of the population of Connemara iving on the sea-board between Galway and Roundtone; and it is well known that Mr. Arthur Balfour o declared when he travelled through Connemara fter the railway was built. A railway from Newastle, near Galway, to Costello, some twenty miles, t a cost of about £100,000 would serve not alone he population of 20,000 between Galway and Carraroe nd adjacent islands, but also the Aran Islands, to vhich Costello is the nearest point of the mainland, and vould, in the opinion of competent authorities on he subject, be a good paying line. The facts and igures of the case are easily ascertainable. From Galway to Carraroe there is practically no ublic conveyance of any sort. The people of Costello, Carraroe, and adjacent islands are cut away rom markets and from the outer world. From Inverin, a distance of fifteen miles, women may be seen carrying their baskets of eggs, poultry, or other goods to Galway on Fridays and walking home on Saturday, after the market, carrying home sometimes some fever that was lurking in the poor lodging-houses they occupied the previous night. Failing a railway, a road motor train service would probably meet the requirements of the district. It is claimed for the latest motor transport system that the traction power being distributed over the entire length of the train the engine is consequently not heavy, and avoids damage to the highways and bridges, and that each wagon being propelled instead of drawn, the train can surmount gradients impossible to any traction engine. The great need of transit facilities between Galway, Spiddal, Costello, and Carraroe was recognised by the Galway County Council when a few years ago they agreed to vote £1,000 to put the road in order for the Iveagh and Pirrie motor scheme, but clearly such a burden should not be thrown upon the already over-taxed ratepayers, and the money should come from the Treasury as some atonement for the sad neglect of this poor district in the past. Someone has said that the ancient Romans were great and progressive because they were a law-making and a road-making people, because, in other words, they made their own laws and provided themselves with the best transit facilities, which being applied would mean that the people of this country can only became progressive and prosperous when they are let manage their own affairs according to Irish ideas.

54035. Mr. O'Kelly.—Are the rates in Galway excessive?—I think they are high for a poor county like Galway.

54036. You think they are high?—Yes.

54037. Looking at the rates of the various unions in Galway?—Yes.

54038. Would you say that 1*s.* 10*d.* on land is an excessive rate?—In some unions.

54038A. What was the length of road on which you proposed to have this motor service running?—About twenty miles.

54039. Do you think £1,000 would fit it for that motor traffic?—The County Council thought so.

54040. Chairman.—You said that, in your opinion, the fishing and kelp industries should be encouraged?—Yes.

54041. And that it was only when they had been encouraged that you could really tell how far migration was necessary?—Yes, my lord.

54042. Well, in answer to a question of Sir Antony you said that you were not aware that fishing had ever been prosperous between Spiddal and Galway?—I am not aware of it between Spiddal and Galway. I know that there was a good deal of fishing in Costello Bay.

54043. But on the Galway side of Costello Bay is there any place which could be regarded as a harbour? There is a harbour in Spiddal, but it is unfortunately very shallow at present as the sand gets into it.

54044. Do you think that this coast lends itself to fishing development?—I think it does. At present Spiddal Harbour is used more as a harbour of refuge for boats from Rosmuck, Carna, and other districts going to Galway with turf.

54045. They run in here?—They run in here, and fishing boats from the Claddagh and Galway put in here. For the last week about twenty boats each night from the Claddagh have put into the harbour.

54046. Is there any fishing going on on this coast?—Only in a small way.

54047. With lines or nets?—With nets, not much.

54048. They do not fish?—No, except in a small way.

54049. Have the Board ever attempted to develop the fishing here?—Not between Costello and Galway, but at Costello there were some efforts made.

54050. But did the men give up the boats—were the efforts unsuccessful. There appeared to be a general misunderstanding. The boatmen complained of a lot of things. At all events the thing was not a success.

54041. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—What class of boats had they?—Nobbies.

54052. Is the Greencastle yawl used at all?—No; not on this coast.

54053. Chairman.—When they were trying to develop the fishing at Costello Bay did the Board attempt to make use of the local canoes and give them nets which the men could use from the canoes?—No; there was no effort of that kind made.

54054. Do you think that the men on these coasts are more likely to fish if they use the canoe than if they use the nobby?—They think the small boat quite as good, and that an effort ought to be made to improve the fishing that way.

54055. You also said that you thought a fishing community should be established, and that they should follow the fish, as they do in other countries?—It is the general idea that it would be very hard to make the fishing industry more than precarious if something like that was not done.

54056. How would you set about doing that—because that is exactly the difficulty, is it not—how could you establish a fishing community of that sort unless you had regular villages and harbours good enough to keep big boats there at all states of the tide?—The harbour of Costello is a beautiful harbour. It was made by the Board of Works, and it is one of the few good works they did. And there is a large population in the immediate vicinity.

54057. But no railway?—No, there is not.

54058. Is not a railway a necessity for a fishing village, pure and simple?—I believe it, and the people living round Costello Bay in my parish have very little land, and that land is of the worst kind, and so if they turned to fishing they would be practically living on the fishing.

54059. Costello Bay may be good enough for fishing boats, but a steamer could not come in there at all. It is too rocky and shallow for that?—Oh, I do not think so.

54060. Could a steamer come in?—I think the Channel Fleet could almost come into it. There is no better bay than Costello Bay on the west coast of Ireland.

54061. Could a steamer stocked with fish enter it?—Oh, certainly, my lord. And, of course, it ought to be the landing place for the steamer from Aran. Instead of the steamer going to Galway it ought to land at Costello Bay.

54062. What would be the use of that?—Because it is so much nearer.

54063. If there was a railway?—If there was a railway.

54064. What is the distance from Kilronan to Costello Bay?—I think about nine miles, and from Kilronan to Galway it is, I suppose, about thirty miles.

54065. Mr. Kavanagh.—Clear water?—All clear water. It is a most excellent bay.

54066. Chairman.—Then about kelp. Do they do kelp-burning along this coast?—Not in Costello.

54067. Does the weed come in or does it grow on the shore?—The weed is not very plentiful, and the weed they have is almost necessary for the manuring of the land.

54068. When you were speaking of the advantages of the kelp industry you were not referring to this place?—I was not speaking of this particular district, although they could do something of that kind at Costello, because they could go out and take the necessary seaweed from the deep water as in other places.

54069. Do they burn it at Costello?—No.

54070. Is there no kelp-burning going on there?—No, there is not.

54071. Sir John Colomb.—In recent times has there

Sept. 24, 1907.

Rev. Mark Conroy.

been any kelp-burning on that part of the coast?—No, not that I am aware of.

54072. I suppose that is because there is not sufficient weed?—I think this particular weed is not growing on the coast, but of course in other parts of Connemara they go out each day regularly, and take the weed from the rocks along the coast.

54073. I understood you to say that a local hospital would not be popular?—I did not use the word "popular," but I said that in some cases it would not inspire as much confidence as the Union hospital would, or the Galway County Hospital, for instance.

54074. CHAIRMAN.—You said something about rundale?—Yes.

54075. Is there much rundale about here?—Oh, yes; nearly all rundale.

54076. Has not a property about here been sold?—Yes.

54077. Direct to the tenants?—Yes.

54078. Was there rundale upon the estate?—Yes; not much, sir.

54079. Do you know of any cases here in which after a property has passed from the landlord to the tenants it is still in rundale?—No.

54080. Would it be difficult to effect a direct sale if there was rundale—would that in itself be sufficient to prevent it?—I think it ought.

54081. I mean would the tenants refuse to buy direct from the landlord?—I think they would not buy it if they had sufficient intelligence.

54082. When they bought how did they manage—did they try amongst themselves to re-arrange the rundale?—There has been no instance in which an estate has been bought in rundale.

54083. Then it might be that the existence of rundale was not in itself a block to the sale. If they did buy an estate with rundale on it what would happen on that estate—would the rundale be stereotyped, or would any attempt be made to re-arrange it?—I hope it would not be stereotyped, for that would be a bar to all progress.

54084. How could it be re-arranged—is it possible for the tenants to do it?—I have suggested three ways in which it could be done—first, striping.

54085. That assumes another authority?—It does, but I think the tenants would consent to it in a great many cases.

54086. By a Board like the Congested Districts Board?—Yes.

54087. My point is—is it possible for rundale to be re-arranged except through the agency of some Department like the Board or the Estates Commissioners?—I believe it would be better done in that way than if a private party stepped in to arbitrate. I would also suggest an exchange of plots. That would do in many cases. They could exchange plots, and in that way consolidate their holdings, and make them continuous.

54088. As it is done now, but that is always assuming the agency of a third party?—It is always useful at all events.

54089. Is it possible without it?—Do you mean could they themselves do it?

54090. Could they themselves do it?—Of course they could.

54091. But in practice would not the difficulty of its being done by any body of tenants be insuperable if they tried, without the agency of a third party, to re-arrange their rundale?—It could be done, because they could agree among themselves and say, "I exchange my plot for that plot of yours."

54092. And then would come the question of value?—But they could settle this among themselves.

54093. But would not that lead, as a matter of practice, to great friction?—Of course, if they did not agree. It would be difficult, but it is possible.

54094. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You have known several instances in which it has been done amicably by the tenants themselves?—Yes, for I know cases in which plots have been exchanged for the improvement of holdings.

54095. Would it not be quite common that when estates in rundale are to be sold, and prices are agreed upon, application is made to the Estates Commissioners, who buy under Section 6 at a price fixed by the landlord and then take it upon themselves to re-arrange the holdings, and that is a common thing?—Yes.

54096. CHAIRMAN.—And is it not the fact that in practice that is the only way of doing it, or by the Congested Districts Board?—Or by the Congested Districts Board. I mentioned the exchanging of plots. Another way would be for the Congested Districts Board to have an agent representing them in the locality, and if he found that a tenancy was going to be wound up on a large holding and a family was going to be extinct, or that an old man was only left to look after the farm, and his sons gone to America perhaps, he could facilitate the purchase of that plot by a neighbour. He might want £30 for it and the neighbour might not have the £30 by him, and a loan would enable the neighbour to buy the plot.

54097. But, again, as a matter of practice, has it not been found a difficult point—was not that attempt made by the Board in the early stages of its existence, to re-arrange a property which they had not acquired, and was it not found that that was difficult owing to the fact that the property belonged to somebody else?—Of course it could be done, and I have known cases of it that have occurred even lately.

54098. With the Board?—The people themselves bought little holdings like that.

54099. I can understand perhaps a man who has got a little patch, buying another patch and consolidating it, but it seems to me that if the Board were to stripe and do that kind of thing you would immediately have the question of how far public money could be allowed to compete with local capital. Surely the local man who wanted to buy that holding would have a grievance if the Board was to come in and use public money to run up the price beyond his means, would he not?—I do not know about that. The public weal ought to be considered. There are two parishes here, Spiddal in this diocese and Spiddal in the neighbouring diocese of Tuam, and the population is almost 1,000 families in the two parishes, and it is a most congested place. We begin, first of all, to build an outhouse, and then to improve the dwellinghouse; and a great deal of work has been done, but of course much more could have been done if there were more money.

54100. You have said all the money you got is expended?—Yes.

54101. And more work could have been done in connection with the houses if you had more?—And in connection with the land too.

54102. What was the amount of the grant?—£150 was the amount of the last grant. I am not quite sure what it was for the last year. I think it was £150.

54103. What amount of money do you think would have been necessary to enable you to do all the work that could have been done?—I am sure that, considering the population, at least £300 would be necessary.

54104. £300 a year?—Yes, £300 a year.

54105. For how many years would it be necessary?—I could not say. I could not form an idea.

54106. To get the houses into a proper condition?—I could not form an idea.

54107. This is rather an exceptional district in the way of insanitary conditions, is it not—for instance, manure heaps?—No; I do not think it is exceptional. I think it is like any other district.

54108. Would you say that Spiddal district, in your opinion, was peculiarly insanitary?—Perhaps in so far as the houses are huddled together. The people live together very much on the community system. The houses are clustered together, and in that way I suppose sanitation is difficult. It is not easy to keep the places clean, and in the surroundings of the houses it may be more difficult. This district got rather a bad name some years ago, but whenever fever came to this district in many cases it came from Galway with poor people who met there on a Friday night and returned the next day, after marketing.

54109. Then the typhus came from Galway?—Oh, nearly always. An Inspector of National Schools having typhus actually came out from Galway to Spiddal one day, but was so unwell that he returned to Galway, where he died, and the report got into the papers that he took typhus in Spiddal!

54109A. That is not the way in which it is now assumed that typhus is carried into other places. Is not the belief generally held at present after many inquiries, that typhus arises from turning manure heaps in spring?—I suppose that would be one way.

54110. If that be so how could Galway be responsible?—It is well known that typhus is in Galway, very often in lanes, and there are lots of lanes in Galway.

54111. There would be no manure heaps outside the houses in Galway?—No, but I think the manure heaps are not the only cause of it. I think the overcrowding of the rooms is far worse.

54112. There is only one other question. You said somebody had agreed to put the road in order for a motor service?—Yes.

54113. Who agreed?—The County Council.

54114. To actually spend the money?—To actually spend the money so as to put the road in order for the Iveagh-Pirrie scheme.

54115. Were they willing to spend £1,000?—To put the road in order.

54116. Up to £1,000?—Up to £1,000. Of course it might be more, but they agreed to bear the expense of putting the road in order.

54117. No matter what the expense came to?—I do not know about that. There was a certain sum mentioned.

54118. They were willing to spend a certain sum?—Yes.

54119. And was not it probable, as Sir Antony suggests, that the reason why they did not put it in order to the extent of £1,000 was because all the roads were not put in order?—I think that was not the reason at all. The reason was that the Iveagh-Pirrie scheme was to work over a large area of the country, and in other places the County Councils refused to put roads in order, and the promoters said that as the roads would be put in order by County Councils only here, from Galway to Costello, and some three or four other places in Ireland, they would not start the scheme for the sake of these few places.

54120. That is what I say—that that was the reason why the scheme failed, that a County Council as a whole would not do this?—But the County Council agreed to do it.

54121. Mr. O'Kelly.—They only agreed to do it to the extent of £1,000. The County Council was unwilling to bear an expense of £10,000 to put thirty miles of a road in order to accommodate a motor traffic?—I heard £1,000 was the estimate of our own County Surveyor. It was mentioned to me, and I took a note of it, and I put £1,000 into my evidence.

54122. If they agreed to make the road good to accommodate the motor traffic why did the scheme fall through?—Because the County Councils in Ireland would not do it.

54123. Were they applied to?—In other districts which were suggested railways were made.

54124. What had the other County Councils of the country to do with this particular scheme which you are discussing?—Nothing; but Lord Iveagh and Mr. Pirrie wished to apply the system all over the country, and they thought it was hardly worth while to do it in two or three districts.

54125. If eight or nine County Councils agree to put their roads in order, and one refuses, the whole scheme falls through?—The contrary was the case; one or two Councils were willing and nine or ten unwilling, and so the scheme as a whole was impossible, and would not be worked in this and the few other places in Ireland where roads would be put in order.

54126. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—When you spoke in the earlier part of your evidence with regard to the necessity of compulsion did you refer to compulsion generally or in regard to any particular class of land?—Compulsion generally—compulsion so as to relieve congestion.

54127. In the part of the country that you yourself are acquainted with have the landlords of tenanted land shown an indisposition to sell for a fair price?—Yes—some of them.

54128. You can mention instances?—Yes; the Blake Minors Estate, which is a large estate, no successful arrangement could be made.

54129. Why—did they express willingness to sell or refusal to sell on any terms?—I think they said they would sell.

54130. And then it was a question of price?—And it was a question of price, and in any case the agent did not push the matter—I mean to say that the question of price was the great difficulty.

54131. Did they offer to sell to the Congested Districts Board?—No.

54132. To the Estates Commissioners?—No; direct to the tenants.

54133. And a price was not agreed upon?—No.

54134. I suppose the matter is still open?—I do not think it is open now.

54135. Are rents being paid?—Yes.

54136. Is the property high-rented or low-rented?—Of course, the land is very poor. It is the poorest—the very poorest place—in the whole district.

54137. Was any effort made to bring the parties together?—No; the property is in the hands of the Lord Chancellor. It is also managed by a Committee, and so that creates a difficulty.

54138. Sir John Colomb.—I just want to ask you a question about rundale. I understood you to say that in this district rundale is generally present in all the existing land arrangements?—Oh, yes; most of the tenancies are in rundale.

54139. And I understood you to express an opinion that without any authority being constituted to effect a re-arrangement, in the transfer of the property from landlord to tenant, that could be done afterwards by mutual arrangement between the tenants?—It could be encouraged by the Congested Districts Board. If the Congested Districts Board offered facilities for the transfer of land from one man to another, a great deal could be done, and an exchange of plots could take place between the tenants themselves.

54140. I understood you to say in answer to Lord Dudley that the difficulties of changing from rundale to striping would not be insuperable, even after the land had passed to the tenants, that though they had become peasant proprietors you did not regard that fact as an insuperable objection to re-arrangement?—That was before the purchase.

54141. Do you think it possible to do it after?—That would all depend on the tenants themselves.

54142. Quite so; and are the tenants alive to the inconvenience and the loss caused by this system of rundale?—Certainly, a great many of them are.

54143. Then if it be possible without the intervention of some superior authority under conditions that make it possible for them to exercise their powers, to do that, and if the tenants are aware of the importance of it themselves, why do they not agree to do it while under a landlord by mutual arrangement?—Well, it is sometimes done.

54144. Do you consider that in carrying out any scheme, or in helping to carry out any scheme for the relief of congestion in this district, there would be a willingness to migrate?—I believe there would. Some few have migrated recently.

54145. Now, tell me, do you think that that willingness to migrate would be very much in proportion to a man's prosperity, that is, that the larger man, the better man as regards holdings, would be more willing to migrate than the very very poor one?—Well, in the first place, they are nearly all the same here. There is not much difference between one and another, but I think as a rule that the poorer would be more inclined to migrate.

54146. Do you wish the Commission to understand that in your opinion there would be no opposition and dislike to migrating if they were given farms that would tempt them to do so?—I believe they would migrate.

54147. I want to ask you about this other matter of the sanitary condition of the district. There is a sanitary staff kept in this union, upon which there is considerable expenditure. Have you got a sub-sanitary officer in Spiddal?—Yes.

54148. Does he do any work at all?—He does.

54149. What does he do, for with regard to the removal of manure heaps you have by the operation, as I understand, of the beneficent work of the Parish Committees largely produced the best result in inducing the people to remove their manure heaps?—Yes.

54150. But they are obliged to do it by law, and the sanitary officer is paid to see that it is done, and therefore I presume that the sanitary officer and that system have really failed to produce the result wished for. Is not that so?—Well, it has succeeded to a certain extent, and he brings some of them into court to compel them to do it.

54151. Can you give us the date or the approximate date when the County Council entertained that idea of incurring great expenditure for the improvement of the roads for the motor traffic?—I think

Sept. 24, 1907.

Rev. Mark Conroy.

about three years ago. It is perfectly well known, and a question was put about it in Parliament at the time, and Mr. Wyndham said he had considered it.

54152. About three years ago?—About three years ago.

54153. The only other point I want to ask you about is this—do you advocate as a broad principle of policy that compulsion should be applied generally in the County of Galway—is that so?—Yes.

54154. Then you mean that there should be compulsory power to fix the price for the buyers and sellers?—I do.

54155. What would you do when the compulsory price amounted to a sum that would be greater than you could expect the tenants to pay, or that the tenants were willing to pay, to recoup the State in the form of an annuity—would you apply compulsion to the tenants?—I prefer not to answer that question.

54156. But I will put it in another way, and perhaps you would not mind answering this: If you found in carrying out that policy for the benefit of the State and for the general benefit of the community all over the country, that a loss has to be incurred in doing it, is it your opinion that any particular class should bear that loss or that the State should bear it?—Most certainly no particular class should bear it.

54157. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—In this parish where you are parish priest the population is very large?—Very large, my lord.

54158. The holdings are poor?—Very poor, my lord.

54159. From time to time you must have been thinking of the way in which these people could have been provided with a fair amount of employment?—Yes.

54160. Let us not talk of economic holdings, but it would occur to one that it is a very important thing here to have the community provided with a reasonable way of living?—Yes.

54161. I suppose we may take it that the way they have gathered the stones off the fields and piled them in heaps is a testimony to the industry of the people?—I think it is a testimony to the industry of the people, striving against innumerable obstacles.

54162. In reply to Lord Dudley you alluded to fisheries and the construction of a line of railway?—Yes.

54163. Is it your idea that many of the people might get profitable employment out of the fisheries?—Yes.

54164. You think they could?—They could.

54165. They could go to sea if they were pretty sure of catching fish?—They certainly would.

54166. And if they had reasonable facilities for fishing?—Yes. The people at Costello Bay are quite familiar with boats and with a sea-faring life.

54167. And if it were proposed to have a railway to a harbour for the service of the fishermen, what would the terminus of the railway be?—Costello Bay. It would follow very much the line of the telegraph wire which goes from Galway to Costello and then goes into the water and out to Aran.

54168. The transit facilities that would result from such a project would be a great help to the fishing industry?—It would benefit Aran too. It would bring Aran quite in touch with the mainland.

54169. How much nearer would a railway station at Costello Bay be to Aran than the railway station at Galway?—I do not know the exact figures, but I think Costello is nine miles from Aran and I believe Galway is thirty or thirty-five miles, and a boat leaving Galway to go to Aran will take a long time, whereas you could have a railway to Costello Bay and a steamer from Costello Bay to Aran.

54170. From what you state about the lack of transit facilities it would seem very difficult to have a fresh fish trade at this place without improved transit facilities?—Very difficult, my lord.

54171. That would not apply at all as regards the trade in cured fish?—No, my lord, and therefore I attach great importance to the curing station at Costello Bay.

54172. You mentioned the granite quarries. How far are those quarries from Spiddal—are they near Galway?—They have quarries here at Spiddal.

54173. Where does the granite which is so beautifully coloured come from?—From Barna, Menlo, Shantalla, and from Spiddal.

54174. Are those quarries being worked at present?—Yes.

54175. You would look to any increase of the work of those quarries as increasing the means of employing the population?—Certainly, I think so.

54176. Do you think it a very likely programme, to contemplate a big extension of them?—I have no idea.

54177. You would know generally about the number of people employed in those quarries?—I have no idea.

54178. Are there polishing works at the quarries?—Some specimens of the granite can be seen here.

54179. In your church you have specimens?—Yes, of Galway red granite, Galway grey granite, and of Galway green marble, and Galway white marble, and Galway black marble.

54180. Have you, in your church, an exhibition of all the various stones?—Yes, all the stones are local stones.

Mr. Sutherland.—There is plenty of stone in the country at any rate, whatever else it produces.

54182. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Mr. Sutherland says whatever else is produced in the country there is plenty of stone?—Yes.

54183. I think you said there was not much land for the increasing of holdings?—Not in this locality at all.

54184. Not much?—Not much.

54185. But there is some?—There is some.

54186. And some not so far away?—Some not so far away; some mountain land.

54187. Would the acquisition of mountain land be of service to the people here if it were held by them in common?—It would, but I think it would be better for each person to have a certain amount for himself. That is my opinion.

54188. And you have said, in answer to Sir John Colomb, that you think some people, if they were offered fair holdings at a distance, would be willing to migrate to them?—Yes.

54189. And you expressed an opinion rather against cottage hospitals?—I did, my lord.

54190. I should like to know your reason for that. You consider that the nurses going to the houses of the people have a most useful influence?—A most useful influence.

54191. You consider that the extension of nursing besides tending to relieve sufferers immediately has an important influence in improving the condition of the houses?—Certainly, my lord.

54192. And that being so, you would not approve of the cottage hospitals?—No.

54193. I do not know how remote you are here from a hospital, but if the district is remote from a hospital is it not a serious thing in the case of fever that the patients must be conveyed over long roads to the hospital?—I am glad you mentioned that, because I think some provision must be made in that case. They could easily have in readiness in the union hospital sheds which could be brought to the locality and put up at almost twenty-four hours' notice; and that is the way I would deal with epidemics of fever. And besides, we are not to suppose that there will always be typhus fever in the country. I hope there will not, and that by the action of the Congested Districts Board and the Parish Committees it will be eliminated altogether.

54194. That is a most encouraging hope?—Yes.

54195. You have hopes that as the work of the Parish Committees progresses typhus will be eliminated?—I hope so, and as I said I hope the impression will not go abroad that I admit there is much in the country. I believe that anything that has come into this district has come from Galway.

54196. Pending the arrival of the period when typhus is eliminated, you consider that in some central place there should be a removable structure?—A shed which could be sent out when the sub-sanitary officer wired for it.

54197. Then, during the period of the epidemic that structure would answer the purposes of a district hospital?—Of a district hospital, and I hope it would not remain there long. I believe other patients would prefer, by far, to go to the union hospital, and, as I said before, accidents endangering life or limb are very rare in an agricultural country.

54198. Do you consider that the Parish Committee would be a good agency for distributing seeds among the people vegetable seeds, such as parsnips,

and turnip, and carrot, and onion seeds?—Undoubtedly, my lord.

54199. They could sow certain patches, and the people would get more into the cultivation of these vegetable seeds than they are now accustomed to?—They would.

54200. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—With regard to motor traction, when that was before the County Council was it with relation to the carrying of fish it was considered?—It was with relation to goods in the district generally, and there was special mention made of the possibilities of Costello Bay; and also it was considered very important that it would serve Aran very much.

54201. Not in carrying fish?—In carrying fish and in carrying everything.

54202. Do you know any place where fish has been carried by road successfully by motor power—have you ever heard of it?—No.

54203. Have you ever seen any person who has seen it?—No.

54204. Are you aware it has been tried and has not succeeded?—I am not aware.

Sept. 24, 1907.

Rev. Mark Conroy.

Mr. PATRICK M'DONAGH examined.

54205. CHAIRMAN.—You are a member of the Rural District Council of Galway?—Yes.

54206. What is your business—are you a farmer or a shopkeeper?—I am a farmer. I have lived all my lifetime in Spiddal, and I am familiar with the district and the people, and their ways and means, good years and bad years, and all along.

54207. Are you a farmer entirely or are you any thing else but a farmer?—No, nothing at all, practically speaking. I am only a farmer, my lord.

54208. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You have got no shop?—No shop.

54209. And no licence?—No licence.

54210. CHAIRMAN.—What is the size of the farm?—I suppose I hold just about thirty or thirty-five acres of land. There are three small little farms.

54211. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Irish or English?—Irish.

54212. CHAIRMAN.—What do you want to say now?—My view is that the first and greatest necessity all along this country is transit facilities. From Galway to Costello is a densely populated district. All along the shore there are villages and houses packed with people, and at Costello a thickly populated country, such as Carraroe, Carrowmore, Lettermullen, etc. This could be tapped by a train, and from the terminus there to Aran a steamer could run. It would have only a voyage of some eight or nine miles to cross the bay instead of over thirty miles down the bay, which is difficult and sometimes impossible.

54213. Where should it run from, in your opinion?—From the terminus at Lettermullen across to Aran, eight or nine miles, whereas the steamer runs from Galway, thirty miles.

54214. From Costello Bay to Aran?—Yes; from Costello Bay, or at least, we will say, from Lettermullen. It is the big island behind Costello Bay, and it is a distance of eight miles across to Aran, whereas she has to run a distance of thirty or thirty-two miles from Galway. The voyage could then be oftener made on account of its ease and shortness, and a larger traffic with passengers and goods would feed this line, and the country around near the terminus would feed it, and also the dense population all along the shore to Galway. At present in spite of there being no convenience, hundreds of carts go to Galway every week on Saturday with oats, barley, carrigeen, etc., bringing back the goods they require. Hundreds of women may be seen bare-footed, walking in, carrying baskets on their backs, with poultry, eggs, butter, lobsters, etc., and all this marketing of produce would be very much increased. Transit facilities would also develop the fishing at Costello and along the shore if there were means of getting the fish to the markets, and I believe also it would open up the district to tourists and fishermen. The country abounds in free fishing lakes, that is two or three miles to the north of the shore. There are any amount of free fishing lakes there.

54215. Any fish in them?—Oh, of course, certainly, my lord. The sport would soon attract visitors, and their presence would bring life into the district. And this is the principal thing that I wished to say. I have also to draw the attention of the Commission to the Parish Committee work. The people have promptly, of late years, moved themselves in the direction of having better houses and more sanitary arrangements. In the last four years, first as an elected and then as an *ex-officio* member, I have served on the Parish Committee in which Lord Killanin and the parish priest were instrumental in getting this work done. The principle of the committee was first, during the winter months, when the people would have plenty of time, to carry out improvements in the houses and holdings, and whenever it was necessary to buy materials, timber, etc., the Parish Committee would give them a free grant to buy those materials, and it is generally about half the cost of the whole work. For a new dwellinghouse they give £5, and for an out-house they give up to 30*s.*, for a window, 6*s.*, and for a concrete floor, etc., £1. During the first winter's operations the people did not understand it and they were slow in availing themselves of it, but now the committee could distribute, each winter, double the grant they get. The committee work over an area some eighteen miles long, and the grant is £150, very little for what is required throughout the parish. I would earnestly impress on the Commission the desirability of increasing the grant. I am satisfied that the work we are doing is good work, building new houses in good situations, close to or near the road or a good bohereen. The old houses are often a cause of fever and are certainly the cause of any case of fever spreading in the neighbourhood. We build out-houses and are gradually getting the horses and cattle and pigs out of the dwellinghouses. If our funds permitted we could do much more. With regard to the holdings, all that can be done is to improve the holdings; it is not possible to enlarge them. A little might, perhaps, be done in the way of opening up the mountain land with roads and drainage, and so increasing the area under cultivation. I am glad to say I hear often now of holdings being amalgamated, and that with more enlarged ideas the people are going themselves to be against sub-division. This should, in all cases, be stopped and this process of amalgamation encouraged, possibly by advancing a little ready money. If there were transit facilities it would allow the people to start some factory-work, giving employment to a large number of the people. In Spiddal, premises could be got for some such work, and I do not know if a peat factory could be tried. Of course I have very little experience of that, and I believe the industry of compressed peat was put into operation in Ireland before and failed, but if there were an improved way of making it it might be assisted here. Then as to the granite quarries, that business might be developed. I also think the people should be assisted in potato-spraying, so as to ensure a crop that is so important to them. Formerly the people were doubtful about it. Now they are most anxious to spray. Those and other things could be done by the Board, which in its sixteen years of existence has done very little and given very little attention to this district. Except the little grant to the Parish Committee and a couple of crochet classes they have done little or nothing. But if the Board gives more attention, with the people doing as they are doing under peasant proprietorship, I take a hopeful view of this district in spite of its poorness and number of people.

Mr Patrick M'Donagh.

54216. You think that the steamer should run from Lettermullen to Aran?—Certainly, my lord.

54217. And Lettermullen should be linked up by means of a railway?—Yes.

54218. There should be a railway to Lettermullen?—From Galway to Lettermullen. A change was made some years ago in the West by means of railways by Mr. Balfour, but unfortunately along the shore was almost neglected, and they ran that train to Clifden. It ran, in fact, through a barren mountain, where there is no population whatsoever, with the exception of Moycullen and Oughterard, up to Clifden, whereas if they ran it along the sea coast they would have the fish, the people, and everything else like that all along the line. And it is a fact that we were very near getting it.

Sept 24, 1907.

Mr. Patrick M'Donagh,

54219. But your plan about a steamer is, of course, linked to the idea of a railway. There is no use in running a steamer from Lettermullen to Aran unless you had a railway?—No, my lord. It is all very fine for the Congested Districts Board to say, "We will supply them with luggers and cars." What the devil is the use of that? I often saw there a take of 12,000 herrings. And what can the unfortunate fellows do? They have to turn round and row the whole way into Galway, whereas if they had a terminus or a station here they could, practically speaking, run in and ship them all off to the markets.

54220. Then you said you thought that sub-division should always be stopped?—I certainly say that, and, I believe, by themselves, too.

54221. How are you going to stop it—what steps would you take?—Well, with regard to sub-division, it is generally, as a rule, what happens in the families themselves, fathers dividing their little, paltry holdings, giving one son so much and a daughter so much, but, practically speaking, I think that should be stopped.

54222. How are you going to stop it?—Well, really I do not know, if there could not be an Act of Parliament to stop it, and as far as migration, of course there might be a few here and there.

54223. But I want to know your view about sub-division. You think that by an Act of Parliament it could be stopped?—I think so, of course. That might stop it. There might be a law prohibiting sub-division.

54224. As a matter of fact, if you had fifteen Acts of Parliament could not they do it all the same by a sort of family arrangement?—I do not think they could. Of course there may be a sort of documentary agreement drawn up between themselves.

54225. But even if there is no documentary evidence what is to prevent the enlargement of houses or a separate house and a married son living there with the understanding that he shares in the holding?—Really, I don't know. Of course they could let those holdings among themselves, but as for dividing their lands I don't think it should be allowed.

54226. I agree, quite; but it seems to me that the difficulty is to stop it unless the people themselves realise that it is an evil?—But the Government will not recognise sub-division. I think it is a division that the Government or Ministers will not recognise.

54227. But then if the annuity or rent is paid through the hands of one man how is the Government to know whether, as a matter of fact, there may be several sub-divisions?—Now, could not a house be very easily ascertained. Then, in regard to the second son wanting to get married, of course, actually speaking, he would want to get a separate house. He would get a new dwellinghouse and I do not see how he could do it unknown to the Government. I would have some sort of a check. I do not know really whether I would have the constabularly, or the medical officers, or sub-officers to check it; but that could be done.

54228. It might be possible to prevent the erection of another house, but supposing they merely enlarged the existing house?—But as a rule, my lord, I think it is in very few cases that that occurs. In some places they hardly pull well together, not to say all being stuck in one house all together.

54229. But could not you have an enlargement which would become another house, and which they would call an enlargement?—I do not know; but of course when we of the Parish Committee give them houses we consider it is a good thing. It is a great improvement.

54230. Have you ever noticed that when an estate is bought by the Congested Districts Board there is less tendency to subdivide after they have purchased than there was when they were tenants?—Oh, yes; when they become possessors of the holding by purchase; when they are purchasers.

54231. Is there any difference in that case with regard to that feeling about sub-division?—There is no feeling in favour of it now. There was a feeling but the people themselves are now, practically speaking, against it.

54232. They are against it?—Oh, they are. I have already stated that in my evidence.

54233. Then why do you think that any legislative steps are necessary?—That is, in my opinion, if it did occur.

54234. If they went back to the old habits?—Yes, that is it.

54235. You do not think that at this moment there is any need in this district for taking any strong steps about it?—Well, I do not, up to the present, because I do not believe they are inclined to do it.

54236. That is, at present the poor people are recognising its evil?—Yes.

54237. Then, about spraying, you said they ought to be assisted in spraying. How do you propose that that should be done?—Well, we propose to supply it at first cost if the parties desire it. It is only a paltry thing, and if these parties wanted it the Parish Committee would give a little time to pay it; and the materials supplied by the Board would be of the right sort, and we would give it at first cost.

54238. You think the Board ought to supply the stuff?—Yes.

54239. Do you think then the Board ought to be able to supply it cheaper than at present?—I do; and I place more confidence in the Board, because they would give the genuine article.

54240. Do you think that could be worked by the Parish Committee, suppose the Parish Committee had some of this stuff?—I certainly believe it could, my lord. I have great confidence in the Parish Committee. But there is no doubt at all that unfortunately we are limited. We have nothing except £150, and we have to meet the Board half way by paying the supervisor, and that takes something out of that £150, and I suppose there are between seven and eight thousand people between the two parishes. There is no doubt at all that there is a great amount of good being done, and you will see all those new houses. We have a lot of applications for new houses, and even applications for them now above in my house. Lord Killanin and myself were at it a few days ago. His lordship has taken a very active interest in the whole thing.

54241. Do the Parish Committee give grants for slated houses?—We give £5 for a thatched house and £7 10s. for a slated house, and I earnestly impress on the Commission to increase the grant. It would be a great boon to the country, and it is only a trifling sum

54242. If you encourage the erection of new houses are you not in fact increasing the congestion?—We are not, because they are leaving the little villages and going down on the bohereen.

54243. And the old houses are knocked?—Knocked, and they are building these houses down near the public road or in a good bohereen.

54244. When you give a grant for the erection of a new house and have a family to move into it, do you make any condition that the old house should be demolished?—I do not make this a condition, but it is what they generally do, and they utilise the stones of the old house.

54245. Is that always done, in every case?—That is always done, in every case.

54246. You have never known cases where the family have migrated from the old house to the new house, which has been built with the help of the Parish Committee, and then another family go into the old house?—No, my lord. We are teetotally against it altogether, and we make it our business. It is altogether released.

54247. And the old house is altogether derelict?—Waste.

54248. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You say you give half the cost of the house?—Yes.

54249. £5 for a thatched and £7 10s. for a slated house?—Yes.

54250. Are you able to build a new house for £15, or £10, as the case may be?—As a rule it is half. This is the class of house that we build here. There will be two rooms in it and a kitchen.

54251. That is three rooms?—Yes, a comfortably thatched house.

54252. What size would they be?—On the whole, between the two gable ends, thirty-two or thirty-four feet on the inside

54253. And the width of the house?—Something about sixteen or eighteen feet.

54254. That is about 500 superficial feet. If you divided that into three rooms you would have very small rooms, would you not?—No, I do not think so.

54255. But at all events you would have three rooms. What family would you have living in the

house?—God knows. I would simply say about a dozen for each house, if you were to take all the family, at least. But that is the fact. Whether it is the salt-water that does it or not I do not know, but that is the state of the country.

54256. How would you build a house like that for £10 or £15, as the case may be?—Well, don't you see, the people themselves are taking advantage of the amount of money that we give. They do more themselves whatever they do. They get £5 from the Parish Committee. That is to encourage these parties.

54257. My object in asking you the question about the cost is that the Board think a house cheap if they build a house for £70, or £80, or £100?—That is probably the cost if they get up these houses under contract, but this is only simply to encourage the people themselves to migrate to those houses, and they take advantage of this encouragement. They get all this money.

54258. That is a very interesting thing. Would not it be a good thing for the Board if they did not get contracts, but gave money to the person who has the holding and let him build his own house—would not it be cheaper?—Would it be cheaper?

54259. If you build a house for £10 or £15. I do not want to labour the point, but I am surprised at your being able to build a house for £10 or £15. Probably it is on account of the people giving their own labour?—Yes; the people themselves are so very badly off in these miserable houses of theirs that have no gable ends or plaster or anything, that when they get this little encouragement of £5 they run at it, do you see.

54260. Now, you get, for your parish, you say, £150 a year?—Oh, not quite so much.

54261. Now with that £150 a year, how many years more will you require till your committee have finished?—I think if we got about five or six years more we would be able to do it.

54262. But then you tell me that you not only build houses, but you also clear the land and improve the land?—I did not mean that, but that if we got more, if the grant was increased, we could do those things. We are giving no encouragement at all with regard to draining the land or making roads. We want just to try and get the horses and cattle and pigs out of these dwellinghouses. In fact, there is not a house round here that had not either a pig or a horse or a cow within their very kitchen. There is no doubt of it at all.

54263. And that is a most useful improvement?—And we are getting in those windows, bringing light into their rooms.

54264. That is quite right?—It is, I tell you. There is no doubt at all.

54265. And if you got all the money you want there would be nothing at all left for yourselves to do. The Board would have to do everything?—Don't you think it is a very small amount—£300 a year for eighteen Irish miles—would not you think it a very small thing. That is all I can say.

54266. Oh, you have done very good work. Now, you are very anxious that sub-division should be prevented. Don't you know that it was the wish of the Government to introduce into the Act of 1903 a provision having that very object, to prevent sub-division, and that it was not accepted by the Irish Parliamentary Party?—Well, I believe I read or heard something about it.

54267. But you evidently do not agree with the Irish Parliamentary Party on that?—Well, not on that particular point.

54268. Are there many of your way of thinking in this part of the country?—Upon what?

54269. Upon that matter of sub-division?—I believe I have already told you that the people themselves are very much against it.

54270. Would they be glad to have that provision?—Yes; they have on an average not more than ten or fifteen acres of land round the place.

54271. You say you would be opposed to sub-division, but in favour of amalgamation?—I would.

54272. And what would be the effects of that?—I will tell you my reason with regard to amalgamation, and there were a few cases happened round here recently. Now, if there was a family that went out, or if they were exhausted, say, or wanted to give up the farm, and they were old, or anything like this, I mean to say that if an adjoining farmer or farmers wanted to buy that holding the Board could possibly give them the ready money and that the holding was good security for the Board. I do not mean that it should be a general thing. All I want to convey is that it may be the case here and there. As I said, I know of a few cases which recently happened within a mile of here.

54273. And what would become of the people that lost their holding?—How lost their holding? If they were old people they might be dead; they might not have a family. That is my reason for it, don't you see.

54274. I understand you to be in favour of the general principle of migration and in favour of the prevention of sub-division and in favour of the amalgamation of holdings?—In favour of the amalgamation of holdings if you would get the parties to migrate.

54275. That is what I was just coming to. You say you are in favour of emigration if it promoted the amalgamation of holdings?—I did not use the word "emigration."

54276. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You heard Father Conroy, who laid great stress upon the question of transit, as you do?—Yes.

54277. And he particularly alluded to Costello Bay as the point for sea communication in connection with the land transit. You have not mentioned that place at all, but you have mentioned Lettermullen?—I have. I have, certainly, mentioned Costello.

54278. Do you mean that is the same, and practically do you agree with all that Father Conroy said on the subject, or have you some rival place in your mind?—I did not hear Father Conroy, but I say Costello or anywhere about there.

54279. But do you think that Costello is the very best point on the coast to give facilities for fishing and sea business in connection with railway transit, and, therefore, there ought to be railway transit to Costello, or have you, in your mind, some other place?—Oh, I have no doubt Costello would be a good spot. I am inclined for Lettermullen, because it is only a few miles more for the railway and it would be rather nearer to Aran. It would be only distant eight or nine miles across the bay instead of thirty miles down a bay which is difficult and sometimes impossible. I know that myself.

54280. I have, personally, in travelling through this country, been extremely struck with what I noticed, that the cultivation seems to be more oats than potatoes. It struck me that cultivation was being devoted to raising oats more than potatoes. Now, is that a new feature in your experience?—I do not see how it can be a new feature, because, of course, there is as much potatoes sown as oats, because they have to sow oats after taking potatoes.

54281. I have been struck, and some of my fellow Commissioners also, in travelling through the country, with the paucity of the quantity of potatoes produced as compared with oats, and I wanted to know is there a gradual change coming over the people to grow more oats than potatoes here?—There is no change. Of course, they are growing more potatoes, which is the one general crop for the people to maintain themselves and their children.

54282. And the people grow just as much potatoes as ever they did, and there is no tendency on the part of the people to grow more oats and less potatoes?—No.

54283. Then as regards this question of an Act of Parliament to prevent sub-division, you know that both in the case of the tenant and of the annuitant there are clauses in the Acts of Parliament which forbid it, and why do you want a new Act?—Really, sir, I am not aware of the clauses. I hope you do not want to embarrass me. I believe a Connaught man has leave to speak twice, they say.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—It is not a perpetual provision of the Act.

54284. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Only during the annuity, but in your judgment would you have it a perpetual restriction?—I would, sir.

54285. Do you think that sub-division has been caused by secret arrangements made among the tenants, or do you think it has been caused by connivance of the landlord or agent winking at sub-division in order to get more rent?—No, I do not believe that, but I know that, as a rule, it is the case in this country for fathers to divide their little, paltry grounds, and that is the reason they are in such a miserable condition. One man will have a little

Sept. 24, 1907.

Mr. Patrick M'Donagh.

holding of land now. Formerly they would be most anxious to have that little holding of land among two, judging that they could feed themselves on the one holding.

54286. Another question is this. You have had opportunities of observing what has taken place after properties in this district have been sold to tenants?—Yes; I have myself bought under the Ashbourne Act.

54287. Do you and do your poorer neighbours see any considerable change in the economic condition and the welfare of the tenants that have bought as against the tenants that have not bought?—Well, I certainly do, because I will tell you the reason why. Of course you know they have the holding cheaper, and they have come to the conclusion that their holdings are their own and their rents cannot be raised, and consequently they are taking more interest in their holdings, and that is the reason why.

54288. And, now, are the people much in debt to the shopkeepers in this district?—That is really a very hard question, but I cannot, more or less, take the responsibility on myself of saying that they are not indebted to the shopkeepers, except there is a family; and if there was some little transit and some little fishery development here there is no doubt at all that this curse of relief works would be done away with. It gets the unfortunate people, and puts hammers and crowbars into their hands, and gives them labour, but only what will put a little bit into their mouths. Let the Government give us something substantial, and I do not see why we should not become a law-abiding people.

54289. Do you think that the man who purchases his holding subject to an annuity is more apt or less apt to get into debt, as compared with the tenant who has not?—Well, practically speaking, I believe myself that the man that has not purchased his holding has more money to pay, and consequently there is a greater danger of him getting into debt.

54290. You are probably singular about this?—The less rent he has to pay the more money he has for getting goods.

54290A. Am I right in attributing to you this opinion, that the man who has purchased his holding is likely to incur more debt than the man who has not?—No, certainly; it is the other way.

54291. The only other two questions are these—you spoke about the £150 grant to the Parish Committee being so small?—Yes.

54292. And you pointed out to the Commission that you had to pay a salary to the supervisor?—Yes, and then to meet the supervisor and the Government half way, that is, £15 going to the supervisor, and we have to meet the Board half way, that is by giving £7 10*s*., and the Board £7 10*s*. more.

54293. And do you mean that part of the £150 goes for the work of the staff?—Yes, and that is the whole thing. And if we got double the grant we could use it. Really there are two parishes, and I am sorry that you cannot go back, and I would show you some curious things, and whatever was done there is no doubt at all that it was your Government that did it.

54294. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—When you say the £150 is not enough I think you have practically two parishes in your mind?—Yes, and they are in two dioceses. One is in the diocese of Tuam and the other is in the diocese of Galway, my lord.

54295. Now, you have conveyed to the Commission that if your grant were increased your Committee would be a good agency to enable improvements of holdings to be promoted?—Certainly if the grant was increased. The first thing we wanted to do was to get the little houses out of this huddled-up village, and also to get the horses, pigs, and cattle out of their dwellinghouses.

54296. And they would have inducements to improvement where they got a little home to live in?—Certainly, and that is the reason why. And, of course, we have an able Chairman, Lord Killanin, and the assistance of the parish priest. In fact, we have three or four good men in the curates and the parish priest.

54297. And I suppose the improvements are many times the value of the amount of your grant?—Certainly.

54298. You expressed a strong opinion against sub-division. You do not want to see sub-division of these holdings?—Oh, no; I do not. The people themselves are tectotally against it. They are doing away with it.

54299. You do not think there is much sub-division?—No; and it is wearing away by degrees. They are very much against it themselves.

54300. And you know it has been put to you that in regard to a tenant purchaser the Land Commission might sell out anybody who sub-divides?—Certainly.

54301. That is during the period of the annuity?—During the period of the annuity. Of course, I am not any way clear about it, and I hope you won't embarrass me.

54302. No; I won't do that at all, and I am sure I could not if I tried. Now, tell me, during the running of the annuity do you not think that the public authority ought to have the power of going in, and asking the tenant purchaser to keep, say, his drains in good order?—What do you mean by the drains?

54303. Just this. Suppose that a man was paying his annuity in the usual course, and that it was noticed that he was careless about keeping the drains on the holding in reasonable order, do you not think that the public authority should have the right to go in, and require that he should put his drains in order, and if he did not, take process of law to make him do it?—That would be rather too strange, and I will tell you the reason why. That bears me out with regard to this Parish Committee. If we are giving this assistance we should see all these drains opened up.

54304. But take one of the houses that you have improved and put into fine order. I assume that a person who has done so much work of his own to improve his homestead would also try to keep it in good order?—Certainly.

54305. Suppose that he was dead, and he has a slovenly, careless son, is not it a possible case?—It is a possible case. Many a good father reared a bad son.

54306. Do you not think if he were an annuitant it would be bad to allow that son to let this beautiful homestead that cost so much trouble go into dilapidation?—I quite agree with you, my lord; I would not like to see it.

54307. And do you not think it would be certainly reasonable that after the contribution that had been given to the man to build his house the public authority should come in and say—"You must have the work done, or it will be done for you, and the amount will be recovered"?—I quite agree about the house he occupies, but I do not say it would be fair about the drains, that is why drain the whole place? But about his own house it would be right to make him keep it in good order.

54308. But you see I would only suggest this, that it would be good for the tenant purchaser himself if each one was supposed by law to keep the drainage that belonged to his own farm in good order, and in that way to keep up the drainage of the district?—I know that would be good, my lord. There is no doubt at all about that.

54309. I do not mean the intervention of a strange authority, but a friendly and sympathetic inspector who would stimulate and compel the necessary upkeep?—Certainly; I agree with that.

54310. I want you to answer this. You have no reason to suppose that the Irish Parliamentary Party is in favour of sub-division?—Well, I really do not know what the Irish Parliamentary Party wants to do.

54311. But I do not know it always?—I don't know that they know themselves.

54312. Now, take sub-division, because I am anxious that it should be pretty clearly put down what their attitude is towards it. Have you any reason for supposing that they are in favour of sub-division?—The Parliamentary Party?

54313. Yes?—Really I could not tell you.

54314. You have no reason then for supposing that they were in favour of sub-division?—I do not know, my lord.

54315. It might be a different question whether they would favour a particular means of putting forward a clause in a Bill to prevent sub-division through a wider reservation. Supposing an annuity were not being paid at all, do you not think it would be reasonable that the State should reserve to itself

still the power of preventing sub-division?—I would, to be sure.

54316. And might not it be that they could take steps for redress without retaining any share of the property in the holding?—Certainly. What is to prevent the Government from passing that into law.

54317. There is nothing to prevent the Government from passing a law at any time for that?—What is to prevent them if the annuity is paid? They are empowered to make their own laws at any time.

54318. At any time, whether the annuity is being paid or not, the Government of the country may intervene, and take legal steps to prevent sub-division?—Certainly, and I approve of the adoption of that plan.

54319. Mr. KAVANAGH.—And I suppose with all its evils, sub-division prevented emigration in the past?—Well, it did, to a certain extent.

54320. Do you think it would be wise to stop sub-division by Act of Parliament before you had the power of enlarging these holdings?—I suppose it would, but in any case it should be stopped.

54321. Do you not think that that would increase emigration at once?—How?

54322. Suppose you prevented, on the one hand, sub-division, and on the other hand, you had no power to enlarge those holdings, you would only have emigration?—But wouldn't it be a great deal worse if you had them turning out after making two halves of eight or ten acres, and cursing the Government of the country, and crying out, "We are starved," and the Chief Secretary for Ireland coming down there on the top of the whole thing, and the people, the unfortunate ratepayers, paying rates for this purpose?

54323. Mr. O'KELLY.—Have you bought under the Act of 1903?—Under the Ashbourne Act.

54324. And after your annuity is extinguished——?—God knows, I won't see that.

54325. But suppose that your annuity is extinguished, would you be willing afterwards to pay an eighth of the total rent to the Government?—That is a most extraordinary question.

54326. Though you would have to become the owner in fee-simple?—One is 48½ years and the other is 68½. And would you want me to pay after that an eighth? That is most extraordinary.

54327. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—The point is this. You say that an Act of Parliament could be passed to prevent you from doing a certain thing with your property after it was your property?—Yes.

54328. Now, the question Mr. O'Kelly put to you was, when you believed, at the end of this tenancy, you had purchased this property, would it be fair of the Government then to interfere with what you had thought your own property?—I don't see what right the Government would have.

54329. Suppose you wanted to sub-divide after you were free of the annuity and they would not let you, how would you like that?—I would certainly be against that, with regard to these small holdings. There is no right for it, and the Government themselves admit that. In America they won't give less than thirty or thirty-five acres of land, but here you give a man ten or twelve acres of land, and very bad land, thousands of them under £2 valuation.

54330. I do not dispute that, but the point that Mr. O'Kelly wanted to put to you was that you would not be a free agent with regard to your own land after you had paid every penny for it?—Explain that thing to me. You are putting me into a corner. I don't want to touch that question. I am trying to make myself agreeable.

54331. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—I do not think you quite understand the point?—I do not.

54332. Say that you had a holding of thirty acres, of which the purchase price was £500?—Yes.

54333. At the present time you pay the £500 by an annuity of 3¼ per cent., to terminate at the end of 68½ years. The system under which sub-division would be prevented is this. You would not have to pay the £500. You would have to pay £450 or £400, and the balance of the £500 would remain a charge on your holding for ever, for which you would pay, say, half-a-crown an acre, a sort of quit-rent. You would pay less for your holding, but a certain portion would remain as a permanent charge, which the Government would receive for and which would give the Government the power of preventing sub-division for all eternity?—Yes, sir. That is the idea.

54334. Mr. O'KELLY.—Would you be in favour of a proposal of that kind, bearing in mind that that is the only way to prevent sub-division?

CHAIRMAN.—I think that perhaps Mr. M'Donagh would like to think that over. It is rather hard to ask him that.

54335. Mr. O'KELLY.—If sub-division could be prevented in no other way would you take that way?—In any case, whatever course is taken, I certainly would like sub-division to be stopped.

54336. Suppose it could be done in no other way save what Sir Antony indicated, would you take that way yourself?—Well, partly I would.

54337. CHAIRMAN.—Is it fair—Mr. M'Donagh has never heard of this before?—*Witness.*—Of course I bought my land under the Ashbourne Act.

54338. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Your disposition is against sub-division?—Yes.

54339. How that could be better managed is a matter for the lawyers?—Yes; I am only speaking of parties with ten or twelve acres as a rule, and that is the reason I would be teetotally against it.

54340. Provided you did not suffer and had not to pay more?—Yes.

Rev. REDMOND M'HUGH examined.

54341. CHAIRMAN.—You are Parish Priest of Rosmuck?—Yes.

54342. And you are nominated by the Bishop?—Yes. I have been stationed in Rosmuck, an exclusively congested district, for the past seven years. The whole parish is composed of wild mountain and reclaimed bog. The condition of the people in the past has been very miserable as to the quantity and quality of their holdings, and they are absolutely unable to support themselves on the produce of the land. It is hard to conceive another body of tenantry whose present condition is so miserable, and whose prospects are so gloomy in the absence of any measure to improve and enlarge their holdings, the valuation of which is, in the majority of cases, under £2. In the parish there are 650 families, and 160 of these families have holdings under £1 valuation. 220, or thereabouts, have holdings under £2 valuation, about 100 have holdings under £3 valuation, and the remaining number have holdings over £3, but under £5 valuation, with some few exceptions where valuation is over £5. Such is the state of the parish. And, now, with regard to the remedies to be applied to relieve the congestion of the place and mitigate the rigour of distress in the Rosmuck parish migration to some extent at least must be carried out. The people are almost huddled together into small rocky patches along the sea-shore, and the principal reason for this is that there are no roads, not even by-roads, leading from the shore to the mountain districts by means of which the people would be able to bring seaweed and sand for manuring unreclaimed land. The Congested Districts Board give small loans to people in this locality to enable them to purchase boats, and I am glad to be in a position to say that the borrowers always feel grateful, and exert themselves as well as they can to repay the instalments punctually. But the Board never came rightly to their aid, as they might do, by building piers at which they might anchor safely, and during the storm of 1903 and other storms some of those boats have been wrecked along this coast. Unfortunately there are no grass farms in our part of the country, but yet there are large mountain tracts, principally in the hands of outside graziers, which could be made available for migration, and some of those grounds could be easily reclaimed, and would be much better for tillage than the wild tract of rocky land round the sea-shore. There is a big tract of mountain land along the area between Costello and Spiddal on the south, and from Maam Cross to Oughterard on the north. Into those lands men in whose families there is ample labour could be migrated and their present land would be then made available for enlarging other holdings, or a portion could be given for reclamation to the present occupiers of small uneconomical holdings. To enable them to reclaim such land State aid should be given, and roads to the sea-

Sept. 24, 1907.

Rev. Redmond M'Hugh.

shore should be made at convenient places, so that sand and weed might be drawn by the roads. The only industry of the majority of the people, and on which they have to depend a good deal is the peat. In this also they are very much handicapped, as they have no piers and no roads leading to the shore. There is a certain townland called Upper Camus, in which the people have to carry the turf on their backs for at least a half-mile, load it into row-boats, and after rowing for three miles unload it again on the shore, and when opportunity offers re-load it into hookers. In the townland of Lower Camus the people have very oftentimes to take their turf out in row-boats to hookers. In another townland, Lettermacoo, south of the townland of Kinvara, the people have to pay 6*s.* or 8*s.* for carting a boat-load of turf to the pier, a distance of four miles, and watch till there is a boat free to take it from them. Now, in all these cases all this could be remedied if a few good piers were built and roads made from the bogs to the existing public roads to the piers. But this has been neglected. A woollen factory should be in operation at Screeb or Maam Cross, either of which places would be central for the people of the Joyce country, who usually have a good deal of wool to sell, and the people would get wool manufactured then for home use. The Congested Districts Board should purchase these poor estates and effect improvements in the way of striping the mountain and making boundaries and roads before passing them over to the tenants. I think that the Congested Districts Board should be entrusted with the work of giving agricultural instruction and the effecting of the necessary improvements in the congested areas; that those functions formerly entrusted to the Board, but transferred to the Agricultural Department, should be now restored to them. The Congested Districts Board should have a model farm and other small holdings such as they were attempting at the time of the inception of the Agriculture Department. Now, there are a few other things I wish to speak of. I think there should be motor services from Maam Cross on by Screeb, and up to Kilkerrin and by Carna on to Recess, because I believe this would be a great benefit to the people in these districts, as they would have an available market where they could dispose of their fowls, or eggs, or butter, or anything of that kind.

54343. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Is it motor cars you propose?—Yes; a motor service with motor cars.

54344. CHAIRMAN.—How long have you been parish priest at Rosmuck?—Something over six years.

54345. Were you curate there before?—No. I came as parish priest from Oughterard. I had been nine months in Oughterard as curate.

54346. You are acquainted, are you not, with East Galway?—Yes; I have spent the greater part of my missionary life in East Galway.

54347. You know the conditions in East Galway?—I do, very well.

54348. You said, I think, that in your opinion migration should be carried out with regard to those people?—Yes.

54349. On that it has been said that the people living in a very poor district like that of Rosmuck would not consent to migrate, even if they had the opportunity?—That is not so.

54350. Have you any reason to believe that not to be true?—Because I have spoken to a number of them in Rosmuck, and they would be most anxious to migrate into better land if opportunity offered.

54351. And if a few succeeded their example would be quite sufficient to induce others?—Oh, yes; of that I am quite certain.

54352. And is it your opinion that, speaking generally of the inhabitants of Rosmuck, that they are an industrious population?—They are a most industrious people.

54353. It has been alleged that the people of this district are not industrious?—Yes; I have heard that, my lord; but that is not so. That is a most calumnious assertion.

54354. Is it not the fact that the land there is of such a character that it would be quite impossible even to exist unless they are most industrious?—Absolutly impossible, my lord, to live on the soil.

54355. Is not the land of such a quality that they invariably have to be at it?—Always.

54356. And it has been said again that the people of this district would not succeed if they were migrated to East Galway, because they would be ignorant of the conditions of the people of East Galway—is not the system on which they work now in Rosmuck, poor as the land is, the same in a small way as they would carry on if they were moved to East Galway?—To my mind, it is better, because they do all the work by spade labour, while in East Galway they would do it by machine.

54357. My point is that if you put them in East Galway, and give them land there, they will grow on better land and under better conditions the same sort of crops that they now grow in Rosmuck?—Yes.

54358. They would grow their potatoes and cereals, oats and corn?—Yes.

54359. And they would grow green crops?—Yes.

54360. And, therefore, is there anything which could make you believe that the small man of Rosmuck put down in East Galway would find himself incapable of tilling?—Nothing whatsoever.

54361. Then some little capital would be necessary if you remove that man?—Yes.

54362. Is it your opinion that the Board might meet that necessity by a cheap loan?—It is. That is my opinion.

54363. And is it your opinion that the character of the people makes them very particular to repay loans of that kind if they have an opportunity of doing so?—Yes; and I have got ample opportunities of seeing it, and they are most anxious.

54364. They are not negligent about that?—No; not negligent at all.

54365. Their disposition is not to cheat the State, but to meet their obligations?—Exactly.

54366. And that is proved by the regularity with which they pay their annuities?—Yes, precisely; and half of the parishioners have purchased under the Ashbourne Act.

54367. And now, in Rosmuck and that district a great many of the people have friends and relations in America?—Yes.

54368. Is it your opinion that if a man who had relations or friends in America had got an opportunity of migrating to better land further east his friends in America would make some attempt to provide him with a little capital to help him in the move?—Yes; I am sure of that. As a matter of fact, some time ago a rumour went abroad that those people living at Rosmuck and Carna and Carraroe would be taken and migrated into the inland country, and I had a letter from a certain man in America asking me if I could possibly secure a farm for him, and that he would come home, although he was earning a pound a day.

54369. That is not the point; but money is sent home from these people in America?—Yes, they send home money.

54370. Two or three pounds very often?—Yes, and sometimes more.

54371. Do you think that if it came to the knowledge of a man living in this poor district that he would be given an opportunity of migrating to East Galway he would ask his friends in America to try to capitalise their remittances, and that instead of sending him for the next few years £3 or £4 at Christmas, whether they could possibly manage to let him have it in one sum—do you think that would be possible?—I do not know. I think it would be possible; but of course they are anxious to send that money at Christmas to meet the shop bills.

54372. Those people who send money generally have a little by, stowed away, we know, and that is shown by the fact that when they return they come back with two or three hundred pounds?—Yes, some do.

54373. Would it not be quite conceivable to imagine that the necessity of capital might be met by some sacrifice on the part of relatives in America?—Yes. I am sure there are a number of people in America who would meet the difficulty in that way.

54374. And help the family?—Yes; they would try.

54375. And it would not mean only trying. He would have to find the money?—Yes; it might not succeed, but then of course there is the necessity of migration. If they were migrated I would not, certainly, have them in a worse position than their neighbours.

54376. Not quite. They should be given every chance?—They should be given every chance.

54377. Certainly. Otherwise it might be said that they were not tilling their land well and properly

when it was really not their fault that that was so?—Yes.

54378. With reference to kelp, do you say that kelp-burning goes on?—Yes.

54379. What is the price per ton that they get?—£2 to £5. Sometimes, on rare occasions, less than £2. It is a very precarious industry at the present time, very precarious; but in the absence of anything better they engage in it.

54380. Who buys it from them?—An agent to a Glasgow firm, Mr. Hazell. He is the buyer and agent, and there is only one firm buying here as far as I know.

54382. Does the price lie practically with this Mr. Hazell—what he chooses to give?—Altogether.

54383. Have you any reason to think that the lack of competition arises from an arrangement between the various companies buying it?—It appears it does. There is a certain ring, from what I have heard from others.

54384. But it is a remarkable fact that there is never any competition, although more than one firm buy kelp?—Yes.

54385. Have you any reason to suppose that in buying the kelp the agents give a high price to certain people in order to keep up a nominal price, whereas the general price is below that?—Oh, yes; I have witnessed it for years. I have seen it take place every year—that some get a higher price than others.

54386. Although in reality it is the same quality of kelp?—The same quality of kelp.

54387. Do you think that there would be any advantage if the Board were to burn the kelp in such a way as to ensure that it should be quite pure, paying merely the people who collect the weed a price upon the weed that they bring according to the quality of the weed?—Well, I have considered that question, my lord, and I consider that it would be a great advantage to the people.

54388. My point is that it should be on the same sort of lines as a creamery, that the people should bring the weed to some central kiln established by the Board, and should be paid for the weed, and that then the Board should burn the weed, and sell it to the agent?—Yes, it would be better. That agrees with my view.

54389. Then, tell me, have the people in Rosmuck bought their holdings?—They have. I suppose half or so of the people have bought their holdings.

54390. Under the Ashbourne Act?—Yes.

54391. Are you of opinion that the people who bought are better off than those who have not bought? Some are and some are not. Those whose holdings are quite small are not better off, but those who have fair holdings, say, six or seven acres of arable land—these are very much better off than they used to be.

54392. Explain the difference. Why is it that the small man is no better off in your opinion, whereas the bigger man is better off?—Because the bigger man has more land.

54393. But then he had the land also when he was a tenant?—He had. He had the same land, but the rent was too high at the time—altogether too high. Now, the instalments are much less than the rents, being sixty to seventy per cent. less than the old rent.

54394. Then, in your opinion, the difference amounts to this, that on the bigger holding, where the aggregate sum of rent is larger the advantage of purchase is greater, because the reduction which he got under purchase is a substantial reduction, whereas in the case of the small man the holding is so uneconomic that it really does not make very much difference to him whether he pays a lower rent or not?—No, it does not make the least difference. I suppose that is so.

54395. That is taking the thing outside rent altogether?—Altogether. He could never make a living on the land.

54396. Now, with regard to the small holdings of a poor character, do you think there is really any advantage in direct sale from landlord to tenant?—No; on the contrary, I would be altogether opposed to direct sale.

54397. You would be disposed to think that in cases of that kind the holding should be passed through the hands of some improving authority like the Board before being passed to the tenant?—Yes. I am altogether in favour of that, of its being transferred to the Congested Districts Board.

54398. Another thing. Take the question of amalgamation of holdings. Is there any danger at the present time that if a man holding a small acreage like this becomes very much in debt to the shopkeeper he may become squeezed altogether out of his land by the shopkeeper?—Yes, that is possible.

54399. That is possible now?—It is possible.

54400. Do you say so from your knowledge of that danger?—I have not seen any cases of that in the parish, but it is possible.

54401. It is a possibility which the State has to bear in mind?—Yes, I believe that is so.

54402. Would the process be this, that a man having got gradually into debt to the shopkeeper to such an extent that he becomes overwhelmed, the shopkeeper then would press him for payment and any available money which the man might have to be paid to the shopkeeper in mitigation of the debt rather than to the State in the form of the annuity, and the man would in that way become behindhand in his annuity?—Yes.

54403. And then if the State sell off in order to recover the annuity, under the present arrangement is there anything to prevent the shopkeeper buying the land?—Nothing.

54404. Might not you therefore find that by that process the shopkeeper is able, by the amount of capital that he possesses, to re-establish an estate and become the landlord?—He could, after a time.

54405. Would not that, in your opinion, be contrary to the principle of peasant proprietary which it is the policy of the State and which all those Acts are intended to bring about?—It would, but these cases would be exceedingly rare.

54406. But it is not rare that the man should be very much in debt to the shopkeeper?—Oh, no, it is not; but that is in only very congested districts. That would not be a very usual thing all over the country.

54407. But is not it quite a possibility that a great many holdings might become amalgamated in the hands of one shopkeeper?—It is a possibility of course, but I would not say a probability.

54408. What is to prevent it?—Well, I suppose public opinion.

54409. But have you public opinion in the locality?—In the locality?

54410. You mean that the shopkeeper would become unpopular?—Yes, precisely.

54411. That his shop would be boycotted?—Yes.

54412. Then, although you think it is a possibility it is not likely, owing to the force of public opinion, to be a probability?—Yes.

54413. Now, take the case of the woollen factory. You said that a woollen factory ought to be started somewhere in that locality?—Yes.

54414. I suppose such a woollen factory would have to be supported, in its early stages at any rate, by the Board or by some authority?—Yes, by the Board.

54415. That woollen factory would not be able to stand on its own footing at present?—No, it would not.

54416. And the people know nothing of industrial life?—No; nothing whatever.

54417. Do you not see that there might be some difficulty with regard to that, that people carrying on woollen factories in other parts might resent a competitor?—There would be some difficulty. I would not have it on a large scale like that, but on a small scale so as to provide the people of the district with clothing material.

54418. Would that be cheaper for them than making it as they do now, in their own homes?—They are not many making it in their own homes at present.

54419. They do not?—Some do, but we have not many of those cottage industries.

54420. That has been done?—In a few cases.

54421. But is there any local weaver?—There are three or four.

54422. It is a fact that anything of the kind would have to be supported by some grant or something from the Board?—From the Board.

54423. About agricultural instruction. What is to be done at present in the way of agricultural instruction?—No instruction is being given.

54424. Do you see any sign of it in the locality, any action of the new Department?—This year there was. There was a man sent round only on a few occasions to give instruction in spraying and the supply of a certain class of potatoes and seeds to a very few parties for planting.

Sept. 24, 1907.

Rev. Redmond M'Hugh.

54425. But the majority of the people were left untouched by his visits?—The majority were left untouched.

54426. And is it your opinion that the agricultural instructor should be residing in the neighbourhood?—In the neighbourhood; for some portion of the year at all events, giving instruction in the planting of the seeds.

54427. Is there any difficulty now in the way of agricultural instruction or agricultural development from what used to be the case before the Board gave up the work?—It is much the same. The Congested Districts Board, some time ago, used to give agricultural instruction, and a few, where the instructions were given, used to follow the examples given by the instructor, and they used to have a better crop than they have now, and knew more about the quality of manure to be used.

54428. Was there a local resident instructor under the Board?—Not a local resident instructor. He came there at certain portions of the year and he gave instruction.

54429. And he was able to reach the people better than the man does now?—He was.

54430. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You gave an instance of a man in America from whom you received a letter expressing a desire for a new farm. Now, although he was in America I presume he had a holding in your parish?—Yes; he had a holding in the parish.

54431. He had a holding to give up in fact?—He had a holding to give up.

54432. Now, is this farm in a congested district?—No. The new farm was in County of Roscommon.

54433. Now, when you expressed a strong opinion about a motor service I do not suppose you meant to confine yourself to motors, but you want to impress the Commission with the extreme necessity for quicker and better means of communication?—Yes, that is it exactly.

54434. Now, with regard to the question of shopkeepers by a gradual process getting back into the position of landlord, you seem to think that the great check would be public opinion?—That would be a check at all events.

54435. But is it not a possibility, because the evidence that we have got is very much this, that all over these congested districts the people are very heavily in debt universally to the shopkeepers, and do you not think that where that is the case the shopkeeper at all events controls the mode of expression of public opinion?—Well, no; I would not be inclined to agree with that.

54436. Do you not think that if a shopkeeper pursued that policy it is quite possible that one very great danger would be then that, though according to your view there would be public opinion tending to prevent it, the man who started that public opinion might probably be in debt to that shopkeeper, and do you not think that the shopkeeper would have a great lever in his hand to prevent that man taking action, by saying, "If you go on with this I will proceed against you for this debt at once"—and would not that show that undue weight may be given to the assumption that public opinion would be a sufficient security?—Yes.

54437. With regard to the woollen factory and the making of clothes, is it not the case that there is a general change of dress and fashion in the West of Ireland, and that where people formerly wore homespuns now they do not, and that girls coming home from America dress in a different style, which has changed the taste and changed the fashion—is not that so?—That is so.

54438. And do you anticipate that the creation of a factory would change the fashion again—do you not think that the influence of girls coming from America governs the whole thing, and do you really consider that the establishment of a factory, or the production of homespuns would so far alter the taste that they would be content to go back to the old picturesque and certainly better, and as a matter of fact more sanitary and healthy, dress of former days—do you think that the effect of establishing a homespun factory would be to make a girl, for instance, buy homespun stuff instead of buying the shop stuffs that are more demanded and more the fashion?—I am sure it would. I think it would.

54439. Most Rev. Dr. D'DONNELL.—Now, in the parish of Rosmuck there would be a considerable improvement, I take it, in the circumstances of the people if the householders were able to clothe their families off the farms?—Yes, it would be a great improvement.

54440. The cloth that you get comes from a distance, to a large extent at present, unfortunately?—It does.

54441. In order to clothe the family off the farm it would be necessary that the farmer should have some sheep?—Precisely.

54442. Now, are there many of your people that have sheep?—Nearly all, almost all, are without sheep.

54443. They have no run in Rosmuck for sheep?—No, my lord.

54444. Would it not be a good way to improve the condition of your people if it were practicable to have a sheep run for them?—Yes. The parish is convenient to about 4,000 acres of a sheep-run that might be acquired.

54445. And how do you propose to treat it if it were acquired?—Well, to get the people of the parish to put their sheep on it.

54446. And then when the people had their sheep on this holding they would do well?—Yes.

54447. And there would be room for domestic industries?—Yes.

54448. And they could clothe the children?—Yes, and the household.

54449. Is that tract of land likely to be in the market very soon?—I do not know, but there could not be much difficulty in acquiring it. But this large tract of land is in the hands of four graziers.

54450. If, in the course of time, you had a little show in your district to exhibit what the people were doing in their houses would not it be important if it could be shown that a great many of the people were put in a position to clothe their own families from wool grown on the land which they held?—It would, my lord, be a great advantage.

54451. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—About those piers that ought to have been built, and were not built, is it for turf they are chiefly required?—Yes, chiefly for turf and for weed.

54452. The people export the turf?—Yes.

54453. To Aran?—To Aran and Kinvara and New Quay and other places.

54454. And you say there is not sufficient accommodation for loading hookers at present?—No; there is not.

54455. This would not be an expensive business, the piers?—No.

54456. Where would they be?—At Upper Camus and Lower Camus.

54457. Would it be necessary to make roads to them?—It would be necessary to make roads.

54458. To them?—Yes.

54459. There are no roads there at present?—No.

54460. What length of roads would be necessary?—There would be no road needed for Upper Camus, but half a mile of road for Lower Camus.

54461. I suppose the road would be as expensive as the pier itself?—About the same.

54462. There is a pier in the district to which there is no sufficient road provided?—There is.

54463. That is a pier to which there is a bohereen or a lane?—Yes.

54464. Would it be a great improvement if the bohereen were turned into a road?—Yes, it would; great improvement, to enable the people to take their turf there.

54465. What distance would it save the people?—Three miles.

54466. In that district the County Council can give a grant to a road?—Yes, a grant of one-third.

54467. Would you despair of any contribution to this road?—I would, because we have applied to them on three or four occasions for assistance and I am sure they would not give it at the present time.

54468. About the train service which has been spoken of, would a train to Costello, to any extent, supply the want that you propose to supply through a motor service?—No, it would not, under any circumstances.

54469. That is a distinct one?—A distinct one altogether.

54470. Mr. KAVANAGH.—You say there is no agricultural instruction in your district?—No.

54471. How is that—are you aware that £350 was spent on agricultural instruction in the County Galway?—I said an agricultural instructor came, but did not give much instruction. He has come for the first time this year, but he gives very little instruction.

54472. How is that?—I do not know.

54473. Have you a member of the County Committee in your district?—No.

54474. Would you rather that the agricultural scheme were under the Congested Districts Board?—Yes, I know that it was under the Congested Districts Board.

54475. At all events, your district is not being very well served at present by the Agricultural Department?—Not to my mind.

54476. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—There is just one point. It is more a matter of curiosity than of great interest. You stated that the purchasers of small holdings did not make as good a thing of it, even proportionately, as the purchasers of the big holdings. Is it that the purchaser of the big holding puts more into the land or that he is more industrious on the holding and has more heart in his work than the purchaser of the small holding?—That there is more to be derived from the large than the small holding.

54477. That is, that the purchaser of the small holding has not the same incentive to his work?—No, when the holding is very small.

Mr. MICHAEL A. LYONS examined.

54478. CHAIRMAN.—Where do you live?—Three miles west of here, my lord.

54479. Are you engaged in any occupation or profession?—I am a farmer.

54480. And with how much land?—Rough and smooth there might be about 50 acres, statute.

54481. What amount of that is under tillage?—There is very little now under tillage.

54482. What amount—four acres?—Practically none at all under tillage.

54483. All under grass?—Yes. I am not at home all the time. I am an organiser of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society.

54484. Then you have just this farm that you come to spend your holiday on?—No; I live there with my wife and children.

54485. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Were not you employed about there?—Yes; for a time.

54486. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—For banks?—Yes, all over.

54487. CHAIRMAN.—Now, do you stock it all yourself—is it all your own stock, or do you take in stock?—All my own.

54488. Now, what do you want to tell us?—Well, I have lived and been born in the district, and from my knowledge of the condition of the people among whom I was born I say the only cure for that, as far as I can see, can be put into three things—compulsory powers, migration, and education. Education, of course, is a pretty wide subject. It is a big subject. It takes in agricultural or technical education; education in fishing, and co-operation.

54489. Now with regard to fishing education, you are not connected with the Board now, are you?—Not directly.

54490. Do you believe that the Board have been acting on the right lines?—Largely. I believe they have done a wonderful amount of lasting good, and, of course, they have got their cranks, as all Boards will. I consider the biggest mistake the Board ever made is their effort at horse-breeding.

54491. But I was talking about fishing education?—Oh, as for fishing, they have done a wonderful lot all over Ireland with regard to fishing.

54492. You think the Board is on the right lines?—Yes.

54493. That the methods they have adopted are the right ones?—Certainly.

54494. What would you like to see adopted?—In connection with fishing?

54495. Yes; in fishing education?—I would find out the men who were fishermen first and I would concentrate them.

54496. Into a fishing village?—Yes, and bring them as near a useful port as possible, and bring them as near transit to the market as possible.

54497. Then in your view in order properly to develope an efficient fishery you must get rid of this man who is half a farmer and half a fisherman?—I would give the fisherman a small amount of land to sow potatoes.

54498. But that must be regarded as a garden. They must look to the sea as their one livelihood?—Practically, yes.

54499. And while you do that I suppose that at the same time in some places, you could develop longshore fishing—in some places where you have got a population that you cannot very easily concentrate in this fishing village?—I suppose in that case.

54500. You would let the men remain half farmers, but you would send them to develop on the lines of longshore fishing rather than net fishing—is that so?—Yes; that is so.

54501. Now, do you think that this kind of work can be done without resident fishery inspectors?—I think it can. I think there might be a school provided, to send the sons of already existing fishermen to, to show them how modern appliances in fishing could be used and adopted, and they could be educated in that way without an instructor residing on the spot.

54502. A school?—Say, that there is a school of fishing in the province, or, say, that it is made a subject in the already existing Technical School.

54503. But do you know of any such place—is there such a place as a school where they teach fishing as they do agriculture in an agricultural college?—The Piscatorial School, Baltimore, Cork, is the only one I know.

54504. Tell me what that is. I do not know anything about it?—They teach everything in connection with fishing, boat-building, net-making, net-mending, and longshore fishing.

54505. Do they take the fishery pupils to sea?—Yes.

54506. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You mean the school that was helped by Lady Burdett-Coutts, and that mainly owed its success as a fishery school to her ladyship's endowment and the exertions of Father Davies?—Yes. But I think the arrangement by which they would be able to send boys there is that you would first have to convict them of begging.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—It is an Industrial School.

54507. CHAIRMAN.—But what you seek to attain would be best arrived at by having men at certain places along the coast who would be bound to reside there and who would be much more necessarily acquainted with the actual men than could be the case if the inspector was supposed to have so large an area as he has now?—Yes, and for near shore fishermen.

54508. For both, but certainly for near shore fishermen. And in order to get these men to fish a great deal of personal encouragement and personal trouble is necessary?—Oh, that is so.

54509. Is it possible for a man to apply that personal encouragement if his district is as large as the districts which, I understand, are now under the supervision of the Board's inspector?—No, decidedly.

54510. You would need to make the district smaller?—Certainly, to get at the fishermen.

54511. And might the fishery inspector or instructor be responsible for that district and that district alone?—Yes.

54512. You have said fishery education—and what other education?—Agricultural education.

54513. What are your views about that?—If there is a migration scheme it would be necessary to train the young men how to work with the plough, how to select their seeds and how to do farming in a more extensive way than they do at present. It is all spade work.

54514. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Can it be other than spade work?—No; but there are patches here and there that he could plough. The plough is not enough used.

54515. CHAIRMAN.—Ploughing is not difficult to learn?—But everything in connection with ploughed land—harrowing, for instance. They would need to be shown how. Young men can be taught to develop a taste for advanced farming.

54516. That would be done by an instructor living amongst them?—Yes.

54517. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do I understand you to say, that assuming the policy of migration to be carried out and applied here, instruction would be necessary—and you give as examples of that the learning of the use of plough and harrow—do I

Sept 24, 1907.

Mr. Michael A Lyons.

understand you to say that the school should be here?—No.

54518. The school should be where the migrants go to?—Yes, or near it. My idea is that if a young boy, a farmer's son, at that school distinguished himself in his ordinary course of education there he ought to be taken up and trained by an agricultural instructor, and that it is from him and from him alone that the pupil would be more likely to learn, simply because he was an Irishman and a native.

54519. CHAIRMAN.—Of course, you have got to find land for him, too?—If he has an instructor he will be taught.

54520. You would not suggest that he should have land, but that he should merely teach?—He may acquire his father's land.

54521. He may be one of the brothers that does not?—That is so, too.

54522. If you had an agricultural college of that sort, and the young sons of farmers in considerable quantities qualified as instructors, you would have also to leave them with the teaching body?—I would not send them all. I say that they could then superintend to a certain extent in the National schools. That would do just as well.

54523. How long would it take a man along this district here to plough—suppose you had a big farmer who, under these local conditions, seems intelligent and industrious, and makes the most of the land he has got, and you thought of migrating him, how long would it take you to teach him how to manage to plough and harrow, and to use seeds, and that sort of thing?—From my knowledge of the people down here it would not take two months.

54524. Would it be possible to do something like this. It takes little time for a farmer to learn to plough and use modern appliances, and the rest of it. Would it be possible during the time at which the man gives up his old holding and goes into a new one to pass him through the college—would not there be time to do it and teach him these things?—Plenty of time.

54525. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—What is to happen to his land and family when he is away?—Surely they go to Scotland and England for a longer period, and the land is looked after by his wife and children.

54526. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Do you think he could learn to plough in the college, Mr. Lyons?—No.

54527. CHAIRMAN.—How do you propose to teach him?—By giving him the plough in his hand, I would.

54528. On land attached to the college?—Yes.

54529. You would not want to suggest that he should plough the dining-room floor?—No.

Mr. SUTHERLAND.—There is only one way of learning to do it, and that is on the land.

54530. CHAIRMAN.—Is there anything else that you would suggest?—Except co-operation to provide poor migrants with money.

54531. How?—By forming a co-operative credit society in the district where the migrant has a holding, and allowing the men who conduct this, who are on the committee, to lend to the needy people. They are first responsible to them, and they pay very much quicker than anybody else, because they are on the spot to see they pay. I state that from my own experience.

54532. What do you want to say about compulsory powers—have you founded an opinion on your own experience that compulsion is absolutely needed?—Absolutely.

54533. Can you give us any concrete cases of that sort—can you give us the instances which have brought that conclusion to your mind, or any of them?—Well, I live on the most congested property, I suppose, in Ireland. It is the worst kind of rundale, without exception, in Ireland.

54534. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Whose property is it?—It belonged to F. L. Comyn, and it is a part of it that was left unsold because it was such a bad case. We interested ourselves to get the Estates Commissioners to buy it. The Congested Districts Board would not touch us, and we got the Estates Commissioners to come and make an offer. Part of the tenants being ill-advised as to the price they should pay, the sale fell through. I and most of the tenants were negotiating for the purchase of this property at between 11 and 12 years' purchase, and unfortunately the Parish Priest advised the tenants to offer 18½ years' purchase, and by that means he would do away with inspection and all the rest. The people, being illiterate, then withdrew. The Estates Commissioners came on the scene and saw the awfully bad case it was, and when they heard that 18½ years' purchase was offered for it they left the place in disgust; and I do not blame them a bit. The estate was in the Incumbered Estates Court for 30 years, and it was sold over our heads for six years' purchase last year.

54535. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Who bought it?—Mr. Davy. That is his name, I understand.

54536. Have you had a fair rent?—Yes; part of the tenants had.

54537. Have you had a second term rent?—No.

54538. A first term?—A first term.

54539. How many years ago did you have the first term?—It was 16 years ago.

54540. Do you intend going in for a second term?—Yes; unless the place is purchased very soon.

54541. Is there talk of purchasing the estate again?—There is, but they want 18½ years rent for what they paid six for.

54542. They will want it, but they will not get it?—I do not know what is going to happen. I purpose going in for a second term rent.

54543. Do you give this case as an illustration of the necessity of compulsion?—Well, one of the cases. I know several. I know hundreds of cases, but that is the worst case I have met anywhere.

54544. It is a chance, I suppose, that it was sold for six years' purchase?—It was sold to one of the incumbrancers over our heads.

54545. I suppose the sale was advertised, and it came on in court?—It was advertised in the Dublin papers, but the poor provincial tenants never saw it. Besides, the fact of having to pay ready cash for it would frighten them from making an offer.

54546. But you could have asked the Estates Commissioners to go into Court and buy?—The Estates Commissioners when they heard that the tenants were satisfied to give 18½ years' purchase left the place. They are a parcel of tenants that could not be got to do anything for themselves. They simply left us there.

54547. If the tenants, or anybody on their behalf, had mentioned the matter to the Estates Commissioners, they could, irrespective of any offer of 18½ years' purchase, that may or may not have been made, have gone into the Land Judge's Court and made an offer, and if they made an offer in this particular case presumably of 8 or 10 years' purchase they would have got the estate?—Well, the Estates Commissioners were on the ground.

54548. But it requires somebody to move them. Their jurisdiction extends all over Ireland. They cannot attend to a particular case unless the matter is brought to their notice?—But they were here on the ground.

54549. But they were not aware of the sale being advertised and about to take place?—Well, I do not know about that.

It is a misfortune.

54550. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Did I understand you rightly to say that in the case of this particular property the tenants were willing to give 12 years' purchase?—Yes.

54551. That is a different property from the property that was sold for six?—No; the very one.

54552. The very one?—Yes.

54553. Then, what would you say was the average rent of the holdings on that property?—I would say £3.

54554. Now, on a £3 holding what is the difference between an annuity at 18½ years' purchase and an annuity at 12 years' purchase?—Well, I have not made it up.

54555. Does it really come to very much more than the amount of a dog tax?—Well, I am not sure it does.

54556. But you have not worked it out?—I have not.

54557. And I have not worked it out. You consider that the parish priest's view was unreasonable that they could become tenant purchasers for a difference of 6½ or 7 years' purchase; but what difference does it make to a man with a £3 holding?—It is not exactly the difference it would make to the man; but the point is that the Congested Districts Board would help to migrate a large number of these tenants if it were sold at the time.

54558. To the Congested Districts Board?—If they

could have become purchasers at the time a large number of the tenants would have been moved to another estate before this.

54559. But that is a different point. If you say the tenants were unwilling to buy, except under the Congested Districts Board, I could understand it; but here you paint a picture of this property as an instance requiring the power of compulsory purchase. You gave us the picture, and you say the tenants were willing to pay twelve years' purchase, but the parish priest stepped in, and it was stopped, because he said they might well give 18½. But the point is this—What was the difference, with regard to the annuitant's pocket, between the parish priest's suggestion and your's?—Per annum.

54560. Yes?—I have not worked it out, but a shilling to a poor man is as good as a pound to a big man.

54561. But what was in the tenants' minds was this, that they wished the property to be dealt with, and improvements made, and, therefore, they were not willing to buy, except through the Congested Districts Board. Was that really the right thing?—No; we were buying direct from the court at this time—from the Encumbered Estates Court. The Congested Districts Board would not touch that particular property at all, because there was no land to be divided, and there were no means of enlarging the holdings.

54562. I am taking the tenants' point of view, not the Estates Commissioners' point of view. Was it in the minds of the tenants and in your mind that the real thing to be done was that the Congested Districts Board should buy this property in preference to anybody else?—Yes.

54563. That was the bottom rock?—Yes.

54563A. And the property was afterwards sold for six years' purchase?—Six years'.

54564. And you having this in your mind, and being aware of all this, took no action at all, and the property, although you were all willing to give twelve years' purchase, was knocked down in court after public notice, and sold for six when you were ready to give double the amount?—We had no ready money, and we could not purchase the property unless we paid down the ready cash.

54565. But, as Sir Antony has suggested to you, I suppose you knew the property was in court?—Yes.

54566. And did it not occur to you to ask the Estates Commissioners to intervene?—The Estates Commissioners would not touch it. They refused to touch it in any sense. They refused to touch it after their visit to the place.

54576. Taking the case of this property, you give it as an illustration to Lord Dudley and the Commission as the basis and grounds of your contention that compulsory power is necessary?—Yes.

54568. Supposing that there was compulsory power to purchase your place, and the tenants were willing to give twelve years' purchase, and supposing that the authority dealing with compulsion fixed a price that would really amount to fourteen years' purchase to be paid by the tenants, would you put that compulsory price on the tenants against their will?—I would not.

54569. And, therefore, you only mean compulsion on the vendor of the property, and not compulsion on anybody else?—Oh, no; I would have compulsion for the tenants, too, but the amount should be a fair purchase rate.

54570. Yes, but I am supposing a case like this, that there is a property where the tenants are willing to give twelve years' purchase, and that compulsory powers are put in force by the authority, and that on a fair review of what should be given it comes to a sum that would amount, if there is to be no loss, to fourteen years' purchase to the tenants. Now I want to know what you are going to do—would you put compulsion on the tenants?—I would rather not answer that. It is very doubtful.

54571. I will ask you this. Do you think that the problem can never be fairly dealt with without compulsion?—Absolutely.

54572. But supposing the power of compulsion involves some loss to somebody, should any class bear that loss, or should it be borne by the public, the general community, the State?—I think the general community should bear it.

54573. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—You call this property the Comyns property?—Yes.

54574. What parish is it in?—In the parish of Spiddal, of Tuam.

54575. I gather from what has been stated that yourself and the parish priest did not take precisely the same view of the situation?—No.

54576. Perhaps we may have an opportunity of knowing what his view is; but when was it proposed that the Congested Districts Board should purchase?—Years ago, shortly after the Congested Districts Board was formed.

54577. Is this, then, an estate they could not buy because they had no grass land available to migrate the tenants to?—Yes, and that they could make no alteration in the condition of the tenant for his betterment.

54578. Then the Estates Commissioners came on the scene, and they did not see their way to intervene?—No.

54579. About the sale in the Land Judge's Court, do you know the details of the transaction?—No.

54580. The property passed to a mortgagee?—Yes.

54581. Was he the first mortgagee or the second?—I think he was the first.

54582. Were there several mortgagees?—Oh, several.

54583. These mortgagees were all served with notice of the sale in court?—Yes.

54584. How could it be that there would not be someone in court for the second mortgagee to say to the Land Judge that these tenants were willing to give more than six years' purchase for the property?—That was put before the court, that they were satisfied to give more; but they would not be let to give more. You see the people are absolutely illiterate, and they do not know what they are doing. They do what they are told.

54585. You may take it that there are a lot of people illiterate in this county who know pretty well what they are doing?—But you have to speak to them in Irish, and reason it out with them, and they understand it.

54586. And that is the language they ought to be spoken to in?—Yes, quite.

54587. Is it not strange that the second mortgagee did not appear in the Land Judge's Court?—This may help to explain. I said that this estate had been for thirty years in the Encumbered Estates Court. There are several mortgagees and there are 160 tenants, and the rental of the property would be about £600 a year, and they were thirty years waiting to get something out of it, and I suppose some of the mortgagees got disgusted, and did not take any interest in the sale.

54588. And let it go by default?—And let it go by default.

54589. Do you not think it would be a much better process to get the people instructed in agriculture gradually up from youth, so as to give the people a taste for agriculture, rather than try to turn a man of mature years into a ploughman?—Oh, certainly; that the education should gradually grow up with boys.

54590. Do you not think that that is the proper way?—That is so.

54591. Would it not be a good thing, therefore, if we had the National schools doing something on agricultural lines?—Certainly.

54592. Mr. O'Kelly.—What branch of the Organisation Society are you engaged in?—In all the banks. I was at one time.

54593. You know the Counties of Mayo and Galway?—Well.

54594. And you know the West of Ireland generally?—Yes.

54595. And do you think that there are large numbers of people in this county in the hands of gombeen men?—Yes.

54596. Do you think gombeenism prevails in the West?—Not to the extent it formerly did.

54597. Am I right in saying that gombeenism exists along the western seaboard?—Largely.

54598. And that you have not gombeenism to-day to the extent that you had twenty-five years ago?—No.

54599. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—Do you attribute that in any way at all to the creation of agricultural banks?—Certainly; I attribute it all to it.

54600. You do?—Certainly.

Sept. 24 1907.

Mr. Michael A. Lyons.

54601. The capital engaged in the agricultural banks is comparatively small?—Yes, but it is increasing.

54602. We have the balance-sheet, and what I want to ask you is whether this great result has been produced in such a short time by the banks. It is very interesting to hear that from you, but I should like to have your considered opinion on it. Then, in point of fact, the disappearance of that system of lending of money is due to the agricultural banks. I find in the report: "The growth of these banks is to be measured not only by the increase of the loans made from £12,802, in the preceding year, to £17,207." Now, that is the entire amount of the advances of these banks in the last year, £17,207. Now, do you give the lending out of such an amount of money as a sufficient reason why gombeenism has practically disappeared from the inland tracts of the West of Ireland?—I would say, certainly, it is the result of the banks.

54603. But it is only £17,000 among a population of over half a million?—There is gombeenism certainly there still.

54604. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Do the men who lend the money to these farmers charge exorbitant interest for it?—They are responsible for driving those men down.

54605. CHAIRMAN.—There is one curious fact apparently about these co-operative banks. According to this Blue Book,* there are apparently twelve banks in the County Galway. At least they are put as co-operative societies. Is that what you mean by banks?—No. The co-operative society is a different phase of the movement altogether. The co-operative society is intended to buy manure, and so on.

54606. Agricultural credit societies?—Yes.

54607. In the County of Galway there are twelve, and the loan capital of these varies from £200 downwards, but I find that in no one case is there a deposit over £36. £36 is the highest?—That is not quite exactly accurate, my lord, in the parish where I live.

54608. What parish is that?—Spiddal, of Tuam. There is a deposit of £50. It is only last year we got a deposit of £50 locally.

54609. Number twelve is Spiddal?—Sellern is the name of the bank.

54610. This is dated June, 1906?—Sellern is the bank I refer to.

54611. Membership, 59; loan capital, £168 11*s.* 7*d.*; deposit £36. This is the highest one I see. Total capital, £204. But is it not an extraordinary thing if these banks are really popular and really going ahead, that in no case you should find a deposit greater than £36?—There are very few to put deposits into them in the districts where they are established.

54612. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—I see that the number of members of the ninety-seven banks all told is only 1,756?—Yes.

54613. I just point out from that that the movement is more one of promise than of performance up to the present time?—It is young.

54614. And therefore it is rather surprising when you say that that is the reason why gombeenism has disappeared?—In the districts where the banks were established.

54615. Not outside?—Oh, no.

54616. I beg your pardon. Now, we have been told that the Parish Committees are doing very useful work in the congested districts, building, and so on, and I think we had a witness to-day who spoke of that. Would you advocate giving those functions to the Parish Committees or giving them to these co-operative societies in preference to the Parish Committees?—To the latter—the Societies.

54617. What is your reason for preferring the co-operative societies?—Well, the Committee of the bank, in the first instance, are elected freely by the people, and they elect what they consider the best men, and men representing the different districts in the area where the bank works, and they know the wants of the poor men, and the Committee have to approve unanimously of any movement for the benefit of any particular member; and I am quite sure that that is not so in the Parish Committees. Besides, it is my own personal opinion, talking about the Parish Committee scheme, I am certainly inclined to look upon it as a sort of relief in many ways, because you are paying some men some small amount of money to do for themselves what they ought to do.

54618. Do you think that in the present state of affairs in the West of Ireland they ought to be asked to do that work without a little assistance?—Oh, I do not object to their getting a little assistance. No; but I think that the work for which they get assistance ought to be substantial work, not small jobbing. For if there is a migration scheme, as I hope there will be, they will all become useless things—little pig-houses and things like that. They are of no lasting good.

54619. But for the present, at all events, they make life easier?—Yes.

54620. And they instil a certain amount of cleanliness, do they not?—Oh, certainly.

54621. The granting of these sums, up to the present time, does not destroy the spirit of self-reliance?—No; I hope not.

54622. Are you sure that it does not at all infringe upon it?—Oh, I do not think it does.

54623. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I only want to ask questions in explanation. You said that in the case of those banks or co-operative societies the Committee are men freely elected by the district?—By the members.

54624. Well, it is really this, that the men elect themselves and the people that are going to engage in the bank's transactions and manage it come together and they agree to establish a bank, and they merely nominate one another, do they not?—Not exactly. Every member in the bank—say there are 100 members—has a voice in the election of that Committee. There is an annual meeting held, and the members elect their Committee at that meeting.

54625. But all the people that elect have a certain obligation to discharge in the way of deposit?—Oh, no.

54626. Have they not to pay something?—They have to pay an entrance fee, which may be anything.

54627. But the two cases are not exactly alike. Anybody can form a bank. So many men meet and they can form it, and they agree to pay an entrance fee, and they elect from their number somebody to manage it. They have already paid the fee and got money in it although it may be very small. There is no analogy or comparison between that and the Parish Committee because it is really a private association of men who see business in the thing and make their rules, and pay an entrance fee. That is quite a different position from that of the Parish Committee working with State aid given for that purpose, where there is no electorate.

54628. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—But I understand that there is an electorate for the Parish Committees?—Yes.

54629. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I wanted to draw a distinction. In the one case they are freely elected, and in the other case not. I think the initial contrast you draw between the Parish Committee and a co-operative society or bank like that was simply that in one case there was what you call free election and in the other not?—Yes.

54630. I do not know how it uses its funds at all, but I take the fact of a man having to pay an entrance fee as showing that what is done is for his betterment that there is no analogy between the two cases.

54631. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—On that subject, in pursuance of what Sir John has said, I would ask you this. The co-operation society is a good agency for its own members?—Yes.

54632. There is nothing to prevent it being that agency now?—Nothing.

54633. It may distribute seeds now?—Yes.

54634. To its own members?—Or to others outside, provided they become members.

54635. To its own members?—Yes.

54636. And therefore the distribution is limited to members of the society?—Yes.

54637. And therefore it would be bringing compulsion on the people of the parish to join the co-operative society if the co-operative society were the agent for the distribution of these seeds?—It would not put compulsion on them if they did not want to become members.

54638. You went in for a free electorate?—Yes.

54639. You do not see any reason for doubting that the members of the Parish Committee are freely

* See Statistics of Agricultural Credit Societies, p. 376.

elected?—I know nothing about them, I never attended a meeting for the election of a Parish Committee.

54640. Well, it would not be surprising if one who is elected knows the locality and takes a public interest in what is going on in the locality?—Well, it would not be surprising.

54641. Do you think they are capable of taking a public interest in it?—I think so.

54642. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Is not it the fact that the local doctor and parish priest and several other gentlemen are *ex-officio* members of the Parish Committee?—Yes. I do not see anything in disparagement of anybody in what has been said.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Is there any electorate for the Parish Committee—is not there a contribution which represents all parties?

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—That is quite so.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—But no election.

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Under the scheme in force in this part of the country certain people are *ex-officio* members of the Committee, but in addition to them there are others directly elected by the farmers to act upon this Committee. That is not so in Donegal.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Under whatever system it is, the Parish Committees are representative of the people of the parish

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Highly so.

Mr. HENRY A. ROBINSON examined.

54643. CHAIRMAN.—You are a land agent?—Yes. I know this district, and I wish to give my views on rundale or intermixed plots. I have brought a map that I could show to the Commission if they liked. (*Map produced.*) This is Rossaville, a very bad place, further west. There is a townland called Parke quite close to here, on the Blake Minors' property under the Lord Chancellor. I have authority to give you any information that you wish.

54644. This is a bad estate in rundale?—Yes. In a £3 holding there might be fourteen different bits.

54645. Has there been any attempt made to sell that to the Board?—We are quite willing to sell to the Board, but I don't think the Board can do anything at present. I think the Board is the only body who should buy it.

54646. Has no request been made to the Board that they should buy it?—The Board did buy part of the estate down near Roundstone, an island called Innisnee, and I think they have done very good work in a very short time, and improved it very much.

54647. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—In a case where a property is in Chancery who is to take the initiative in the matter of a sale?—I think that the committee of the estate very likely would be the people to move.

54648. To move the Lord Chancellor to apply to the Congested Districts Board or express to the Congested Districts Board their willingness to sell?—Yes. I think the Lord Chancellor could move himself.

54649. Then he has got an enormous number of estates to look after. Is there anyone else who can put the thing in motion?—I think the receiver under the Lord Chancellor.

54650. Are you the receiver?—Yes.

54651. Suppose you said it should not be sold to anybody else but the Board, you would have to take the opinion of your committee if you were to draw a conclusion?—Yes.

54652. Would it be for you or the committee to move the Lord Chancellor to take the initial steps of offering to the Board?—I think both of us combined. I consider it would be much better for the people that it would be sold to the Board than that it would be sold direct to the tenants through the Land Commission, because I think that the Board is the only body that has power to consolidate those holdings, and in that way make the land much more valuable.

54653. And is it not extremely undesirable that a state of rundale should be perpetuated by transferring direct to the tenants?—Decidedly so.

54654. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—But the Estates Commissioners have that power if you sell to them as a congested estate?—I have no objection to the Estates Commissioners, but I talk about the Board because this is certainly a congested district, and I think it is that body that should work in this particular locality.

54655. CHAIRMAN.—Your point is you would like to see some authority buy it and improve it?—Yes. I think the general question in the minds of all who have the interests of the tenants at heart is that they should be improved by the sale.

54656. Have you been receiver for a long time?—Yes.

54657. Has the state of rundale been existing all the time?—It has.

54658. Do you consider it practically impossible under the conditions prevailing under the Land Acts and so forth for a landlord to re-arrange his property and to alter the rundale system into a striping system?—Utterly impossible.

54659. And the only possible way it can be done is by an authority armed with the necessary statutory powers acquiring the property so as to be able to do what the landlord cannot do?—That is the only way.

54660. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—How cannot the landlord do it?—The landlord has no power to make a tenant go from one plot to another.

54661. That is since 1881, but before 1881 he was not prevented?—Before 1881 the landlord had power to stripe. He had power to serve notice to quit. He has not that power now.

54662. I presume that the rundale has not been added to since 1881, and that it was a state of affairs which arose prior to 1881?—Mostly.

54663. Why with all those powers did they not prevent it?—Most landlords did do it.

54664. Then, why did not the others?—It was very troublesome and expensive.

54665. But in the management of a well-ordered estate?—I don't say that it should not have been done.

54666. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—To clear Mr. Sutherland's point. Taking the period prior to 1881; taking the case of a rundale estate, where this system has prevailed time out of mind, would not the landlord find himself at once with his difficulties increased and perhaps action by him rendered impossible by the general hostile feeling against the disturbance of a condition of things that they had always had. Would not that be a deterring influence to increase the difficulty?—Of course. That would be going back past 1881 or even prior to 1871.

54667. Do you think there were great practical difficulties in the way of landlords anxious to do it?—There were great difficulties in the way.

54668. Was not that one of the difficulties, that it was acting contrary to the general spirit and traditions of the people who had grown up under this system and did not wish to have it disturbed?—Yes.

54669. CHAIRMAN.—Is there anything that you wish to say generally with regard to the remedying of congestion?—All this district I know very well, from this down to Lettermullen, and I think there are a lot of estates in a very bad way at present which I think should be bought by the Board or the Estates Commissioners; and I think if they acquire those estates they could improve them in a great many ways. There are some estates I manage that have not a sod of turf. There are other estates which I manage that have plenty of turf. Some of those estates that have no turf have plenty of seaweed. There is no kind of interchange to extend the mutual benefits of one to the other, but this could be done if the Board acquired both estates.

54670. Is it in the direction of land purchase and improvement that you think the chief remedy is to be looked for, or do you think it is to be found in other ways, too?—Principally, I think, in land purchase.

54671. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You put that point, too. If a body like the Congested Districts Board bought estates *in globo*, bought a block of estates, the turbary could be arranged so as to serve all the estates in the block?—Quite so.

54672. The properties not having seaweed might derive benefit from that manure?—They might. I can give you an instance. I am agent for an estate down near Lettermulien and Lettermore, the St. George Estate. There is not a sod of turf on it. They are scrawing the ground and taking the bit of grass off the commonage that is supposed to be for the cattle to graze.

Sept. 24, 1907.

Mr. Henry A Robinson.

54673. They are then burning the sods?—They are burning the sods and leaving nothing but the bare rocks. It is impossible to stop it for the people must have fire, and there is no turf on that estate at all. I am agent for other estates, and on part of Mr. Berridge's and part of Mr. Miller's there is plenty of turf.

54674. You put it to the Commission that it is a proper public policy to have two such estates handled together, and the tenants who have no turf should be provided when they become tenant purchasers with turf, seeing that there is abundance on neighbouring estates?—Certainly.

54675. Under a system of that kind more land could be made available for the enlargement of holdings and migration?—There are vast tracts of commonage attached to some of the estates. I don't say it is particularly good land, but with roads into it and seaweed brought there I think some of the people could be moved a certain distance, and I think they would prefer to remove not too far away if it could be done. Of course, around the seashore there is most congestion, and the reason of that is, of course, the seaweed.

54676. Moving the people would be a leading remedy, but it would be a considerable improvement in the condition of many of them if a tract of grazing land were acquired at some distance and they were given a common with the right of grazing over it?—Yes, I think so. It is a great advantage to small tenants to have commonage.

54677. For instance, men who have no sheep now, might in that way come to have sheep and to have within themselves the means of clothing their own families?—Yes; where there is a sheep district, but sheep won't do in every district, and they are very hard to keep from going into the gardens, because they get over the fences; but it would be an advantage if it could be done.

54678. CHAIRMAN.—Is there any other point to which you wish to refer?—The fishing might be improved down in this direction.

54679. You live at Roundstone?—The fishing there has been fairly successful. The spring mackerel fishing has been a success.

54680. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Are the conveniences there sufficient?—Yes.

54681. Adequate to any reasonable developments that may take place?—Yes. Roundstone Bay is certainly very good.

54682. And the communications?—We have to cart from Roundstone to Ballynahinch station, about five miles. If a train came down it would be very necessary, but we are not badly off.

54683. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Are the fish mostly exported fresh?—Yes. A buyer comes down from Galway during the last few years—Mr. Ruane. There is a hulk provided by the Congested Districts Board, which lies in the harbour. A cargo of ice comes from Norway, and I have known him to send off 600 boxes of fresh mackerel iced in the one day.

54684. What is their destination?—Manchester, Liverpool, and so on.

54685. The English market?—The English market.

54686. They sell in good condition there?—Very good condition. If the ice runs out or there is too great a glut of fish they salt them in barrels for America.

54687. But there is no such demand for spring mackerel as for the autumn mackerel for that market?—The spring mackerel are the principal ones we get. We get very few in the autumn.

54688. The spring mackerel is the most remunerative?—Yes. They begin in April and get as high as from 15 shillings to £1 a box, but later, in June and July, they don't get much. Then it goes down to 6 shillings a box.

54689. I understand you to say that the spring mackerel fishing in Roundstone has, on the whole, been successful?—I think it has. They are not very skilled fishermen. They have to be made fishermen, and the Board has supplied instructors to teach them, and a great many who never fished before are now taking it up. Some of the boats have been a failure. Others are doing very well. I believe there is some difficulty in getting the instalments from some of the boats. On the whole, I would say that mackerel fishing is a success.

54690. You reside there?—Yes.

54691. You see it all yourself?—Yes.

54692. Do they go far to sea in that fishing?—Yes. They go a long way to sea.

54693. How many miles—have you any idea?—Twenty or thirty miles, I am sure.

54694. In what direction?—Outside Aran. I have seen a great deal of it and I know that.

54695. How long does the spring mackerel fishing last?—April and May to the end of June.

54696. Was it successful this year?—Yes; it was fairly successful.

54697. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you consider that the increase in the take of fish is due to the operations of the Congested Districts Board?—Certainly.

54698. Taking the period before the establishment of the Congested Districts Board and the present position there is a great change?—Yes.

54699. Do you attribute that to the wise proceedings of the Congested Districts Board?—Yes. We had no mackerel at all before that.

54700. Is it your opinion that men who never took to fishing before are likely to continue once they get inured to it and find the advantages of it?—Yes.

54701. It will not be a mushroom growth?—No. The young men are very glad to be able to do it.

54702. Mr. KAVANAGH.—You have oyster fishing, too, at Roundstone?—There are only the oyster beds near Cashel Bay which belong to Mr. Berridge.

54703. He lets them out in sections?—No. He does not let them out at all. He sells the oysters off the beds. He takes them and sells them.

54704. He collects them himself?—Yes; but there is a very good trade in connection with the lobster fishery around Roundstone, and they send away a lot of lobsters.

54705. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Does Mr. Berridge import the young oysters from abroad and fatten them? Is it a fattening bed or a breeding bed?—We have a breeding bed at Rossmuck, and we dredge them off that and put them on the fattening bed at Cashel Bay.

54706. Then you rear the oysters and then fatten them?—Yes, but now and then we have brought a cargo from foreign places, such as French oysters, if we ran short. They are nothing like as good as they used to be long ago. I don't know why.

54707. Do you find the oysters are spatting less than years ago?—Yes; considerably less in my time.

54708. Is it in consequence of a change in the temperature of the water?—I am not quite sure. I think it is a very vexed question.

54709. At all events, the fact remains that the spatting is not so free as it used to be?—No. We have nothing like the quantity of oysters.

54710. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Have you any idea of how many oysters are sent away from that fishery in a year?—I could not tell you that. I am not managing that just at present. I used to.

54711. Would you say 100 barrels?—I don't think they sell by the barrel. I used to sell a lot to the Clare men, by the thousand.

54712. Why did you sell to them?—They had customers buying from them wholesale, and they sold them out.

54713. Did you do anything to collect the spat in the French way, for instance?—No; we don't put any tiles or anything like that down.

54714. Do you collect the oysters from wherever they are?—Yes. We dredge the banks to keep mud and weed away.

54715. Is there no possible way of developing the oyster fishery in the West of Ireland around the coast of Galway?—I am afraid not. You cannot plant oysters everywhere. There were some old beds at Lettermore. There are none now.

54716. Looking at the whole of that inlet of which Gorumna is the outer portion, is not it the fact that the whole of that is very suitable for the cultivation of oysters?—I would not say the whole of it. I am sure some of it would be.

54717. Is it cultivated in that way now?—No.

54718. Don't you think there is a possibility of a considerable expansion of the oyster fishery all around this inlet, and that what you are doing in one place could be very well done in twenty places?—It might, but who is going to do it?

54719. Suppose the central fishery authority were to do it?—I think it would be well worth trying.

54720. Is there not every prospect of success in it? It is a very valuable and remunerative fishing?—Yes; it is. They require great watching.

54721. Quite so, but you have always a market for oysters?—Yes

54722. They can be carried long distances?—They can.

54723. And they preserve well, and all these conditions seem to be very favourable. Do you not think it suits the habits of these fishermen who, I am bound to say, expressed a dislike of being out at sea at night? They would not in this case require to go to sea at all?—They would not.

54724. Do you think that an effort in that direction might not be of very great service?—I think it could be tried, on a small scale first.

54725. Have you any acquaintance with the system pursued in France?—No; I have not.

54726. You know that the sub-letting of small patches of muddy foreshore is competed for by the people very keenly?—I was not aware of that.

54727. Do you take up the oysters and size them and lay them down in beds?—We take up the small oysters.

54728. Do you dredge over the whole area every time you catch oysters?—Yes.

54729. You disturb the oysters every time you catch them?—Yes. I think disturbing them does not do any harm. If they are left they are inclined to sink and then they die, especially if it is muddy, and turning them up with the dredger does them good.

54730. If not done too often, but if you were to let them down two or three times a month?—We don't do it often. We dredge a whole lot together and put them down on the bed and take them off.

54731. Does it not strike you, generally, that it is a fishing that offers a good prospect if rapidly and considerably developed?—I think it might.

54732. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—How long has Mr. Berridge been working this oyster bed?—The oyster beds were there before Mr. Berridge's time at all, and for the last fifty years. My first recollection of them is that we were able to sell ten times as many of them as we could sell now.

54733. Are we to take it that in a commercial sense the business has been so good that it encouraged Mr. Berridge to enlarge and extend it?—Quite the reverse.

54734. The experience gained in working these oyster beds in this district does not point to other people taking it up or even Mr. Berridge extending his operations?—That is so.

54735. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—What is the principal source of outlay?—To start a bed?

54736. No; but to carry it on. I am supposing that a central authority was going to assist in establishing a bed and stocking it—what is the principal source of expenditure afterwards?—Watching.

54737. If there were a number of fisheries established round the coast, would not the inducement of people to come in and take these oysters be lessened and the expense of watching lessened?—It might lessen it if they were all interested in it.

54738. It strikes you that of all sources of expenditure that of watching is the least remunerative. There is no return from it, as there is from money spent in selecting and collecting the spat and carrying on the fishery?—Of course, if the oysters would do well in certain places, but I think that that is a matter of experiment.

54739. Is it a fact that you go about dredging for oysters in places that are not on your foreshore and transfer them to your fishery?—No.

54740. They do exist in other places?—They might get a few rock oysters here and there. They get them in no quantity.

54741. The oyster is indigenous off the west of Galway. I presume those you cultivate are descendants of oysters that have been always there?—Yes.

54742. So the assumption is that the oyster would flourish there?—I don't think it would be a paying business, to tell you the truth.

54743. Simply because you must expend so much at present on watching?—It is not so much that. There is nothing like the same return from oysters now as there was thirty years ago.

54744. I don't understand that. The price of oysters has gone up?—The price is up, but the spatting has gone down.

54745. You are not attending to them properly. Are you collecting the spat?—We are collecting it in the natural way. We are not using artificial means. Some people don't approve of artificial means.

54746. But it is a very inexpensive thing?—I saw it done at Clifden by Mr. Corless, who put up all sorts of queer things, and I don't think he did any better than we did.

54747. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Have you found on the west coast of Ireland that the particular enemies of oysters are multitudinous and the losses enormous, due to crabs and other things especially which devote themselves to sucking out the oysters?—That is so. In some parts when the spring tides are very low these things ought to be gathered off the beds. The fishing at Lettermore and Gorumna might be improved. There is one place where there might be a pier with advantage. That is a place near where the hotel is, the hotel of the Isles. It is called Kugella. The fishermen there, when they tried the mackerel fishing before, generally had to run into Aran, and wait there for a favourable opportunity.

54748. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Have you ever thought in your mind any scheme for raising the condition of the population in Lettermore and Gorumna and Lettermullen to a satisfactory basis?—I think there is no way of improving them unless by a body like the Board or the Estates Commissioners. I think that some of them might be migrated, and the holdings of those who remain put together and enlarged. I know, of course, that people don't care about moving from the place where they were born, but I think it could be done if a certain number of friends were taken together from the same neighbourhood. They would not then be so averse to bettering their own conditions and bettering the conditions of those left behind them.

54749. You look then upon the migration of suitable migrants taken in groups as a proper remedy?—Certainly.

54750. Then you think the fishing could be developed?—To a certain extent. The fishing was tried there before, and I understand that the owners gave up the boats on account of not having a harbour at home. Some people have said that their chief source of income is the sea, but I think you will find that they are not going to give up the land and only take a garden, and go fishing. They look upon the sea as a help, but not the chief source of income, and I think you will find that they will be anxious to stick to the land.

54751. Do you consider that practical instruction in agriculture could do much for them?—Yes; agricultural instruction is a very good thing.

Mr. PATRICK CURRAN examined.

54752. CHAIRMAN.—Where do you reside?—At Cloughmore, Costello Bay.

54753. Do you fish or farm?—I farm on a small scale and I fish a little.

54754. Have you got a boat?—Yes, a canoe.

54755. What would you like to tell the Commission?—There is no chance of living in that part of the country, the holdings are so small, and the nature of the land is mostly cutaway bog that is exhausted and refuses anything. Land that used in my time when I was a boy to grow oats refuses to grow anything now—even the poorest kind of rye will not grow. Nothing but migration would help them, and they would want some small loans to help them after they were migrated, and to go on until their holdings would yield a return to pay their instalments. There is no use in sending poor men to a place without helping them as they would fail.

54756. Would you be willing to migrate?—I would, and I applied for it.

54757. What is your family?—I have four boys and two girls.

54758. What is the age of your youngest boy?—About 19 years.

54759. What size of a holding would you like to get?—My holding at present of the kind of land I have is forty acres, including a piece of commonage attached, and I hold some lands outside that I graze,

Sept. 24, 1907.

Mr. Patrick Curran.

and if I don't get a fair holding to supply the family there I would not live.

54760. What would you call a fair holding?—I would like to be permitted to divide a large holding with the family. It is time for them to get away. Some of them are 32 and 33 years old.

54761. Is the son who is 33 married?—He is not. I have a married son, too.

54762. Is he living with you?—No. He is living outside on a small portion. He would wish to go, too, if he possibly could. He is joined with two or three others on the one rent receipt.

54763. His holding is separated from yours?—Yes.

54764. You have a holding of forty acres. Would you cultivate it all?—No. There is one-fourth of it waste.

54765. Is the remainder capable of being cultivated?—It is.

54766. It is not good land?—No. It is fairly bad land.

54767. What are you paying for the forty acres?—£7 2*s.* 6*d.* now. It was £11 5*s.* some time ago. It is under a second-term rent now.

54768. There has been no talk of buying the land?—There was a year or two ago, but we did not succeed.

54769. Suppose that there was land found for you in the neighbourhood of Loughrea would you go down that far?—I would, and farther.

54770. Would your neighbours go?—Some of them would, but they would sooner go in clubs together.

54771. They would like to go all together?—They would.

54772. Have you got a horse?—I have.

54773. Can you plough the land that you have?—There was never a plough there. There are not three in our county that would know a plough from a bush.

54774. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Would you like to leave the sea? Would you like to give up the fishing?—I would not; but it is not for myself alone, but I want to do something for the family. They will be in poverty for their life-time if they don't move.

54775. Would you prefer being farmers out-and-out to being sailors?—They are farmers out-and-out. I don't sell fish, but some of my neighbours who have small holdings of only £2 or 30*s.* fish all the time.

54776. Am I to understand that the larger the holding the less the men fish?—Yes.

54777. In your neighbourhood?—Yes.

54778. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You are anxious to migrate because you are anxious to do something for your family?—Yes.

54779. Do you mean that the family if moved from your present holding would keep together, and that it would be all one holding, or do you mean that you want to get holdings for your sons as well—which is it?—I want to get permission to divide any large holding I would get at present with the children afterwards.

54780. You want to go to Loughrea or anywhere else to get a good large holding, but the reason you want this is mostly to divide it up?—That is so—with the family.

Mr. PETER COSTELLO examined.

Mr. Peter Costello.

54781. CHAIRMAN.—Where do you reside?—Loughanbeg, Inver, Spiddal.

54782. Are you a farmer?—Yes, and a shopkeeper.

54783. What do you want to tell the Commission?—We want some roads built up to the mountains, and to buy the estate. We want some roads and piers, and to get fishing boats there.

54784. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Whose property is it?—Mr. Davy's property.

54785. CHAIRMAN.—Is that the property we heard about a while ago?—Yes. It was a wrong statement that was given out.

54786. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—I understand there was a head rent on that property of £350?—Yes.

54787. That was the explanation of the small number of years' purchase?—Yes.

54788. No man would give eighteen years' purchase for a property which has £350 a year head rent when the income is less than £600?—No. A lot of mountain land could be reclaimed. I know some of the people would migrate out of it. More would not.

54789. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Would it be the big or the small men who would be willing to migrate?—The small men.

54790. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—They are in most need—is that your point?—Yes.

54791. CHAIRMAN.—Do you think the people are worse off than they used to be?—Far worse off.

54792. What is the reason of that?—The families are big and the lands are small.

54793. The families are so much bigger now that that explains the difference?—Yes. There is a lot of them going away.

54794. That cannot be the reason. Is there any other reason that you can think of?—The land is getting poorer, too.

54795. They don't pay as much rent as they used to?—They do not.

54796. What do you think is the reason they are worse off than they used to be?—I don't know.

54797. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—They are not satisfied with what they used to have?—They are not.

54798. They want to eat more and to drink more tea?—The crop is bad, too. They should have some grant for spraying potatoes here.

54799. CHAIRMAN.—How long have you your shop?—Twenty years.

54800. Do the people owe you more than they used to?—Far more. They owe me about £400 or £500.

54801. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Do you sell cloth?—Yes.

54802. Do the young girls buy more expensive hats and feathers than they used to do?—I don't go in for feathers. You would not get many hats or feathers back in our country at all.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—So much the better.

54803. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Have you got a licence?—Yes.

54804. The farm you live on was your father's before?—Yes.

54805. You took up the business of shopkeeper in addition to the farm you inherited from your father?—Yes.

54806. Do you consider that the farm pays you better than the shop?—If I could stick to the farm it would pay me pretty well.

54807. Has the number of shops increased in your time?—Yes.

54808. Competition has increased among the shopkeepers?—Yes.

54809. Therefore I suppose in order to keep business it is natural that shopkeepers would be inclined to give more credit so as not to let people get off their books?—That is a fact.

54810. Do you think that that may help to make people worse off than they were?—I think it makes them worse off to give them too much credit.

54811. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You say there was a head rent on this property of £300?—Yes.

54812. Twenty-five years' purchase of that would be £7,500, and six years' purchase of £600 would be £3,600, and that gives a total purchase price of £11,100, and £11,100 is more than eighteen years' purchase of the rental?—It is.

54813. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I suppose that you as a shopkeeper with growing competition are obliged as competition grows to give more credit?—Yes; I give more credit.

54814. You have to, lest you be crushed out?—Yes.

54815. Do you see any possible means of remedying that? Have you ever thought about it?—No.

54816. Because we have evidence all over the country about the enormous indebtedness of the population to the shops, and we are told in some cases it is increasing. As a shopkeeper have you ever thought out any means of checking what is admittedly an evil?—I could not say any means.

54817. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Have you, in recovering your debts, ever sued any of your debtors?—No. I never issued any process yet for the last twenty years.

54818. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—How do the people live besides out of their holdings and the bogs?—Some of them migrate.

54819. To Scotland?—They seldom go to Scotland.

54820. Do they get employment in the County Galway?—They go to Woodlawn and Athenry and places like that.

54821. Do many go to America?—Lots go to America.

54822. Is Mr. Davy willing to sell the property for what he paid for it?—I am not sure. I could not say. There were a lot of arrears on the estate. He wiped them off. Some of them owed £150 and £200, and he wiped them off.

54823. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You say there is no migratory labour going to Scotland, but there is migratory labour going to East Galway?—There is.

54824. Is that for agricultural purposes on the big farms?—Yes.

54825. Is it the demand for labour in East Galway, where there is not sufficient labour that induces the labour to go from here, for agricultural purposes?—Yes.

54826. Is there a considerable number of labourers going from your district to East Galway in the season?—Yes, a considerable number.

54827. Have you noticed whether there is a tendency for these migratory labourers to increase or diminish?—I often saw from 60 to 100 of them on Friday morning going to meet the train at Galway to bring them down to Woodlawn.

54828. At certain times of the year there is this kind of labour going every year?—There is.

54829. Can you tell the Commission what times of year?—They start in March or April and on to Christmas, and then they might come home for a week or two and go back there again.

54830. And remain in East Galway?—Yes.

54831. They merely come home in the dead season at the end of the year?—Some of them do not come home until Christmas.

54832. I presume that these are big tillage farms, and if they were broken up the call for this labour here would diminish?—It would.

54833. Do you think that that would be a good or bad thing for this district?—I would not say it would be a good thing for this district, because they should get some means of living.

54834. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Do you know what sort of labour they get when they go over there?—They cut turf, mould potatoes, and break stones, plough and work small threshing machines for oats, and save hay.

54385. CHAIRMAN.—Do you sell tea in your shop?—Yes.

54836. What is the highest price you charge per lb. in your shop?—2*s.* 8*d.* is the highest and then there are 2*s.* 6*d.* and 2*s.* 4*d.*, and the lowest is 2*s.* 2*d.*

54837. Do you get your tea from London?—From London and Dublin.

54838. Do not answer this question if you do not wish, but it would interest the Commission to know when these people are in debt to you, do they come and buy more goods?—Some of them come to me in the summer time and tell me they were three days fasting with the hunger, then I give them goods.

54839. When they owe you money and ask you for goods, do you charge them interest on the debt?—No; I don't charge interest, I never did.

54840. When a man is in debt to you and comes to buy some more goods, does he ask you the price of what he is to buy?—He always does.

54841. You don't find it makes any difference whether he is in debt to you or whether he is not?—Not a bit.

54842. Does he bargain harder when he is not in debt?—He does not. If he had the money in his pocket he would not bargain more than if he is in debt.

54843. Mr. O'KELLY.—How long does the credit last?—Three and four years, and sometimes five, and even six years.

54844. Would that be in many cases?—In many cases.

54845. I suppose it would be only a small number of your customers who would be over four or five years?—A very small number over four or five years.

54846. Are there any gombeen men in your district?—No. I don't seen any gombeen men, except these agricultural banks. I don't know what they charge. There is not a gombeen man in my district.

54847. Do you remember any gombeen man ever being in your district?—About thirty years ago there was a man in it.

54848. You know this part of the country fairly well?—Yes. All the way to Lettermullen and Kilkerrin and Carna.

54849. Over that whole area do you know any gombeen man carrying on his occupation?—No. I don't.

54850. Then you don't fancy there will be any danger of the future peasant proprietors getting into the clutches of the gombeen men in this part of the country?—I don't know.

54851. If there are no gombeen men you cannot?—I don't see any gombeen men here.

54852. Is it not so that the genuine gombeen man has been in many parts of the country replaced by the gombeen shopkeeper?—I don't know.

54853. You have no experience of such a personage?—I have not.

54854. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You don't approve of agricultural banks?—I would.

54855. You consider them as synonymous with gombeen men?—I don't know that I should, but I never saw a gombeen man in my place. The agricultural banks are not very long started in the country, and I did not see any gombeen men before.

54856. Do you know anything of the agricultural banks?—I do not.

54857. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Have many of the other shopkeepers got licences?—Some of them have.

54858. Don't answer this question if you do not wish, but do you think you could stand as a shopkeeper if you had not the licence?—I could not.

54859. Mr. KAVANAGH.—You say you charge no interest when you give credit?—No.

54860. I suppose you charge a different price for goods paid for with ready money from goods sold on credit?—No; I charge the one price.

54861. Mr. O'KELLY.—You say you could not run your shop if you had no licence?—No. I would not sell my groceries.

54862. You don't mean by that that you make no profit on the drink?—I do not mean it.

54863. I suggest that what you mean is that people who would come in to buy groceries from you might buy drink as an incident?—The Connemara people come off and on to Galway.

54864. One kind of business brings on the other?—Yes.

54865. CHAIRMAN.—Might not it be the other way, too. Might not the man who comes in to buy drink occasionally buy your groceries, too?—That might be so, too.

54866. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Are you a County Councillor or a District Councillor?—I am on the District Council.

Mr. JOHN C. CONROY examined.

54867. CHAIRMAN.—You are a solicitor residing in Galway?—Yes.

54868. And you are County Councillor for this part of the country?—Yes.

54869. I am anxious to know about your scheme of agricultural instruction. At present the system is that the County Committee is appointed by the County Council?—That is so.

54870. And the County Committee has the formation of agricultural schemes?—Yes, with the approval of the Department.

54871. And a penny in the £ is levied over the county at-large?—Yes; by the County Council.

54872. The distribution of the money is a matter for discussion and arrangement by the County Committee?—Yes. The County Council delegate all their powers to the County Committees and it all lies in the hands of the Agricultural Committee for Agricultural Instruction, and in the same way with the Technical Committee for Technical Instruction.

54873. So if it happened that there were no representatives of a particular area of the county upon the County Committee that district would get a very poor show in the distribution of the money?—We always try to make the allocation of the shares evenly all round, but of course if there is no representative to ask it it may remain over.

54874. The needs of a district can only be brought

Sept. 24, 1907.

Mr. John C. Conroy.

before the Committee by the representatives?—That is so.

54875. If they have no representative it is extremely unlikely that their needs will ever reach the County Committee?—That is so.

54876. Have you got information about the present representatives upon the Galway County Committee?—For some reason or other portion of this district has been overlooked.

54877. Can you tell me whether there is a representative upon the County Committee from the districts of Rosmuck or Carna?—Not on the County Committee.

54878. No representative at all?—No; I don t think even in Carna. Father M'Hugh, I understand, is on in Carna, but he is on the Technical Committee.

54879. On the County Committee has Rosmuck or Carna any representative?—No. You have not any representative west of Spiddal until you reach Roundstone. I happen to be one myself, but I live in Galway. I mean there are no local men. We did propose Father M'Hugh of Rosmuck, but for some reason or other his name was not put on the list.

54880. The fact remains that west of Spiddal to Roundstone there is no representative at all?—Yes. I might mention, as I happen to be here, that as regards the kelp industry there could be a lot done, though we are all aware that since the discovery of the deposit in South America by which they can make iodine at something like two pence an ounce, and can send it to Europe and flood the market at that price, and though the present price of iodine is seven pence an ounce, yet notwithstanding that, the Americans keep up the price, and there is a certain ring. With that circumstance in existence I think that the price is not likely to go down for some time, and there are certain ways in which the kelp industry could be improved.

54881. The American ring has control of those fields in South America?—They have, but they have not reduced the price, and in Europe it sells at present for about seven pence or seven pence halfpenny. There is no doubt if the Americans liked they could send a supply of 300 or 400 tons to Europe which would be sufficient for the markets of Europe, at two pence an ounce, which would count out the home industry altogether; but at present it is not at all likely that the price will come down, and in the interval something could be done to improve the kelp industry along the coast.

54882. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Have you got definite information that they could sell the iodine at two pence an ounce?—The information was published. I happened to be in a case in Dublin. It was called the submarine estate case, in which this question of kelp and seaweed was largely discussed, both in the court of the Land Commission before the Sub-Commission, and in the High Court, and in the course of the case these figures were quoted, and they were published also I think in a pamphlet by the Congested Districts Board some time ago; so there is scarcely any question about these figures. Iodine is very volatile and there should be some way of burning the kelp besides in open kilns. I don't know whether it could be burned in retorts. If the Congested Districts Board could establish something like that along the coast it would be of service to the kelp industry. At present they have to pay ten shillings a ton freightage, and ten or twelve shillings or more for commission, for the buying of it. That could be nearly all saved if we could manufacture our own here in Ireland. There is sufficient material to support it along the coast of Mayo, Galway, and Clare. This may seem to be going a long way afield but something could be done to improve the burning and the drying of the weed. In addition to iodine there are other materials. There are millions of tons of what is called black weed going to loss upon the coast of Galway yearly between Costello Bay and Kilkerrin. I remember myself when it was brought into Galway and sold as manure for eighteen shillings a boatload. Now you would get a hooker-load for three or four shillings, and it is not sent in at all since the artificial manures have been sold.

54883. Did it come under your notice that a kelp agent stated to the Commission that that weed could not be used at all in the manufacture of iodine?—Yes. I saw it stated that there are two kinds of weed, red weed that comes out of the deep water, and courlagh, that are equally good for making kelp, but from the black weed you can get no iodine. It is, however, rich in other materials, and in that way I think it could be utilised, both for manure and soap manufacture, and bromide could be got from it; but it is going to loss at present along the coast.

54884. Chairman.—Is it your point that if the Board established enclosed kilns of some kind for burning the weed that is made into kelp they could at the same time use the black weed in extracting other products?—Yes. They don't keep altogether to red weed. Even now they burn a small quantity of black weed through it.

54885. That is not the right way?—No, but it improves the weight of the kelp too.

54886. Mr. Hazell told us the other day that he wished to have kelp with no black weed at all?—He will tell you that, but he will not get the burners to make it without a little black weed. What they say is it does not mix so well and they get a uniformly better price by having a little black weed. Of course he would prefer it without the black weed.

54887. If the Board buy the weed can they do it without using the black weed?—Yes, but I don't think it would mix well.

54889. Sir John Colomb.—Do I understand that if a factory for the kelp was established on this coast you think that the black weed could be utilised to produce other things than kelp?—Yes.

54889. Mr. Sutherland.—Is not it the case that by-products that used to be got from the incineration of seaweed are got much more cheaply now for instance from chloride of potash?—Yes.

54890. Would not that be an element to take into consideration?—Of course it is. That is what I am referring to. They can get iodine much cheaper from these deposits than from kelp.

54891. Of course the fact that you can get the by-products from other substances more cheaply than from kelp points to a want of stability in the kelp trade?—No doubt it does. Father M'Hugh referred to the want of transit, and also to the question of cultivation. I really think myself that a lot could be done to encourage people to till, to bring in some of the mountain lands, particularly between here and Kilkerrin, and there is a great deal of scope for improvement there. A lot could be done in National education. After nine or ten years coming to the place I notice a change that has been already effected in many parts, notably in Father M'Hugh's own parish. I think there should be some encouragement given in the matter of roads and piers. A good pier at Lettermullen. and some encouragement for the fishery there, would be necessary. At present whenever the boats go out they have to go principally to Aran for shelter. Another point to which I wish to refer is as regards the estate at Lettermullen. There was an offer made in the Landed Estates Court by the tenants to purchase it for ten years' purchase. The Congested Districts Board would not touch it. The tenants offered two years' additional, making it twelve, which the Land Judge refused. The incumbrancers, the Scottish Insurance Company, bought it in for a large sum, and I think as long as the Congested Districts Board shirk estates like that there will be no chance of improvement.

Rev. Thomas Hosty examined.

Rev. Thomas Hosty.

54892. Chairman.—You are Parish Priest of Spiddal, Tuam?—Yes. Generally speaking I agree with the observations of previous witnesses regarding the wants of the locality. In the first place, to do any good at the present time the properties—and there are only two of them in this locality—should be bought out by the Congested Districts Board. These two properties are known as the Comyns—Mr Davy's—property, and the Blake Minors. These two landlords comprise the whole of this district. Mr. Davy bought a few months ago in the court. In the first place, about nine or ten years ago, the tenants agreed to purchase the place at 14 years' purchase of the Landed Estates Court under Ashbourne Act

They signed the papers, but the Land Commission would not sanction the sale. Then the property remained in the same position until about four or five years ago. Then the solicitors having carriage of the sale of this Comyns property asked the Estates Commissioners to come down and look at it with a view to purchasing it. The tenants previously had offered 18 and 21 years' purchase under the zones. They came to me and said they were willing to give those terms. They acted at no suggestion of mine. It was carried out by themselves. They came to me and asked me to negotiate for them. So I tried through the court, and the solicitor, Mr. Redington Sainsbury. I got Mr. Sainsbury to write to the Estates Commissioners to come down and see the place. Mr. Finucane, Mr. Bailey, and Mr. Stewart come and saw the property, and did not like what they saw. They returned to Dublin and offered a sum that no one could accept, and they did that, I believe, honestly in order that they would have nothing to say to it. They offered a sum for that property that could not be entertained.

54893. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You could not expect an owner to accept it?—No. I would not ask the Court to accept it, and I believe the whole business was to get rid of the estate so far as the Estates Commissioners were concerned.

54894. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Do you mean to say that the Estates Commissioners offered a sum which they expected would be refused, and which, in your opinion, if accepted would be accepted to the detriment of the owner of the property?—I believe that honestly.*

54895. You are the first clergyman I have ever heard who has imputed such conduct as that to the Estates Commissioners; not only the first clergyman, but the first man?—That is my opinion.†

54896. I don't think much of your opinion on that point?—You are quite welcome.

54897. Mr. O'KELLY.—You heard those tenants described some time ago as illiterate tenants?—Yes.

54898. Those illiterate tenants came to you and said they were willing to buy within the zones?—Yes.

54899. I wonder who was it suggested to them that such things as the zones existed?—It was well discussed in all the papers in the country.

54900. It is astonishing to me to find illiterate Connemara peasants versed in the zones?—They are indeed. They are not illiterate.

54901. You heard Mr. Lyons say——?—Is that statement true?

54902. It is not for me to verify his accuracy?—They are not illiterate. There are some of them very well stored.

54903. But it does strike me as astonishing that a number of Connemara tenants—and it would strike me as astonishing even that more enlightened tenants—would come and say, "We are willing to buy at 18 years' purchase and 21 years' purchase within the zones"?—You think that is very difficult reasoning?

54904. I think it really astonishing, but the fact I accept from you?—My parishioners are able to reason that way.

54905. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—How many years' purchase did the Estates Commissioners offer?—I could not say exactly. I have it from a very fair source of information that they offered only nine years. I have that from a fair source of information which I don't want to put before this Board.

54906. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The only thing I don't understand is if the tenants were willing to buy within the zones how it happened that there was any inspection or that the Estates Commissioners could object?—Within the zones was not accepted. The solicitor, Mr. Sainsbury, asked Judge Ross to give him permission to apply to the Estates Commissioners to purchase out of Court.

54907. The tenants were willing to give 18 and 21 years' purchase?—Yes.

54908. But the vendor would not have it?—Judge Ross was the vendor, and he would not have it.

54909. Then the tenants finding that they could not affect a direct sale asked the Estates Commissioners to look at it with a view to buying it *in globo*?—They were asked through the Court, and the solicitors having carriage asked them to come down to see it. I showed them all over the estate, and they were not very well impressed with its look and the condition of the place.

54910. With reference to the alleged illiteracy of the people, I suppose that newspapers find their way into the district?—Yes, and there is a man in every village able to read the papers for them, and to explain the meaning of every phrase.

---

* *Note by Secretary.*—The Estates Commissioners have sent the Commission the following statement of F. L. Comyn:—

"The estate was submitted to the Estates Commissioners under the provisions of Section 7 of the Irish Land Act, 1903, in January, 1904, in two separate parts, locally known as the Sellor-Namore Estate, comprising 4,726 acres, of which 2,566 were mountain in the owner's possession, the remainder being in the hands of 120 tenants, and the Spiddal Estate comprising 1,222 acres, of which 1,038 were mountain, and the remainder being in the hands of 18 tenants, the latter being the unsold residue of this part of the estate.

In the course of the inquiries made by the Estates Commissioners it was ascertained that proceedings for the sale of this estate had previously been before the Land Commission. In the Sellor-Namore Estate the tenants signed applications for advances to enable them to purchase from Land Commission under the Act of 1896, on which Mr. Commissioner O'Brien ruled as follows:—

> "The general condition of this part of the estate and the buildings on it are so bad, the holdings consist of so many scattered plots, and the tenants are so poor, the rents have been so badly paid, that it appears to the Commissioners that the holdings would not be sufficient or satisfactory security for the advances applied for."

The Commissioners also requisitioned estates maps to be supplied on a larger scale than those supplied in the rental.

In the Spiddal Estate Commissioner O'Brien also refused to make advances on account of insufficient and unsatisfactory security. The advances applied for came to about 14 years' purchase.

With these facts before them, the Estates Commissioners, on the 23rd March, 1905, ruled that they would not make an offer for the purchase of the estate, and their decision was communicated to the Registrar of the Land Judge's Court on the 27th March, 1905. Subsequently, on a representation from the solicitors acting for the tenants on the estate, the matter was further considered by the Commissioners, who themselves visited the estate, and interviewed the tenants and the Rev. Father Hosty, the Parish Priest, and by Order of the 31st May, 1905, confirmed their previous ruling, they having in the meantime ascertained that the purchase of the estate had also been considered by the Congested Districts Board, who refused to buy on the ground that the holdings were hopelessly scattered and uneconomic, and that the Board did not see any possibility of improving the property if purchased. The solicitors for the tenants (Messrs. Chance and Co.) were accordingly informed that the Commissioners did not propose to make an offer for this Estate on the ground that the holdings were scattered and uneconomic, and there did not appear to be any possibility of improving the condition of the holdings if the estate were purchased by them.

(See the decision in the Scottish Union Assurance Estate (39 Irish Law Times Report, 258), a parallel case.)

No further proceedings appear to have been taken before the Estates Commissioners in the matter.

The statement that the Estates Commissioners offered a price for this estate is absolutely incorrect.

† On reading the statement made to the Royal Commission on Congestion in reference to the offer to purchase, on the part of the Estates Commissioners, the Comyn property, I find the Estates Commissioners offered no sum of purchase-money, great or small, for the Comyn property; and hence I regret very much having volunteered an opinion which had no foundation whatever in fact. I must have had at the time before my mind the offer of the Land Commissioners for the above property, namely, six years' purchase. Mr. Sainsbury's note to me is appended.

T. HOSTY, P.P.

Redington & Sainsbury,
Solicitors.

14 Dawson-street,
Dublin, 21st October, 1907.

Dear Father Hosty,—I duly received your wire, and immediately wired back as follows—"Land Commission offered about six—Estates Commissioners made no offer," which I confirm.

Yours very faithfully,

W. D SAINSBURY.

Rev. T. Hosty, P.P.

Sept. 24, 1907.

Rev. Thomas Hosty.

54911. Is it not the case that ever since the Act of 1903 all the papers in Ireland have been continually using expressions about the zones?—Yes.

54912. Under those circumstances you contend it would not be a matter of surprise that the people, although they may be illiterate, should know all about "zones"?—Yes.

54913. Mr. O'Kelly.—They generally read in this district Nationalist newspapers?—I think they have many more in the country.

54914. I take it further that if they were to study those papers fairly and carefully, instead of being enamoured of the zones, they would avoid them as much as possible?—There were certain persons and certain papers awfully enamoured of the zones at one time.

54915. Nationalist newspapers?—Yes, indeed, enamoured of the zones at a time, and they find it convenient now to turn back.

54916. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—From your account of it it does not appear that the Congested Districts Board came into it?—No. I wish they had a look in.

54917. When the original offer was made by the tenants the Land Commission would not sanction the transfer on those terms?—Yes.

54918. I suppose the Estates Commissioners knew that, too?—Well, they knew it.

54919. That would be a deterrent in their case, too?—They did not wish to have anything to do with it.

54920. About this sale in Judge Ross's Court, can you tell us what the head rent was?—£265.

54921. That had to be redeemed?—Yes.

54922. Then the gentleman bought?—This gentleman had the first and the heaviest mortgage on the property. He has bought it not with any idea in the world to make money on it. He simply bought it, I suppose, to secure his first mortgage. He does not want to make a penny on the business, and he is prepared, I know on authority, to sell to the Congested Districts Board at the figure at which he bought it.

54923. Mr. Sutherland.—What is to prevent the landlord and tenants from selling if the tenants are prepared to pay a bigger price than the Estates Commissioners?—Nothing in the world. They had offered through the agent to purchase. Then it passed into Mr. Davy's hands.

54924. What is to prevent them now?—The place is very poor. They cannot manage it themselves.

54925. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Of course, once the matter comes under the cognisance of the Estates Commissioners they cannot sanction a public advance of which they do not approve?—Certainly.

54926. Mr. Sutherland.—Is there anything in the state of the law of Ireland to prevent the landlord and tenants going on with the bargain and buying at whatever number of years purchase the tenants may think it worth?—There is nothing in the world, but they cannot pay cash. The Land Commission must advance it.

54927. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—With a view to getting some relief for the existing congestion you would not object to some of the people migrating out of that district?—No. I have no objection in the world, but I will give you my opinion on that question.

54928. I will ask you in a moment; but if that programme were carried out it would probably be better for those who remained?—Surely.

54929. That might enable a transaction to go through?—Yes.

54930. Then you said you would give me your idea about migration?—I see a great many thousand acres of reclaimable mountain and bog there, and a great many of the people on the congested estates could be removed to those places, and made very comfortable and happy, and I think they would be more happy near their old homesteads than if migrated to Roscommon or Westmeath.

54931. That is a matter to be always taken into account when there is a scheme of migration proposed, whether there is an alternative. You say in that particular case there is another alternative worth considering, the improvement of holdings without going so far?—Yes.

54932. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—That need not be argued. It is admitted that if the condition of persons can be improved without going far, so much the better.

54933. Sir John Colomb.—As a matter of fact, the property in this case was bought by Mr. Davy?—Yes.

54934. And he gave practically eighteen years' purchase for it?—I am not in a position to say at what number of years' purchase he bought it, but I think he is prepared to sell it for what he gave for it. With regard to the fishing along here, I would like to add that transit facilities are very much required.

Mr. William Lawless examined.

Mr. William Lawless.

54935. Chairman.—Where do you reside?—At Upper Dangan, Galway. I am in the urban district of Galway. I am a farmer, and hold about twelve acres of land that I bought under the Ashbourne Act at 17½ years' purchase. There are six farmers in my district with only four or five acres of land, and a valuation of only £4 or £5, and some of them only £2. There are 300 or 400 acres of grazing land on the River Corrib side held by shopkeepers and butchers, and close by are these poor tenants. If they had some little extension they could live pretty well, but as it is they have to work outside, and labour would be very slack in Galway, only for the marble works that are giving a fair share of employment.

54936. You and your neighbours live, as a matter of fact, within the urban district of Galway?—It is on the borders and partly in the urban district.

54937. What is it that you complain of?—Those grazing lands should be divided.

54938. Do you object to living in the urban district?—No.

54939. Sir John Colomb.—Is your grievance that your rates are high because you live in the urban district?—That is part of the grievance. They have to pay most of the rates. Some of them have to pay all the rates. Those who have purchased and some more who went on for a second term have to pay all the rates within the urban district without a sufficiency of land to profit from the heavy urban taxation.

54940. What do you expect the Commission to do towards remedying this grievance?—There are poor farmers in my district with holdings of only £4 valuation of bad rocky and mountain land, and they require more land.

54941. Mr. O'Kelly.—You would want to have people migrated from that particular district, and the land vacated and divided among the tenants who remain?—Yes, but there is enough land in the district to give enlargements of the holdings.

Mr. Patrick O'Halloran examined.

Mr. Patrick O'Halloran.

54942. Chairman.—Do you come from the same district as the last witness?—Yes. I have been nominated to give evidence.

54943. Sir John Colomb.—Are you a farmer?—I am a farmer on a small scale and a labourer. My little farm is fenced in on all sides by graziers.

54944. Are they shopkeepers?—They are not judicial tenants, but shopkeepers and graziers from the town of Galway.

54945. Chairman.—What you want amounts to this—you want these grazing lands bought out, and distributed among the small farmers?—The only object we have in view is that some of the tenants who were entitled to it should get a preference before the shopkeepers in the town who are supported and live by our hard earnings, and come and take up little patches of land as they get a chance, and leave the poor unfortunate labouring farmer without anything.

54946. You farm in a small way, and you are a labourer?—I am labouring because my little holding would not maintain me and my family of twelve or thirteen, even if I got it for nothing.

54947. Thede other people living near you are also in that position?—Yes.

54948. So you are a community of labourers living together?—Yes.

54949. You want to become farmers?—Something to occupy my time.

54950. You want to get more land?—Yes, because I am confined to the town, and have to go looking for labour there that the men in the town should have.

54951. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Is it your idea that small holders like yourself should be removed to larger farms taken from shopkeepers or graziers?—The land beside me is set to a shopkeeper from the town who has taken it up at a much higher price than it was at thirty years ago.

54952. Is the price going up?—The price is going up in our district.

54953. The value of grazing land is going up?—The land set to an adjoining tenant to me was £4 an acre. Now there are men from the town paying £6 an acre. I saw the question asked what was the difference between a large and a small holder. In a company a man with a £5 share cannot expect as much profit as a man with a £100 share, and the same way with land, the man with forty acres can derive more profit than the man with four.

54954. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—What do you do with your own land?—I have only five acres of land. The rent is £10 16*s.* and the rate over £5. I have the most part of it set to pay the landlord, and I maintain my family with my labour.

54955. What use do you make of your holding?—Up to a few years ago, until I got into a large family unfortunately, I was utilising it for my own purposes. I had another farm in addition to that, which I was wrongfully put out of, adjoining it. Within the last four or five years I had to sub-let what was left, with the exception of about an acre that I till for the use of the family. *Sept.* 24, 1907. Mr Patrick O'Halloran.

54956. In other words, with a large family and the pressure of circumstances, you were scarcely free to utilise it as you would like yourself?—I could not possibly do so at present.

54957. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You let most of your land in con-acre?—No, but for grazing purposes. It is not fit for con-acre.

54958. I understood you to say that these are good lands, and that the graziers are paying more for the grazing than they did before?—It is very strange to say that on one side of the mearing they pay the landlord £1 an acre more on the eleven months' system than they pay me. There are six or seven properties in the district with grass lands. Barna was offered for sale some time ago to the Estates Commissioners, but they would not take less than twenty-six years' purchase. On the Berridge Estate, at Bushey Park, there are about 200 acres of land in the hands of a woman who is not utilising it, but sublets it. On that estate there are tenants who have only four or five acres of land.

54958A. It is sufficient for us to know that congestion exists, and that land is available to relieve it?—Very well.

Mr. PATRICK WALSH examined.

54959. CHAIRMAN.—What points do you wish to bring before us?—I appear on behalf of the inhabitants of Fermoyle, Muckannagh, Gleniemurrin, Costello, Lettermore, Carraroe and Gorumna Islands, and the adjoining townlands. I would first draw attention to the necessity for the completion of the road already partly constructed from Ross-a-Veel pier to Oughterard. The entire distance between these points is about fifteen miles. The road was first undertaken about sixty years ago, and each end has been made, leaving an intervening gap of about four miles to be completed. The road, so far as finished, has been under contract for the last twenty years. In 1891 a considerable part was made, including a bridge over Bourahaun River, the money to do it coming from Mr. Balfour's Relief Fund. It was not, however, completed, and the works have been left derelict since. The completion of the road would be an enormous convenience to the entire population in the districts above-mentioned, parts of which are very congested. It would enable them to avail of Oughterard as their market town instead of Galway, which is distant from twenty-two to twenty-five miles and more, while Oughterard would be only from ten to fifteen. It should be mentioned also there are four fishing and shooting lodges along the road between Oughterard and Costello, viz., Lettercaffroo Lodge, Fermoyle Lodge, Gleniemurrin Lodge and Costello Lodge, the gentlemen occupying which give considerable employment, which is a great aid to the poor and struggling population in the district. These lodges at present can only be reached from Maamcross station, round by Screeb and Costello, a distance of twenty to twenty-five miles, or by direct conveyance from Galway, which is much further, whereas Oughterard station, if connected by the completion of the road would be only from nine to twelve miles. If the amount spent on the road in 1891 had been spent under contract the people are of opinion it would have been sufficient to complete this necessary work. Mr. Patrick Walsh.

54960. Is there any other matter to which you wish to draw attention?—I also wish to refer to the necessity of making a bit of a boreen, of about 400 perches, leading from the main road at Bourahaun through the townland of Gleniemurrin. The tenants have already made a considerable part of it, but are too poor to complete it. It would be a great boon to them, as they have no car-way and must take all sorts of seeds, manures, etc., on horses'- backs and people's backs. They would have had the road completed ere now only a bridge is to be placed over the Bourahaun River, and the people are not able to afford to complete the road and build the bridge, but they promise and agree to give a share of money and labour if they get some help in doing the work. I may add that at present the school children have to cross the river, which is dangerous in floods.

The Commission adjourned.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH PUBLIC SITTING.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH, 1907,

AT 11.0 O'CLOCK, A.M.,

In the Courthouse, Oughterard, County Galway.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (Chairman); The Right Hon. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL, G.C.S.I.; The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL; CONOR O'KELLY, Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.; ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esq.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Mr. PATRICK NAUGHTON examined.

Sept. 25, 1907.

Mr. Patrick Naughton

54961. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You are nominated by the Rural District Council of Oughterard?—So I understand.

54962. Tell the Commission what you wish to bring before them?—The first thing that is necessary, so far as our district is concerned, is compulsory land purchase. The next point is the necessity of migrating people from uneconomic holdings. The land in the district in which our population at present live is not sufficient and therefore they must be migrated.

54963. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Would they be willing to go?—It is very hard to say that. I think they would go.

54964. Would a large number of them go?—Practically all, because they cannot live where they are at present.

54965. You would not need to clear them all out. If any fair number went there would be room for the rest who remained?—Yes. To live uneconomically.

54966. Is there much untenanted land?—In the district I represent not much. There is only one. I don't know whether I am appointed to represent Gorumna or Lettermullen.

54967. You are quite free to mention anything that is within your knowledge and is based on facts?—Migration is absolutely necessary, because within my opinion in our district the bigger half of them should be migrated to let them achieve anything at all upon the land.

54968. What district are you specially speaking of?—I am specially speaking of the district in which I reside, Carraroe, Lettermullen, Gorumna. Practically it is all the same from Spiddal to Clifden.

54969. Would you consider congestion is at its worst in Lettermullen, Lettermore and Gorumna?—They are practically all the same. My next point is the developments that would help those who are congested to live more comfortably.

54970. Where they are?—Where they are at present. Even those left behind would want some development to enable them to live decently if possible. I would refer to the fishing industry, and the matter of developing that is rather a matter to consider.

54971. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—By fishing you mean both by sea and land?—Both, but more especially the sea. It is concerning the southern coast more than the inland fishing, because, as a rule, the inland fishing is in the hands of the gentry and no one benefits from it with the exception of bailiffs, whereas from the sea fishing everybody benefits practically, and the fishing industry will never have any ultimate good end without supplying them with boats and gear. Then they must be supplied with piers—what they call harbourage in our district. Under the old system boats and gear used to be supplied, to be paid for within eight years. It discourages the poor people if they cannot make money out of the fishing in the first two or three seasons. I would suggest that the term of repayment should be doubled and made sixteen years. I would suggest that there should be harbourage accommodation on such places on our southern coast as Shruffaun. They should be deepened and the accommodation increased, so that when fishing boats come in they may not lose the ebb of the tide, which may mean a day and a night lost. Furthermore, I would suggest a light railway from Maam Cross or Galway to Costello Bay, to give them a means of sending off their fish to market. Costello Bay is the centre of the fishing on the whole coast from Galway to Clifden, and all the boats, even the Galway trawlers, come there to anchor, and if there was a light railway as suggested it would encourage not only the mackerel, but the lobster and gurnet fishing.

54972. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—The lobsters would have a better chance of arriving alive?—Yes, because if the fish are kept over a day they may not be marketable.

54973. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—What is the amount of fish landed in the district to which you refer?—About a ton a week.

54974. That would be fifty-two tons a year?—Yes.

54975. Are you going to construct a railway for that?—Not at all. The boats now go up to Galway, which loses time, whereas if there was a light railway to Maam Cross or Galway the fish could be sent off at once.

54976. You would arrive a few hours earlier in the market?—A day and a night practically.

54977. You have heard about the railway to Achill?—Yes.

54978. We asked there whether the railway had increased the fishing to Achill and they said they could not say it had?—I am not in the same position.

54979. What is the difference?—The difference is our railway is not made.

54980. I am not saying anything against the making of the railway, but you must not run away with the idea that you can make the fishing in a day or a year. Besides the railway there would be boats and nets and piers?—That would be the extension of it, but as it stands at present I am giving you that summary. I would suggest a central place for forming a harbour. It should be at Costello Bay, which is the only safe anchorage on the south coast.

54981. A light railway to Galway would be the more natural route?—The distance to Maam Cross would be shorter.

54982. When you go to Maam Cross you would have to change, as the carriages running over the light railway could not run on the ordinary railway?—It stands as much to reason to have a light railway to Maam Cross as to have it to Galway.

54983. You would have to change in either case, but two sides of a triangle are greater than the third, and you would have a longer route by Maam Cross?—Yes, but the new construction would be shorter and it would cost less money although it would be a longer road to Galway.

54984. Who would be served by the light railway from Costello to Maam?—All the fishing.

54985. But all the coast from Costello to Galway is thickly inhabited?—On a calm or a rough day the boats presently plying in Galway Bay cannot go to Galway, and the anchorage place is Galway Bay, whereas if they had a way of sending off the fish from there they would not go to Galway except on Saturday evenings.

54986. That has nothing to do with the railway?—We are looking to our own facilities and what would

encourage us. I advocate a pier at Shruffaun, on Costello Bay, and I think the Galway District Council will support me.

54987. The pier and light railway will go together and are part of the same project?—Yes. As regards the development of home industries, lace-making and things like that, the first thing I would refer to is we consider ourselves a little bit backward as far as home industries are concerned, and I would be very much inclined to say, if allowed to say it, that I attribute more or less of it to not having some representative from the West upon the Congested Districts Board. Down in our parish, where they have these lace schools established, the first thing that catches you is you have, as instructresses or lace school mistresses, persons from Donegal or from Mayo or from somewhere like that. The reason is we have no representative upon the Congested Districts Board.

54988. Have you got people in your district who have had the training and competency to teach?—They have never been tested.

54989. Mr. O'Kelly.—They have never been trained?—They have been training people from, I could specify the names practically, from Kiltimagh or Donegal. They have come down there to be trained there and then get to be mistresses of schools after being trained there.

54990. Sir John Colomb.—Are the Commissioners to understand that in your view, and to the best of your belief, girls are brought from Donegal down to this western district of Galway in order to be trained for employment as lace mistresses in your district?—Yes. I wish to convey that.

54991. That being so, if your views are to have any weight with the Commission, would you give the name of the school and the particular circumstances so that the Commission can trace the matter out?—I mean to do that, but I may not be in a position to give them at present. You mean the names of the teachers?

54992. Chairman.—Would you mind stating that again?—Regarding those home industries we consider, in our part of the country, that we are placed at a disadvantage in not getting the real benefit of what we should get by bringing down people from Donegal or anywhere you like, such as Kiltimagh down in Mayo to our place to be trained by teachers and then to be themselves placed as teachers.

54993. Who brings these girls down?—I daresay the only man I can refer to is Mr. Walker.

54994. Do you mean to say Mr. Walker brings down from Donegal these girls to be trained?—Yes, to Carraroe.

54995. Girls come from Donegal to Carraroe in the schools not as teachers, but as workers?—Yes, and from Mayo.

54996. That is, to the Carraroe lace school?—Yes.

54997. We will make inquiries about that?—The reason why I mention that is why they would not try the people at home.

54998. Mr. Kavanagh.—Who would train them?—The teacher who trained those.

54999. Chairman.—Your point is that it may be necessary to import a teacher, but that the importation should be limited to the teacher, and that the local girls should be trained, and if they are successful they should, in their turn, become teachers?—I am not referring to the girls at all, but all the local girls should be trained by the teachers, and if there is a vacancy in that district it should be given to the local girl, whereas that is not being done. I would also suggest that the accounts of those lace schools and industries should be audited.

55000. I suppose they are audited; I suppose that the accounts are kept?—I think upon a very inferior scale.

55001. What is your allegation?—The allegation is that the lace workers complain to the representatives of the people that they consider that they do more work than they are paid for.

55002. They are paid by the piece?—Yes. There is nothing to show whether they are right or wrong.

55003. How is it checked?—There is no check on that, presently.

55004. How is the audit going to check that?—I would say suppose the parish priest of the parish, where the lace school would be established, or the District Councillor would have access to the books, and see that they are properly kept, and the money is paid out that ought to be paid out.

55005. Who do you suggest gets the advantage of the present system, the Congested Districts Board or the people who buy the lace?—I think the suggestion is very plain.

55006. I should like you to explain it. I don't care about taking suggestions from you?—I doubt the mistresses.

55007. In other words, you think there is some reason to think that the mistresses intercept the money in some way?—I think it is very plain. I have been told that.

55008. I cannot take vague hints. You must say what you do mean?—That is it, according to what the lace-workers tell me. They imagine the money is not paid to them when due properly. They seem to think, in fact they are practically sure, that the lace-mistresses adopt some of the money themselves.

55009. Mr. O'Kelly.—Do you mean to say retain?—Yes.

Mr. O'Kelly.—That is a very serious charge to make.

55011. Sir John Colomb.—Are you aware that there is a most accurate account of every transaction in the books kept as laid down by the Board?—I quite agree.

55012. And your parish priest takes a great interest in the lace school?—Not for the last twelve months.

55013. Chairman.—You know Carraroe yourself?—Yes.

55014. Are you a farmer?—Yes.

55015. Have you got a shop?—Yes.

55016. And a licence?—No. Moreover, I am just speaking as I was told.

55017. Sir John Colomb.—Beyond hearsay, have you, as a public man, a representative of the Rural District Council, sought to obtain information from Mr. Walker, of the Congested Districts Board, or some of the mistresses as to what was the system of keeping the book?—No.

55018. Therefore the evidence you give us is not the result of examination and investigation of facts as far as you could obtain them, but mere hearsay; gossip of the people?—It is the hearsay of the people, but I am telling you the truth.

55019. Mr. O'Kelly.—Did you make any attempt to have this matter inquired into?—No, it has been so lately that I found out these complaints, and knowing that this Royal Commission was coming round, I deferred doing so.

55020. And knowing you were going to make these statements to the Royal Commission didn't you think it was your duty to verify the statement before you launched this phillipic against the honesty and integrity of the school?—It is hardly that.

55021. It is outrageous that you should go into the witness box and make such a charge against the honesty of the teachers without having taken the least trouble to inform yourself of the facts?—It has been found out.

55022. You have not consulted Mr. Walker, the mistresses, or anybody, and yet on mere hearsay you found, and make public, a charge against the uprightness and character of the teachers?—I have lodged the complaint upon hearsay.

55023. You think it right for you to do that?—Well, it has now come out.

55024. Would you think it right if a person made a charge against yourself without having ascertained whether it was true or not, and without having consulted you or hearing your story?—It is often done.

55025. Would you like it in your own case?—I would not.

55026. But you do it yourself in the case of others. That is very impartial; very just and scrupulous of you?—Well, that is the way the thing hangs.

55027. Chairman.—What is the next point?—It seems to me I have an opponent here. I am only giving you my views.

55028. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—That is not so. You have no opponent?—I think it is so, my lord. He is standing up for a single class of people against me and my likes.

Mr. O'Kelly.—I beg your pardon. You have made a most serious and gross charge against the honesty of certain people without first having investigated the truth or otherwise of the charge, and it is my duty, and I am not going to excuse myself to you, to point to that fact. I stand up for no one, but for fair play for all classes.

55029. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—You said to

Sept. 25, 190 .

Mr. Patrick Naughton.

Lord Dudley you could not understand the introduction of the teachers?—Yes.

55030. You do not like the introduction of people to be taught in the district?—No.

55031. How long has this school been working in Carraroe?—About five or six years.

55032. Are the teachers who conduct it lay teachers?—No. We had them from Germany, to begin with. The objection I have, and it will be found to be a very genuine one, if it is investigated, is to bring people from Donegal, or Mayo, or any other county into local places to be trained by these German teachers and then make them the mistresses of the place.

55033. That is comprehensible, but what object could Mr. Walker have in bringing in girls to train them in your place as teachers if these girls, at their own homes, have as good training centres?—My answer is I do not know, unless there is some premeditated thing in it.

55034. Would you give a reason for that something?—I will if you will allow me.

55035. I will do my best to allow you, but don't you think I may reasonably expect that you will assign some foundation for your statement. According to you a girl is brought into Carraroe, not to act as a teacher, but to be taught there to qualify to become a teacher?—Yes.

55036. If the object is to qualify and train girls to be teachers why would that not be done at their own doors at home?—That is my point.

55037. Suppose that Mr. Walker's object were to give a post to a girl from Donegal or Mayo, would not he get the girl trained where she was before appointing her?—We have no objection to that, but we have to getting them trained with us and then making them mistresses.

55038. If your school is no better than the schools in Donegal or Mayo, would not it be easier to get a girl trained in either of these centres, where she resides, and then start her as a teacher?—Why is that not done?

55039. It seems to me that is what would be done. It is the likely thing on the surface. It would be strange to bring a girl from another county to your place to be taught and then start her as a teacher?—Be it likely or not it is what has been done. These girls have been imported into our district when mere girls, trained within our schools, and then placed as mistresses over people better than they.

55040. CHAIRMAN.—You may as well tell us the names of some of these teachers?—If you allow me a little time in the interim I will get the names.

55041. I should like them now?—It may be difficult to do, but if you give me half an hour I believe I could do it.

55042. Do you mean to say you do not know the names of the people you complain of?—I could give you a few, but I would like to have them all.

55043. Well, go on to the next point?—Will you allow me time to get the names?

55044. I have asked you for them, and if you cannot give them say no more about it?—Very well.

55045. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Is Carraroe a particularly good school?—Fairly well.

55046. Is it specially good?—Not specially good, but I am not referring to Carraroe School alone. There is another one in Lettermullen where there are two imported teachers. It may be said that I am condemning the Congested Districts Board procedure, but I must give my evidence.

55047. CHAIRMAN.—There is no objection to that, but it is absurd to tell us half the story unless you give us fuller information. You do not even know the names of the imported teachers you object to?—It may be difficult to do that, because some of them got married since.

55048. What is the next thing you wish to bring under our notice?—The next important point I would like to represent is that we consider, and this is the opinion of those who wished me to give evidence, we should have a member on the Congested Districts Board. We are practically at the tail-end, not even of Ireland, but at the tail-end of Connemara, and it is most curious that the most congested part of all Ireland would not have a representative on the Congested Districts Board. I suggest, on behalf of the Rural District Council and on behalf of the people I represent that the most congested part of Ireland should have a member on the Congested Districts Board.

55049. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Who is to appoint that member?—I would say he should be appointed at the instance of the County Council or the people in general. There have been several applications made to the Local Government Board to have Bishop M'Cormick, of Galway, or Archbishop Healy, of Tuam, appointed on the Congested Districts Board, but their answers were always negative. I say, and I think I have the whole Rural District Council at my back, and Clifden and other places, that it is hardly proper to have the most congested part of Ireland unrepresented on the Congested Districts Board.

55050. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—The Archbishop of Tuam does not live in this district?—No.

55051. But you would be quite satisfied if the Archbishop of Tuam were on the Board?—Yes, perfectly.

55052. CHAIRMAN.—It is not part of the system at present to give local representation on the Board. Do you now realise that you are advocating a change of system. I do not say whether you are right or not so long as you realise that?—Not a general change, but a change in one item, and that is to give Connemara a representative on the Congested Districts Board.

55053. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It is quite intelligible to advocate that someone knowing the wants of the locality should be on the Board?—Yes.

55054. But perhaps you do not know that the Congested Districts Board is not competent to nominate a member to its own body, even if a vacancy occurred. We can all appreciate the advantage of having on the Board members well acquainted with the wants of different localities. But I may point out there was a Galway man (Mr. Redington) for a considerable time a member of the Congested Districts Board, and a most efficient member, too?—I mean a representative for West Galway. I am here to express the opinion of those who sent me, and I am not coming here to be under a compliment to anybody.

55055. Mr. O'KELLY.—But if West Connemara got a representative on the Board would there not be the danger of Roscommon, and other places also, looking for representatives on the Board. Don't you think that would be the natural consequence?—You could consider their application when they made it.

55056. I put this point to you. Suppose West Connemara had a representative nominated by the County Council and appointed on the Congested Districts Board, don't you think that Roscommon, Kerry, and other places would also want representatives on the Board, and there would be the danger of the problem of congestion being looked at not so much as a whole, but with regard to the needs of the particular district each of the members was sent to represent?—But what other county has as much congestion as Connemara.

55057. I quite agree; but don't you think there is some danger in what I have indicated?—Of course I admit that, but still, with all, I stick to my point.

55058. Now, if your suggestion were carried into effect, and a proposal came before the Board to migrate people from Connemara to Roscommon, is not it likely that the Roscommon representative would strongly resist that migration, and the meetings of the Board might be turned into a sort of Bedlam?—They would not go so far as that.

55059. Don't you think there is something in that suggestion?—I daresay there might be, but I take it very lightly. I have now made my application, and let the thing take its course.

55060. CHAIRMAN.—What is your next point?—My next point is with regard to the kelp industry. That industry will never favour the Connemara people nor make enough progress without a syndicate being formed to develop it, or the Congested Districts Board buying it, re-selling it, or getting it manufactured. They should take the whole control of it, and work it, having a system of payment of the labourers. Under the present circumstances it is quite inadequate. It is very laborious work, and without the help of the Congested Districts Board we cannot make anything out of it. What I have been told to suggest is the formation of a syndicate, or the Congested Districts Board forming a committee to buy the kelp, and have it properly utilised.

55061. What is your objection to the present state of affairs?—There is only one small company coming into Connemara to buy all this kelp, and they give any price they like for it. I think it is very unfair to the poor populace trying to dispose of this kelp to the best advantage that one company should have a monopoly, and are able to offer whatever prices they like, whereas if the Congested Districts Board took this up they could develop it, and assist the people in the same way as they have developed fishing and other industries.

55062. But you are asking for a great deal more than the Board have done in regard to fishing. You are practically asking the Board to embark on the kelp industry?—But they have embarked on fishing.

55063. So they have encouraged the people to improved methods of fishing, but that industry was carried on by the people themselves?—They have provided the boats for the fishing.

55064. They did in one or two places, and I have no doubt you had that in your mind in advocating that the Board should take up the kelp industry. But the kelp industry is much more precarious than fishing. There is always a market for fish, and there is not the same market for kelp?—The market for kelp may be scant, but still there is always a market for it, and I am putting before you what I think is necessary.

55065-6. You want to see through some action of the Board the price of kelp improved?—Yes; improved, and kept up if possible.

Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Artificially.

55067. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You told the Commission that you are both a farmer and a shopkeeper?—Yes.

55068. You inherited the farm from your father?—Yes; he had the same farm before me.

55069. Did you also inherit the shop?—Yes.

55070. How long have you been carrying on the shop?—Two years.

55071. You are acquainted with your father's transactions when he was carrying on the shop?—Yes.

55072. Do you consider that the indebtedness of the people in your locality to the shopkeepers has increased during your time?—Yes; it has increased in my time.

55073. Has the number of shopkeepers in your district increased in your time?—Do you want the reason?

55074. I want the question of fact answered first?—Well, the people we term exiles who have gone to America have made £40, £50, or £60, and they come home, and think that the men who are doing well at home are millionaires. They try to follow suit, and that is the reason why there are so many little shops.

55075. It is to that cause that you attribute the increase of shopkeepers?—Yes; to imagination.

55076. Is it your experience that as the number of shopkeepers increase, so does the credit system increase?—Well, I must admit that.

55077. That is your opinion, from your knowledge and experience?—Yes.

55078. I do not ask you to answer this question if you prefer not; but do you in your own business find that you are obliged to be more generous than you have been in giving credit in order to retain your customers?—No. As far as I am personally concerned, but I fall in with your view that on account of the increased number of shopkeepers the credit system must also increase. But some shopkeepers after giving a little credit extinguish themselves.

55079. The returned emigrant who has money sets up a shop?—Yes.

55080. Is he more inclined to set up a shop than to buy land?—In the district I represent if there was land, which there is not, he might be more inclined to buy the land. But there is no land; there is nothing at our place which would benefit the local people with the exception of one farm which I wish to allude to.

55081. CHAIRMAN.—I suppose the establishment of a shop is the easiest way in which he can employ the capital he has brought back from America?—It is considered so, because there is no land to start upon.

55082. And I suppose if a man has been a good many years working in a town in America he has perhaps forgotten the habits of agriculture and a shop would suit him better when he returns to Ireland than a farm?—It would, I daresay. When they come back there it is either go back again to America or start a shop. There is nothing else for them. They start the shop and that is the reason of the fluctuation of shops.

55083. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Is it not your experience that people who were farmers before they left Ireland, yet because they were engaged in other pursuits when in America, on their return home they do not look to the land so much as a means of livelihood as to a shop?—I think there is a misunderstanding. What I mean is that when they come back to their native place there is no land for them and they try to eke out a living some way or other.

55084. Where there is land do you think they would try it?—Oh, yes, I firmly believe they would.

55085. CHAIRMAN.—Is there anything else you wish to say?—I would like to refer to the grazing lands in my district. I am sorry it is not very much. There is only one grazing farm. It is Intermacerra Island and contains 119 acres. But it is not the value of the land so much as the value of the seaweed attached to the island that makes me refer specially to the place. We call it "the silver lining" to the island, because in that district we are not opulent enough to purchase manures in the springtime and therefore we have to split ourselves up and buy this seaweed from the grazier. The island contains 119 acres, but, of course the seaweed is all round it, and we call it 119 acres of seaweed. I think it would be a great benefit to the people of the district if the Congested Districts Board could acquire that island for them.

55086. How do you suggest it should be arranged. Would you divide the island into small holdings, with portions of the seaweed attached, or would you separate the seaweed from the land?—What I would suggest would be to divide the island into so many parts and give each tenant an equal share.

55087. That is to treat the seaweed in much the same way as turbary is treated?—Practically so.

55088. But if the seaweed would not go round how are you to deal with those who would not have any?—I would appoint a man to deal with it.

55089. Would there be enough to go round all the people who would want it for manure?—There is enough seaweed. They buy it at present from the grazier and pay on the 1st of September.

55090. What price do they pay?—They pay so much per ton. They buy it by the piece. It is guess-work, but they pay something like 5*s.* a ton for it. They buy it in much the same way as turbary is bought.

55091. Would it satisfy the people of your district if the Board purchased this island and charged such a sum for the seaweed as would bring them in merely the interest on the money they had expended?—Yes; that is what they asked me to tell you. They wish the Board to buy this island and deal with the weed as they think best; either divide it amongst them and hold them liable for the yearly rent or otherwise. But this seaweed is the nut of this estate. It is quite different in the case of an inland farm. There is nothing but grass in that case, but in the case of this island it is the seaweed that is valued more perhaps than the land.

55092. And the seaweed can be cut every year and will come again?—Yes; it is yearly, same as grass.

55093. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Do you mean to say that the seaweed can be cut every year?—No; every second year. It would deteriorate if it were cut every year.

55094. CHAIRMAN.—Then only half of the weed would be available each year?—Yes. Cut one place one year and another the next and so on.

55095. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You started by advocating the principle of compulsory purchase?—Yes.

55096. And I take it you advocate the compulsory purchase of the seaweed?—Yes; all the island seaweed and all.

55097. But you place great emphasis on the seaweed?—I do more than upon the land.

55098. Do you advocate that policy because you believe, if carried out, the tenants who now get the seaweed would then get it for less than they now pay?—Yes; they would.

55099. That is your reason?—Yes.

55100. Therefore you advocate compulsorily taking the seaweed from the owner in order to give it at a less price to those who want it?—Yes, and make it their *bona-fide* property.

55101. That involves purchasing the landlord's interest. Would you pay the owner under compulsion less than the value of the seaweed on the island?—The tenants should get their seaweed for less.

55102. At present the owner makes a certain sum each year by selling the seaweed that belongs to him.

Sept. 25, 1907.

Mr. Patrick Naughton.

Now, do you propose, in carrying out compulsory purchase, that the owner should get a sum of money which, capitalized, would give him less income than his present annual receipts?—I do not suppose the owner would lose by it. I would place the matter in the hands of the Estates Commissioners.

55103. Do you think it would be just when the State for State purposes took this seaweed that the owner should lose by that?—He would not lose at all.

55104. Why?—Because there would be plenty of land without the seaweed.

55105. But I am referring to the seaweed?—And it is connected with the land.

55106. Your contention is that this seaweed is necessary for the land and the owner of this island makes a certain income yearly from the sale of this seaweed?—I do not know about that.

55107. But you have just told us that the tenants have to buy it from him?—They have to go to him, but perhaps it might be included in his rental.

55108. And wouldn't his rental be diminished if this seaweed were taken from him?—I know that he makes the rent of the island from the sale of the seaweed.

55109. That is not the point. Let us suppose you are the owner of a shore and you make a certain income from the sale of seaweed. Now, if for the purposes of the State it is necessary for the State to acquire your seaweed do you think you should lose by the transaction?—Well, of course, if you will allow me to explain.

55110. I will allow you anything, but first of all I want a definite answer?—Well, perhaps if I were the person involved I might not like to lose by it, but I say in this case the people are entitled to it, as they had it before this grazier.

55111. It all depends on the person involved. If it were your case you would say it would be unjust, but if it were somebody else's case you would say it would not be unjust. Now, assuming that the inquiries of an independent body arrived at the conclusion that this man derived a certain income yearly from the sale of seaweed and the State acquired his property, do you think that man must be paid such a sum of money as will leave him annually where he was before the seaweed was taken from him?—Well, if it were my property I would relinquish it for the public benefit and let the Estates Commissioners place whatever price they liked upon it.

55112. But with due regard to the facts of the case, the justice of what they are taking and the man they are taking it from?—The facts are the same as in any other grazing farm.

55113. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You stated that you desired to have a local representative upon the Congested Districts Board?—I did.

55114. A member from this part of the country?—Yes; I mentioned West Galway.

55115. Are you a member of the Rural District Council?—I am.

55116. Now, if there was a committee of the Rural District Council created with statutory powers to represent to the Congested Districts Board all the facts concerning the union and everything you wanted to have done, do you think that would be a useful proceeding?—I do not know.

55117. If there was a committee to bring all the facts concerning your district to the knowledge of the Congested Districts Board; make certain proposals regarding the purchase and improvement of estates and soforth and the Congested Districts Board were placed under statutory obligation to consider these proposals, don't you think that would go some way towards the ends which you propose to secure by the appointment of a member from your locality to the Board?—I agree with you very much in that, and I think they should be registered at the Local Government Board office as such.

55118. That is to say, that they should have the recognised authority?—Yes, the recognised authority to meet and consider these matters.

55119. And that the representations which they made from time to time should be fully considered and dealt with by the Congested Districts Board?—Yes. If there was that authority so far as I am concerned I would be satisfied.

55120. CHAIRMAN.—Would you prefer that plan to having a member on the Board?—I would prefer a member on the Board if I could achieve it, but after that Sir Antony MacDonnell's suggestion would be a very good thing.

55121. What you want is more recognition by the Board of the particular wants of West Galway?—I want a member, if possible, but if we cannot have that then I would agree to Sir Antony MacDonnell's suggestion.

Mr. JOHN H. JOYCE examined.

Mr. John H. Joyce.

55122. CHAIRMAN.—You are a member of Galway County Council and Galway Committee of Agriculture?—Yes.

55123. And you have been nominated by those bodies to give evidence here?—Yes.

55124. Where do you live?—In this town.

55125. Are you a farmer?—On a small scale only. I am a shopkeeper.

55126. Have you got a licence?—I have.

55127. What is the evidence you wish to give?—I wish to refer to the land question, and to say that none of those owning land in Oughterard has sold his property. Tenants have made substantial offers. On the O'Flaherty Estate 22 years' purchase was offered, and 19 years' purchase on the Hodgson Estate. The Hodgson Estate is chiefly mountain and bog, and similar land on the Berridge Estate was sold under the Ashbourne Act for 10 and 11 years' purchase. Land on the Martin and Guilfoyle Estates was sold at 16 years' purchase. The recent Land Act has inflated the price of land 40 per cent. Prices paid under the Ashbourne Act were nearer the value than the prices now demanded by the landlords. Compulsory powers of sale and purchase are necessary. There is not much untenanted lands available for distribution here, but there is some untenanted farms in Glann and Joyce country, and some near Cloonbur, and a few in Lettermore. These should be acquired by the Board—compulsorily if necessary, and the adjoining holdings enlarged by the addition. Inducements should be offered to tenants of large residential farms—either by offering them for their interests a price in excess of the market value in exchange—to sell to the Board so as to increase the quantity of land available for distribution. I believe that before a permanent solution of the difficulty can be reached you must migrate extensively to the untenanted land up the country. I believe that if you apply the remedies available at their doors it will not be necessary to migrate more than you have land available for in their own county. There are thousands of acres of untenanted land in this county around Tuam, Dunmore, Athenry, Loughrea, Ballinasloe, Mountbellew, Portumna, etc. I think that migrants should be provided with capital to work their new farms. They would soon learn new methods of farming. A sufficient number will, I believe, be willing to migrate if they are located with neighbours from home. As to the mineral resources, I would like to say they require development in order to give employment. Mines have been worked here for over 100 years, but not extensively. Sufficient money has not been expended to prove a real test. The Congested Districts Board ought to be given power to prospect to clear away debris and open old shafts, so that capitalists could see what they were going to invest in. There are lead, copper, sulphur, and barytes, green and black marble, and an unlimited supply of limestone and granite. I am an old and practical miner myself.

52128. Where did you mine?—In the Rocky Mountains, about thirty-five years ago.

55129. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—As a practical miner do you think valuable minerals are to be found in this district of Oughterard?—Yes; there are very good indications around here.

55130. Of what class of minerals?—Copper, lead, silver, barytes, and others.

55131. Are they to be found in such quantities as would yield a profitable return?—Yes, if they were worked on a large scale. That has not been

done up to the present. Mechanical power, such as engines, has not been used. In one case a donkey engine was used, but that is not sufficient to develop a mine. You must sink deep shafts, and run tunnels, and at present they are only working on the surface.

55132. CHAIRMAN.—Who is working the mines now?—There is an English gentleman here prospecting.

55133. Is there any prospect of good working returns?—Well, he is putting up crushers to crush the ore.

55134. Is this a copper mine?—I think it is lead with a mixture of silver in small quantities.

55135. And is he putting up a crusher with a view to developing the mine?—Yes. I heard that the crusher has been delivered at the mine.

55136. Do you know whether it has been profitable so far?—He could not tell that yet. He has got to sink a shaft before he knows whether he can make the mine profitable or not, but he is shaping well, for he is laying down machinery to work it properly, and he has a lot of men working there.

55137. I am a miner myself, and you state these minerals have not, up to the present, been worked properly?—I say they are not sufficiently worked. Enough money has not been expended in sinking shafts and running tunnels.

55138. Are there any other industries or mines which you have in your mind beyond the one you have told us of?—There is a mine beyond the station, in the townland of Cloosh, another at Cregg, and another at Glann.

55139. Are these lead mines also?—There are copper and silver at Glann, and copper and lead at the others.

55140. What happened to them?—Well, I suppose for want of capital work was discontinued.

55141. Some people began to work them and then abandoned them?—Yes.

55142. Doesn't that look as if they found out they could not make them pay?—I do not know. They might have had disagreements amongst themselves, or had not enough money.

55143. Would not the presumption be that they abandoned them because they did not find them remunerative?—Well, I never heard of that.

55144. But your experience in America must show you that mines are not abandoned without reason?—That is so, but very often when a mine was abandoned in America another party would come along, take it up, and succeed.

55145. Yes, and the fact that these mines have been abandoned and not taken up again would look as if their prospects of success were not too hopeful?—I do not know. The mines may be taken up at some future time. There is a prospect, I think, that the mines will be taken up. Several gentlemen have gone over them.

55146. Have you, in your experience, ever known a mine of any sort to be abandoned, allowed to lie fallow for a number of years, then be taken up and worked profitably afterwards?—Yes; I have seen that, and I have worked in such a mine in Montana.

55147. What was the reason, in the first instance, why the mine was given up?—It was worked by a company first, and they found it would not pay the four dollars a day, which was the wages of the men. Then they gave it up for a short time, and finally gave it out to the miners to work on percentage. The company did the crushing, but returned to the men the money their work produced. I worked in a mine like that on percentage.

55148. The change of system made the whole difference?—No. As the mine was worked it developed. We struck the grain again.

55149. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—When you express the opinion as a practical miner on the value of minerals in this district was that opinion formed as the result of personal examination as a miner of these different properties?—Well, from the little knowledge I have as a miner.

55150. Have you examined the mines?—I have seen them; I see them frequently, almost every day if I like. There are indications of minerals on the top of the ground.

55151. Are there indications to show the presence of metal in such quantities and so distributed as would yield payable results?—It is very hard to answer that, because I take it the mine should be further developed before you can know whether it can pay or not.

55152. Until the mine is further developed it is impossible to say whether it will be profitable or not?—You can judge by the rock on the surface, and then you require to test the mine to see whether it will pay out or not. It might, of course, disappear.

Sept. 25, 1907. Mr. John H Joyce.

55153. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—What you urge is that the Congested Districts Board, or some such body, should open shafts so that capitalists may be able to see whether the yield would justify their investing their money in the mine?—Yes.

55154. Short of that, would it be sufficient if a body like the Congested Districts Board had examinations made by an expert of the best judgment, an engineer who would go to the different parts of the country where minerals were reputed to exist, and furnish a thorough practical and scientific report on the resources of the country?—That would be quite right. I fully agree with that, but in order to do that thoroughly shafts should be sunk to a certain depth where there are mineral indications, because going about from one place to another without doing that would be no good.

55155. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Has there been any geological survey of this district?—Yes. Mr. Lyburn was here, and I was with him myself, showing him these places that were worked forty or fifty years ago.

55156. Has he made any report?—Yes, he gave what is called a preliminary report, but we have not seen the other.

55157. Have you seen the preliminary report?—Yes.

55158. Did it show any confidence in the mines?—It did not.

55159. He did not speak with any confidence?—In that report he did not.

55160. Mr. KAVANAGH.—In America does the Government ever assist in discovering or developing mines?—I do not know that they do.

55161. Do you suggest that in this country the Government should assist mining?—Well, it is the only way it can be done, either by the Congested Districts Board or the Government.

55162. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—To carry the matter of the survey a little further, did you consider that it was sufficient to thoroughly test the mineral resources of the country?—Not at all, not in the slightest degree.

55163. Would you explain why you say that?—Well, I went with Mr. Lyburn over these places, but the survey amounted to nothing at all. There were no tests made.

55164. You consider that an adequate examination of the mineral resources of the district should be conducted on a more elaborate scale?—Yes, by sinking shafts and putting up engines.

55165. CHAIRMAN.—But that would be an expensive business?—Yes; it cannot be done without money if it is to be done rightly.

55166. There are many places in the country where minerals are said to exist, and if the Government had to go round all those places, doing as you suggest, don't you think that would run into a very big sum?—I do not say that minerals should be looked for in every place; only where indications of their existence are to be seen.

55167. But there are a great many places in which indications are to be seen?—It does not apply to all Connemara. You could not have successful mines because the greater part is barren rock and waste.

55168. But there are a great many places in Donegal, Kerry, and other counties where the people are just as certain that mineral wealth exists as you are of your district. and if the Congested Districts Board are to sink shafts and make examinations on the elaborate scale you contemplate in all these places that would run into a great deal of money?—Well, they can never know whether there is a good mine there or not if they look only to the surface and do not sink. We cannot knock a living out of the land, and we must knock it out of the bowels of the earth.

55169. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You wish to represent to the Commission that expense of that kind is necessary if the resources of the country as regards minerals are to be tested thoroughly?—That is what ought to be done.

55170. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—And if minerals were found in large quantities, such as would pay, should the Board cease operations at that point?—No, I

Sept. 25, 1907.

Mr. John H. Joyce.

think they should stick to their lock and make money out of it or sell it to a company.

55171. CHAIRMAN.—What is the next point?—It is with reference to the Cloosh road. There is a vast tract of country between Oughterard and Costello now lying waste. It is capable of cultivation, being composed of a light surface cover of peat with a gravelly sub-soil. If this were drained and divided into allotments a number of tenants from Carraroe convenient, could be changed up, and congestion relieved there. Applications of coral sand and seaweed, would convert it into good tillage and grazing land; but before this can be done it will be necessary to complete the road from Oughterard to Costello, which contains an unfinished *cul-de-sac* in the centre of only three miles in length. The turf supply of Carraroe, Lettermore, and Gorumna is rapidly becoming exhausted. The people are cutting away the surface to the granite rock to get fuel. A sufficient and convenient supply could be got along the proposed route.

55172. You talk of a light surface covering of peat. How deep is it?—It varies from about one foot to two feet.

55173. It is not more than that?—It is more than that in some places.

55174. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—What is the nature of the sub-soil?—Gravel, with a southern aspect in many places.

55175. And it is a fact that the soil is being cut away?—Yes; that is a fact. I think the land is decreasing at the rate of perhaps two acres a year. The people have to cut for fuel, and they cut the sods, and then there is nothing left but the rock.

55176. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Do you think that the process of cutting away the sods for fuel is so injurious, no matter how necessary the fuel may be, that it ought to be stopped?—I think it would be a great hardship to stop them, for with no fuel the people would die of cold.

55177. A fuel famine is as bad as any other famine?—It is almost as bad as any other.

55178. If these people were given reasonable facilities for procuring fuel would you then be in favour of altogether prohibiting the cutting of the scraws?—Certainly. If the road were completed to open up the bogs there then they should not be allowed to cut the sods off the rocks. They should be made go to the bogs for their fuel.

55179. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You say they should not be allowed to cut this thin turf. But if the administrative machinery existed, and a man was ordered not to cut the turf, yet did so, would you then send him to gaol?—I do not know about that.

55180. Everybody agrees that it is disastrous to cut this turf, and you say it ought to be stopped. Now, I want to know would you stop the practice by making it a punishable offence if a person persisted in cutting this turf?—No; I would stop it in this way: I would complete this road, and open bogs for them to go to; but if they did not go there, then, I think, the practice ought to be stopped—let them go to jail or not.

55181. In that case you would send them to jail?—Yes, if bogs were opened for them along this road.

55182. As a matter of fact, no one wishes to cut scraws if he can get better turf, and therefore if better turf is available the people will give up this habit, which everybody deplores?—That is so.

55183. How far would the people have to go if this road were made?—In some cases about three miles. The district is wide, and it varies from three to five miles, and perhaps some of them would have to go that distance.

55184. And the people who cut the scraws have not got horses?—They have an odd horse. They would have to employ some means to cart the turf to where the boat would take it from the quay.

55185. And, therefore, unless these people are moved nearer the bog their turf would be very dear?—They would have it by their own labour, and that would be better than no turf.

55186. The transport for two or three miles would be by cart or donkey?—They have some donkeys, but I think they are very slow, and it would be much better to cart.

55187. That means keeping horses?—Yes.

55188. Are there a number of horses that could be hired out by the people of the district who are now cutting the scraws?—There are several horses there, and they are hired out for 4*s.* or 5*s.* a day, and they could do the carting.

55189. You view this as a difficulty at present?—Yes, a great difficulty, and a hardship on the poor people.

55190. CHAIRMAN. What is the next point you wish to bring under our notice?—It is that another work required would be the construction of a causeway and bridge across Knock Ferry. It would open up trade between Headford and Tuam and this congested district. Turf is plentiful on this side, but there is none on the other. The work would thus be a matter of great financial gain to the congests here.

55191. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—What is the width?—At one plade it is only 700 feet. There is a lot of shallow water there.

55192. Do you mean round the road that runs from Spiddal. That appears to be the narrowest part?—Yes; the narrowest part is to the west of Knock West; it is only 700 feet.

55193. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Is that the work known as the Lough Corrib ferry?—Yes.

55194. CHAIRMAN.—How far is it across there?—The old ferry is between one-third and half a mile, but there is a narrower part than that further to the west, and it is about 700 feet. It crosses from Callownamuck to Clydagh.

55195. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Has there been any estimate of the amount of money required to carry out this scheme?—There was an estimate made many years ago by Father Conway, and I think it was £10,000 or £12,000. I forget which sum it was, but that was across the wide part.

55196. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Father Conway was not an engineer?—No, but he was urging on this work.

55197. But such estimates are always lower than those of an engineer's?—Well, Colonel Frazer sounded the depth of the water at the narrow ferry, and, as well as I recollect, he said the width was only 700 feet.

55198. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—And that is the width it is now proposed to span?—I am not an engineer, but I should say that this is the most feasible place to build a bridge in. Although there is a lot of shallow water in the other place I think this would be an easier place in which to build the bridge.

55199. CHAIRMAN.—What sort of traffic would be taken across that bridge?—There would be general traffic between the Counties of Galway and Mayo, especially when the people are attending fairs and markets. People are often weather-bound at Knock ferry at one side or the other. If it is stormy they cannot get ahead, as the boats will not cross. I now wish to speak of a canal between Loughs Mask and Corrib. This canal was partly constructed at great expenditure to the Government of the day. It would open up communication between the Counties of Galway and Mayo, particularly between the seaport town of Galway and the important town of Ballinrobe. Goods could be transported by steamer from Galway at a less cost than by rail. I now go on to refer to water-works. Water-works are very much required in Oughterard, especially from a sanitary standpoint, and sanitation has been the subject of much controversy in the locality quite recently, arising out of the discussion upon the cause of the prevalence of typhoid and typhus fever. Several deaths occurred, and there are now four patients in the Fever Hospital here. We have had fever for the last ten years owing to bad water, and several deaths have occurred. There are still four cases in Oughterard Workhouse Fever Hospital. I cannot say whether they are still there, but I know that they were three weeks ago.

55199A. Would a better sort of ferry to cross in not answer your purpose?—That is the kind of ferry we want.

55200. But you are giving evidence in favour of a bridge?—Yes; but we thought we would have a floating ferry, and Galway County Council voted £400 towards the construction of that.

55200A. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—That was not much towards a £10,000 scheme?—This floating ferry was to cost only £1,000.

55201. Is it an open boat that is used now?—Yes; a small boat for passengers and not cattle.

55201A. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Has the scheme for a floating bridge worked by chains been considered?—It has, and we thought this floating bridge would pass and be constructed. The estimated cost was £1,000

and the County Council voted £400 towards the work, which had also the support of the Congested Districts Board, but it appears the Local Government Board stepped in and knocked the scheme on the head. They thought it would be too heavy on the ratepayers, I suppose.

Mr. SUTHERLAND.—That is a navigable channel, and as the chains would impede navigation the Board of Trade would not allow that.

55202. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—The Congested Districts Board offered £325 towards the work?—Yes.

55202A. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Is it not the fact that the County Council cannot contribute £400 towards the cost of such a ferry?—I am not aware of that.

55203. CHAIRMAN.—At any rate, you wish some better means of crossing in all weathers?—Yes, and that would be by means of a regularly constructed bridge.

55203A. If you can get across in all weathers you do not care much whether it is by a ferry or a bridge?—Well, perhaps if we have to take a big load of stuff, say, three or four tons, I would like a bridge able to hold that.

55204. Have you had any estimate made of what satisfactory water-works would cost?—We had, and it was a very low estimate.

55204A. What is the amount?—The late County Surveyor estimated that it would cost £730 to supply the town with good water.

55205. If the town were rich would not the responsibility for the water-works rest on the Urban Council?—I should say that the people of the town in which I live myself ought to be liable for a certain proportion of the tax.

55205A. On what body does the responsibility rest—the County Council or the Rural District Council?—It would be the Rural District Council.

55206. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You say that to supply the town with good water would cost over £700?—Yes, about £730.

55206A. What is the valuation of the area to be benefited by that expenditure?—Well, if it were put on the entire union the valuation is £15,623 7*s*.

55207. But there would be a great difficulty in getting the whole rural district to pay for water for one particular area. I want to know the valuation of the area which would be benefited by this water supply?—It will benefit Oughterard division, and the valuation of Oughterard is £2,679.

55207A. Therefore, the expenditure means placing a rate of £35 on the total valuation of £2,700?—Yes; but we intend to place it on the entire union.

55208. Because you want other people to pay for your benefit?—They would all benefit a little.

55209. But if the engineer's estimate turned out correct, and Oughterard alone was made to pay for the supply, the cost to Oughterard would be £35 a year, and they would have what they want?—Well, if this water rate is put on at all it must be on a certain number of electoral divisions, of which Oughterard would be one.

55210. Mr. CONOR O'KELLY.—Why do you say that?—That is according to the Local Government Board rule.

55211. I do not think that is so. I never heard of a rule or suggestion to that effect?—I may be wrong, but if the whole cost is put on Oughterard district then we don't want the water supply. It should be either the entire union or the dispensary district of Oughterard.

55212. The dispensary district would be a greater anomaly than the entire union. Is this a gravitation or a pump scheme?—A gravitation scheme.

55213. I suppose part of the country district surrounding the town of Oughterard is included in the electoral division of Oughterard?—Yes.

55214. Roughly speaking, what would be the valuation of these country townlands?—I could not tell you that.

55215. The valuation of the Oughterard district is close on £2,700, and if we estimate the valuation of the country townlands in that district at £800 that would leave less than £2,000 of a valuation for the town. Now, you only want a little over £700 to carry out this waterworks scheme and you are allowed to borrow a sum equal to double the valuation?—But what would that mean in the pound if the entire cost is confined to Oughterard.

55216. But if you deplore fever; wish to be progressive and have waterworks, why not pay for these things at your own expense?—That was not done in other places. It was not done at Clifden.

55217. But two wrongs don't make a right, and on what principle of equity do you ask the people in the country to provide the people in the town, who are very well able to look after themselves, with a water supply?—Well, we have gone to their assistance in many respects.

55218. But that was your duty?—Well, we should all give and take.

55219. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Do you not find that when the area of taxation is not wide it is very difficult to get waterworks made?—That is so.

55220. Mr. CONOR O'KELLY.—And the town of Oughterard can borrow up to £4,000 and only £700 is required to construct these works?—Yes; they will be cheap.

55221. And that is the reason I ask you to pay for them?—And how much would that be in the pound. We would never be able to pay it.

55222. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you make this representation to the Commission with a view to claiming assistance from the Congested Districts Board towards the cost of construction of the waterworks?—Yes; I think it would be only fair if they did contribute.

55223. Do you know if the Congested Districts Board have done that elsewhere?—I have heard that they did it at Clifden and Aran, but I am not quite certain.

55224. That is your object. You are putting forward a claim on behalf of Oughterard for a contribution from the Congested Districts Board in order to diminish the cost which would have to be borne by the rates to supply the town with water?—Quite so.

55255. CHAIRMAN.—What is the next point?—It is that a harbour of refuge at Anaclough is another work of much utility and could be easily effected by making an open cutting, the stones in the present pier could be utilised, thereby giving safe refuge to boats from the mainland and the different islands.

55226. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you mean a harbour of refuge on the lake?—Yes; on the edge of the lake. Where the boats go into town by the river is deep water to a certain point, but in order to make it safe for the boats from the islands to go in there, there should be an open cutting made to protect them. The pier there runs straight, north and south, and there is no protection at all for boats, because a man might have his boat anchored on one side on which he thought he had shelter, but the wind might shift suddenly and his boat would not have shelter, but be endangered. Not long ago a boat was broken there and it cost the poor man £14 to have it repaired. It is very desirable to have a harbour of refuge there.

55227. CHAIRMAN.—What size of boats are you referring to?—Well, five and six-ton boats.

55228. What are they used for?—Carrying turf and stuff, generally, to the markets.

55229. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—How many boats have been lost in Lough Corrib owing to want of a proper harbour?—I could not tell that. There was one boat, not completely lost, but badly damaged.

55230. Was the owner on board at the time?—He was not, he was ashore.

55231. Before going ashore had he made the best arrangements for the safety of the boat?—Yes, but the wind shifted and dashed the boat against the pier and it was smashed.

55232. CHAIRMAN.—Is that a very common occurence?—Not very common, because the people look out when they see signs of a storm and shift their boats to the mouth of the river and tie them against the bank.

55233. I wish to ask you a question about the committee of agriculture, of which you are a member?—I think I am a member, but I am not quite certain.

55234. Then you have not attended their meetings?—If I was a member I suppose I should have attended. I got plenty of notices, but I did not attend to the whole of them.

55235. The fact remains that you never attended any meetings of that committee?—I won't say whether I did or not, as I am not certain.

55236. But if you are not certain whether you are a member of the committee or not you cannot say whether you attended meetings of the committee?—Well, I attend the County Council meetings regularly enough and I think that is quite enough for me. I

Sept. 25, 1907.

Mr. John H. Joyce.

do not like to be put on committees because I am not active enough.

55237. Then, as a matter of fact, you never have attended a meeting of the Committee of Agriculture for County Galway?—Perhaps I did, but I won't say.

55238. At any rate, the work of that committee has not left a deep impression on your mind?—I do not want to make statements that may not be correct.

55239. How long have you been a member of the County Council?—For four or five years.

55240. When were you re-elected?—Three years ago next June. I was co-opted. I am one of the two members co-opted by the Council.

55241. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Have you ever attended a meeting in Galway presided over by the Archbishop of Tuam, who, I understand, is President of the Committee?—I am not aware. I have not, I think, but I attended a meeting at which the Bishop of Galway presided a few years ago.

55242. CHAIRMAN.—You are not quite sure whether you are a member of County Galway Committee of Agriculture?—I am not quite sure.

55243. And you are not quite sure whether you ever attended a meeting of that committee?—No; I would not say whether I did or not.

55244. You are not quite sure whether you ever took any part in the question of the allotment of sires, mares, bulls and boars in this district?—No; I do not care about them. I think they are no good.

55245. You would not consider yourself a very good person to be chosen as a member of such a committee?—I do not know that. I think I might do very well.

55246. But you do not agree with the work and you have never attended a meeting of the committee?—I do not care about the offspring of the horses. They are too soft and are not fitted for the country.

55247. Now, if you thought that, did it not strike you that you should attend the meetings of the committee and see that more suitable animals were sent here?—Yes; I suppose that is so.

55248. Don't you know that is the very work that this committee has to do?—That is the question to be decided. I do not know whether I am a member or not.

55249. Mr. CONOR O'KELLY.—Do you remember ever having received a notice to attend such a meeting?—I got a lot of notices, but I did not care about reading them.

55250. Have you ever attended a meeting over which the Archbishop of Tuam presided?—No.

55251. CHAIRMAN.—Are you aware that the Galway Committee of Agriculture has nominated you to attend here and give an account of your work on the committee?—I recollect that I was appointed by the Galway County Council to give evidence here.

55252. And also by the committee of agriculture?—Then I have forgotten about that.

55253. You do not seem to know much about the work of the committee?—I do not attend the small meetings at all.

55254. Are you aware that the whole of the responsibility for agricultural instruction and development of the county now rests with the county committee of agriculture?—I am interested in Galway County Council as a whole.

55255. Do you know how this district of Oughterard is to receive benefit from that committee and its needs be put forward if it is not represented at the meetings of the committee?—Well, I do not know. We have been looking for waterworks for years and we cannot get them, although the people are dying of fever.

55256. Mr. CONOR KELLY.—It is because you do not want to pay for them. That is the explanation, Mr. Joyce?—It is not. The outlying parties ought to give and take.

55257. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Can you recall if you ever received a notice that you were co-opted by this body?—Yes; I am quite aware of that.

55258. You have a rooted objection to serving on a committee?—Yes.

55259. Now, did it not occur to you that this was an important committee dealing with the agricultural interests of the county, and if you did not wish to serve on it you should say so and allow the committee to have the benefit of a member who would attend?—I would have no objection to serving on the committee, but I suffer from rheumatism and sciatica and that is enough for me. I cannot run round like a young fellow.

55260. CHAIRMAN.—Where are the meetings of this committee held?—In Galway.

55261. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—As I understand it, you are not a member of the Galway Committee of Agriculture and for that reason the committee has nominated you, as an outsider, to speak of their work?—That might be.

55262. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—And the corollary to that is that the County Committee have nominated somebody to give evidence who knows nothing whatever about the work of the committee?—Well, that remains to be seen.

55263. CHAIRMAN.—I thought you told us you had been a member of the committee for three years?—That was the County Council.

55264. Then are you aware whether you are a member of this committee or not?—I am not aware. You have put that question several times and I cannot answer it.

Mr. DENIS KIRWIN examined.

Mr Denis Kirwin.

55265. CHAIRMAN.—You are agent for several estates?—Yes.

55266. And you have been nominated by the Irish Landowners' Convention to give evidence here?—Yes, and before I commence to deal with matters affecting estates I should like to say a word about the ferry scheme at Knock, mentioned by the last witness. I am agent for several estates on the other side of the lough, and it would benefit them very much, especially in the matter of turf, if that ferry were made. There is a short supply of turbary on this side, and if the ferry were made it would be a great advantage in that respect. It would also bring the people closer to the railway stations of Galway or Tuam. The nearest stations at present are twelve and eighteen miles distant.

55267. The great difficulty is if the weather is rough it is awkward to get across?—Yes, that is so.

55268. And if there was a ferry which would accommodate a large cart, that would meet the difficulty?—Yes, that would suit quite well. That is all the people want, some means by which they can take their cattle across to the fairs on one side or the other.

55269. Has any estimate been made of the cost of a floating ferry there?—Yes, it was brought forward, and the Congested Districts Board wanted to advance some money, and at one time the scheme looked very hopeful, but it fell through, and I really do not know how

55270. The erection of a large bridge would be an unnecessary expense?—I think so, and almost impossible to carry out because of such a rocky approach.

55271. You have told us you are a land agent?—Yes. I am an agent for several estates in County Galway, and a few in Mayo. I also farm about 200 acres of my own property. I wish to say I approve of the way in which the Congested Districts Board have dealt with estates they purchased; they improved them very much by drainage and roads. I acted on a Parish Committee which dispensed a grant made by the Board, and much useful work was done in this way. I consider it would be advisable to increase the area in which the Board could operate.

55272. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You have been a member of a Parish Committee?—Yes.

55273. Did you ever attend any of the meetings?—Oh, yes, several.

55274. In that parish improvements are very considerable?—Yes, very noticeable. We would have liked to have given grants for the whole of the parish, but we could not do it as only part was scheduled. But considerably more improvements could have been carried out if the entire parish could have been dealt with.

55275. CHAIRMAN.—What is the reason why portion of the parish is not scheduled?—It is not congested. I believe it does not come under the definition.

55276. Do you know what prevents it coming under the definition?—The holdings are larger, I suppose.

55277. Is that really the cause or is it the existence of one or two large farms which have put up the value?—Yes, there are large farms there too.

55278. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—What was the character of the work done by the Parish Committee which you considered of benefit?—Giving prizes for well-kept gardens, improved houses, and that kind of thing.

55279. Was there any improvement in the drainage of the land fencing, or anything of that description?—No; no improvement in that way. The grants were too small for that, but we gave a grant to improve the village road, which was of great use.

55280. CHAIRMAN.—Has it not been the policy of the Parish Committees to devote themselves first to the improvement of dwellinghouses?—Yes, particularly where the people have been keeping live stock in the dwellinghouse.

55281. And, then, when the work is done do you see any reason why, if the funds are forthcoming, the Parish Committee should not go on to the other work Sir Antony MacDonnell has referred to?—Yes, I suppose they could.

55282. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Where would you stop then?—Well, we only get £50; that is the difficulty.

55283. Supposing you got £100, or £200, how far are you to carry on the work?—I am afraid you cannot go very far, because the people have to do a certain amount of work to gain an award.

55284. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—The question is whether the character of that work comes within the scope of what could be done by a Parish Committee?—Scarcely; I think it goes beyond it.

55285. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Then, where would you stop?—At the improvement of the houses.

55286. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Now, concerning your approval of the work of the Congested Districts Board in regard to drainage, have you had under your observation any property drained by arterial drainage some time ago?—Yes, a few years ago I saw such work carried out.

55287. Can you tell me if that work has been properly and thoroughly maintained?—Well, nothing has been done to it since the drains were made. I think it is very necessary that the tenants should keep these works in repair in the future.

55288. That is what I wanted to get at. In your opinion the Congested Districts Board by doing this work acts admirably, but you are also of opinion that some arrangement ought to be made to secure the maintenance of this work?—Yes, I am, decidedly.

55289. And that the tenants should in some way be compelled to maintain the works in thorough order?—Yes; and I am afraid they won't do that unless there is some controlling hand.

55290. You think there should be some strong controlling hand?—Yes; and very little attention every year would keep the drains in good order.

55291. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Have you ever thought of any organisation by which these works could be kept up?—It is very difficult unless trustees could be appointed for each estate. I think if the shooting of the estate went to the tenants, and it could be let each year, the trustees could spend what they get from that source in improving the estate.

55292. Have you ever thought that it could be done by the County Council or a local organisation?—No; I have never thought of that.

55293. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—This work of the Parish Committees must come to an end as it is only of a temporary nature?—Yes.

55294. A limit will be reached at which you must stop expenditure?—Yes.

55295. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—That is not what I was at. My point is that where you had a large landlord, or a number joined together as a Drainage Board, these main drains were made over a large tract of country and maintained. But these estates are now sold and split up among the tenants, and where you had four holders of land before now you will probably have 400. You won't be able to get among the 400 the same amount of unity and hard work as among the four landlords. But these drains must be kept up and you must therefore establish some organisation to take the place of the Drainage Board or the landlords. Have you ever thought of that problem?—The only thing I can suggest is to have a committee of tenants formed as trustees and get some power to levy a certain amount of money to maintain this work from each tenant. I suppose it could be done when the holdings are being sold to the tenants to make such an arrangement, or on a large estate where the game comes to something; they could combine to let it and make a profit out of it, and a few pounds spent on drains every year would keep them right.

55296. Could it be done by means of the Board of Works, who could have a drainage section dealing with main drains, and also the smaller ancillary drains. Would you have any objection to that?—No, but the Board of Works are very expensive in the drainage they do. Around Tuam it is very necessary to have drainage.

55297. At all events you agree there should be some power or agency for doing it?—Yes.

55298. Mr. O'KELLY.—That would necessarily mean the creation of new machinery for the collection of revenue?—Very little.

55299. In the matter of these larger and minor drains, don't you think they could be looked after by the Rural District Council, who could levy a rate for the purpose of maintaining them in the same way as they maintain the minor roads?—That might be done, but I would leave the drains on a man's own holding to be done by himself. I would only ask to have the main drains through the estate maintained in good and clean order.

55300. Where you find the country flooded for five, six, or seven miles, don't you think it would be well to have that remedied by a big drainage scheme?—Yes; but I have in my mind the drainage of the River Suck, in Roscommon, which cost a great deal more money than it is worth. In taking up a large scheme it is difficult to say whether it will be worth it or not.

55301. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Of course there are two questions, one of making and the other of maintaining drains?—Yes.

55302. And the construction of arterial drains should rest with a different authority to the authority that makes the smaller drains?—I would say so.

55303. Now, with regard to these smaller drains on a man's farm, if a man is advanced public money, which he repays in the form of annuities in order to purchase his farm, don't you think it would be reasonable to insist that during the currency of these annuities the tenant purchaser should keep those drains in good order?—I would say so; that would be a very good plan.

55304. That would give you a machinery for maintaining the farm drainage?—Yes.

55305. Then, when you come to the maintenance of the arterial drains would you think a different authority should be charged with that duty?—If the farmer kept his own drains and the part where they had the main drains in order, that would be sufficient for him.

55306. Generally, don't you think you would have to bring in some local authority or central drainage board to look after the arterial drains?—Yes. That would be necessary, I am sure.

55307. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—The Rural District Council is the smallest official organisation you have working in the country?—Yes.

55308. It is a unit, and don't you think a smaller unit still than the Rural District Council might be desirable and of benefit in keeping these drains open. Say a parish committee?—Yes.

55309. What would you say to the subordination of the parish committees to the Rural District Council for this purpose?—I would say that that would be better still, as they would understand the wants of their particular locality.

55310. You want something smaller than the Rural District Council?—Yes, to see that the drains are kept clear.

55311. CHAIRMAN.—What is the next point?—It is if a fair and reasonable price were given for grazing land I consider the Board could get sufficient for their purpose without any compulsory powers. The rents on the properties I manage are well paid. I propose to hand in a table* showing the rental and the amount paid for each of the three years ended 1st November, 1904, 1905, and 1906. If landlords could count on getting such a sum as would, when invested at 3½ per cent., return them their net income, I think there would be no difficulty in arranging sales. There would, of course, be cases in which

* See Appendix III, p. 276.

Sept. 25, 1907.

Mr. Denis Kirwin.

the net income would not be a fair standard of value, and some different method of estimating the fair price would have to be adopted in such cases. It should also be remembered that in selling land which is in his own hands the owner would be selling not only his income, but also his proprietorial rights. These latter are generally valuable, and fair allowance should be made for them in estimating the fair price of the land.

55312. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Just explain what you would say would be the outward sign and manifestation of proprietorial rights apart from his income?—I mean that he is selling land in his own hands, and not let. He is not selling what the rent produces, but the entire interest of land all in his own hands.

55313. But the income he gets from his land is the symbol of his proprietorial rights. What other available consideration is there for proprietorial rights outside the return which he gets from the land?—I am referring to land in the landlord's hands, which is farmed by him and has not been let. In that case a fair value should be put on.

55314. I take it a fair statement would be the same income from investments at 3½ per cent., but I understand you have something over and above that, which you call proprietorial rights, and which I assume you intend should have a marketable value?—Yes; I mean the tenant right of the land and the landlord's interest in it.

55315. Say a landlord has a farm which has come down to him from his ancestors, and has never been let to a tenant, do you still say there are two rights in that. Is it not an intellectual conception in your own mind of the existence of two rights?—There are two rights I say.

55316. You may carve two rights out of that, and divide the holding up, but before you do that where are the existing two rights. I follow your statement regarding the price and his net income. I do not question that, but when you go further, and say there are two rights I must ask you to explain what they are. He gets his income, which is the outward symbol and manifestation of his whole rights, and you assume something else for proprietorial rights?—I mean that there are two interests—the landlord's and the tenant's. The landlord gets his net income from the rent of the land, but there are cases in which the land is not all let, but in his own hands.

55317. He gets his net income capitalised at 3½ per cent.?—I would not say that. There are some cases where it is hard to arrive at what the net income would be.

55318. Do you mean to say in respect of the amenities of the house, the demesne, and private grounds?—No.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—If you meant that I could understand you.

55319. CHAIRMAN.—On tenanted land two rights exist—the interest of the landlord and the interest of the tenant?—That is so.

55320. On untenanted land both these rights are amalgamated in the person of the landlord?—Yes.

55321. And you say if such grass land is bought by the State these two rights should be recognised?—Yes.

55322. I understand that, but the confusion arises from the fact that you have spoken of net income. Now, for the sake of argument, we will assume that in the case of certain grass lands both these rights are in the landlord's hands. Sir Antony MacDonnell has pointed out that the purchase of the land is on the basis of net income. The landlord must have been getting from that land an income in the form of grazing, or if he farmed it, returns from his farming operations. Now, if the sum of money paid for purchase is based upon the income he has derived from that land, that, I think, meets your point, and is a recognition of both interests in the land?—Well, the landlord may have farmed that land in conjunction with other land, and it might not be easy to arrive at the figure he makes. There are other circumstances connected with the matter, such, for instance, as the fact that he might not be able to get as much out of it as an ordinary tenant would.

55322. Do you mean to say if a landlord has been farming two separate farms himself it is not possible for his books to show what income he has derived from each?—It might be and it might not, and then he might not be offering the entire land, but only a part for sale, and it would be hard to apportion the income on a part.

55323. But surely there is no great difficulty about that, as the landlord must know for his own information what he is deriving from his property?—Yes, but he might not be able to state exactly his income for the part to be sold.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—I do not wish to press this much further, as I think there is some misapprehension between us, but it is not a matter of much importance, because you are satisfied if the landlord gets his net income capitalised, and that 3½ per cent. is a proper figure. But I do not understand what you mean by, and I only call attention to the division you make of his income.

55324. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—When Sir Antony MacDonnell asked you the question about proprietorial rights it immediately got narrowed down to a question of untenanted land. Now, do you mean that in the phrase selling land you are selling other things called incorporeal hereditaments—the rights of shooting and fishing, or perhaps turbary, and such things—do you include that or are you narrowing proprietorial rights down to the question of the surface of untenanted land?—I mean all the rights over the whole property—the rights of turbary, etc.

55325. You include such things as I mentioned in those rights?—Yes.

55326. CHAIRMAN.—But those rights are of no value unless they show income?—They are rights all the same.

55327. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—To follow that up and clear the ground I will take simply the shooting. How if the landlord shoots over the estate himself, that will show no contribution to income in his books?—No.

55328. That is one case?—Yes.

55329. Therefore, in a case like that, where the landlord exercises the rights himself you cannot set it down as contributing to his net income?—No.

55330. But if the landlord lets the shooting that will come into his books and affect the price?—Yes, it will come in then.

55332. Now, take the case Lord Dudley put to you, the case where a landlord has perhaps a demesne and a tillage farm, or uses a great deal of demesne as tillage and outside that there is untenanted grazing land, and it is not the ordinary case that the two will be worked together in such a way in regard to stock being on the untenanted land, sometimes on the demesne and on the tillage. In that case there is an enormous difficulty in apportioning really to these two elements of his holding what belongs to his net income?—Yes, that was what was in my mind.

55333. Now, taking the case of a landlord or owner of property in that position, do you think it possible for him by his books, no matter how he keeps them, to say accurately how much of net income he derives from one or the other?—It would be difficult.

55334. Do you think it would be possible?—Well, it is hardly possible.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Then he drops the 3½ per cent.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—No. What he says is there are different cases, and the one he illustrates is such a case.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—But he cannot have it both ways.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I wanted to clear up his view in these cases.

55335. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—In these particular cases it is difficult to ascertain income?—Exactly.

55336. Are we to take it that in no case do you claim beyond net income?—I do in cases such as described by Sir John Colomb, where ethe farming is in and out claim beyond what is made out of the land. It is difficult to arrive at the net income, and when even more would be made out if it was formed in a different way.

55337. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—What you say is that the landlord should be satisfied with his net income, and next you say it is difficult to ascertain in certain cases, what his net imcome is. Does that carry you any further than net income if it can be ascertained?—In this case it would.

55338. It is rather difficult to understand?—Well, it might or might not.

55339. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—You say it is almost impossible to arrive at the landlord's net income?—In some particular cases I say it is difficult to arrive at. If the landlord is selling part of the estate, but not selling the farm with the other lots, it is difficult in that case to arrive at the net income derived from the land he was selling.

55340. We have heard all along that net income was almost an infallible test, and I was rather disturbed to hear you throw some doubt upon it. But it is perfectly clear you cannot have both things. You say you wish to establish some other standard which Sir Antony MacDonnell has pointed out it is rather difficult to grasp, but has it not a tendency rather to discredit net income as a basis?—I have pointed out how difficult it is to arrive at net income.

55341. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—In special cases?—Yes.

55342. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Would you accept Mr. Boyd's standard for untenanted land—one and one-third of the valuation?—I would not accept that, I think that would be low.

55343. Too low?—Yes.

55344. On some untenanted land it is almost impossible to arrive at net income?—Yes, when farmed in a certain way.

55345. Then, you would have to fall back on some standard?—Yes.

55346. Then, I ask you, would you accept Mr. Boyd's standard for untenanted land?—I do not think it would be a fair standard. The valuation varies very much. I would rather fix a fair rent and calculate it on the two interests.

Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Quite so. Add them together, and never subtract.

55347. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Do you manage much land?—Yes.

55348. Do you manage much land on which second term rents have been fixed?—Yes.

55349. Taking the second term rent and the valuation, which is the lower?—The second term rent.

55350. Now, the second term rents are the basis under the Act, and that being so what justification have you for adding one-third to the still higher valuation as the basis in the case of untenanted land. I do not wish to surprise you into any admission, but I would like you to look at that point and examine it?—Yes, I see it.

55351. CHAIRMAN.—As a matter of fact, has the valuation and one-third added much direct relation to second term rents. At present the landlord is allowed to pay income tax on untenanted and grazing lands in one of two ways, either upon his income or the valuation and one-third added?—Yes, the occupier is charged on Schedule D, and the landlord on Schedule A.

55332. But where there is no occupier the landlord can pay income tax either upon his income or one and one-third the valuation?—Yes, that is so.

55353. And Mr. Boyd's plan was that the price paid for such land should be estimated on one and one-third the valuation, which is the basis on which he pays income tax under the Act?—Yes.

CHAIRMAN.—Then how can you compare second term rents on land which is untenanted?

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Do you ask that of me?

CHAIRMAN.—No. Of the witness.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Because I think I should explain that.

55354. CHAIRMAN.—I want to know how he arrives at that on land on which there are no tenants at all?—I do not see the connection between the two at all.

CHAIRMAN.—No more do I, and why answer Sir Antony MacDonnell's question?

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—I said I did not wish to surprise him. There are two classes of land, tenanted and untenanted. The tenanted land has gone through a process of rent-fixing which has brought the rent down two successive steps until it is a second term rent, and that rent is now taken as a basis of purchase. It is bed rock, and you have firm ground on which to go. But untenanted land has never been subjected to that process, and you are not in a position to say the value of untenanted land, having regard to the variation of the valuation. If you take the valuation of untenanted land you say that even that, plus something more, must be given, and it would be low—plus another interest which is only to be found out by intellectual men.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—But isn't that the case on estates sold on the basis of income, and one-third has to be added for occupation.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—That is a mere rule.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—But it is the basis of taxation on occupation.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—I speak under correction, but I think that was in force before rent reduction, and consequently it is out of Court.

55355. Most Rev. Dr .O'DONNELL.—Mr Kavanagh asked you whether as a basis of purchase of untenanted land you would accept Mr. Boyd's standard of the valuation and one-third added, and you replied that the valuation was not uniform?—Yes, I do not think it is very uniform.

55356. Then perhaps something uniform could be found. What would you say to a Court or competent body empowered to say, if the land were tenanted, what the second term rent would be. Then, instead of adding one-third to the Government valuation you added one-third to the second term rent so estimated. What would you say to that standard, which would have this advantage, that it would not be subject to the variations of the Government valuation?—The tenant's interest would be worth more than one-third.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—That would be an acknowledgement of a second interest.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—There is no tenant's interest in this at all.

55357. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Somehow or other the public authority of the country has estimated the value that the owner has in untenanted land at one-third extra. My suggestion is to estimate a second term rent on untenanted land and add one-third for the owner's interest. The Government valuations fluctuate from estate to estate, and place to place, and if the estimated second term rent is taken then you abolish the variation of the valuation?—But I would not think that would be sufficient.

55358. That is a different point. Under my plan the element of variation would be avoided to some extent?—It would.

55359. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Would there not be variations, in the opinions of the land valuers?—Probably there would be.

55360. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—There would be the same variations as exist now in regard to second term rents fixed by the different Commissioners?—Yes; there would be variations.

55361. CHAIRMAN.—What do you next wish to say?—That the delays which at present occur in completing sales should, if possible, be avoided. The funds at the disposal of the Congested Districts Board should be increased, and also their staff. I would say that a special amount should be set apart for purchasing estates in the congested districts, these to get a preference over more prosperous parts of the country. When dividing grazing land I think care should be taken to give it only to persons who have shown industry and thrift in the management of their old holdings and who have some capital to start with, otherwise I fear additional land would not benefit them much. If the Board could keep the new tenants under their eye for a few years, until they got well started, and made them loans where necessary, for short periods, I think it would be advisable. I think if all the grass land in the country is divided up into small holdings the cattle trade will be entirely changed, and small tenants will not find a ready and good market for their young stock. At present the graziers buy such young stock and keep them for a year or so, and then sell them to the Leinster men or cross-Channel dealers. If the grazing system entirely disappears the small tenant must keep his stock much longer than at present, and finish them himself for the market. He will have to keep a smaller number then and his profit will be much less, as young stock from £6 to £9 are always proportionately the dearest.

55362. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Would that be the case all over the country? Why do you say the quantity of land taken, as a whole, would be diminished. If you have, say, 100 acres and it is divided into 10-acre plots, you do not lose any quantity of land. I quite agree there would be a change in the system and that farmers who now sell yearling stock to the grazier would keep them and prepare them for the market?—He won't be able to keep them so long.

55363. The same amount of grass remains in the country. At present, under the grazing system, a certain quantity of stock is fed, and why should the grass lands not feed a similar quantity under the changed system?—Well, the tenant would not have the grazier to buy and fatten the stock.

Sept. 25, 1907.

Mr. Denis Kirwin.

55364. But they do that in other countries?—Here they would be confined in small areas.

55365. You will have twenty or thirty-acre holdings. The tenant will cultivate three or four acres, and he will have the remainder under grass to keep his cattle?—But the cattle won't do so well as if there was a larger farm for them. You will find where a man has a fattening farm he won't breed cattle, but will buy his stock.

55366. He will always have to keep a cow or two so long as his land is available for grazing. The quantity of grass land will not be diminished and why should the number of cattle raised be diminished. A mere change in the system in the meantime should not effect any diminution?—When divided up into small lots he will not be able to keep so many cattle.

55367. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Isn't the case the very opposite, and where small holdings prevail more cattle are raised than on large holdings. I am speaking now of known facts and not speculation at all. In other countries more cattle are raised on small holdings and why should the same thing not prevail in Ireland?—Well, they won't make so much out of their cattle, because they will not be able to sell them when young.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—They would. There may be a period of transition, four or even ten years, but the trade would right itself and adjust itself to the new circumstances.

55368. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—More cultivation will increase the power of maintaining the cattle through the winter?—Yes.

55369. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The theory upon which success is looked for in the breaking up of grass lands is that there will be more small occupiers?—Yes.

55370. Now, take Sir Antony MacDonnell's illustration to you when he referred to the 100 acres of land broken up and divided among four tenants. In that case you would have to deduct from 30 to 33 per cent. in respect of land taken from grazing and turned into tillage?—Yes.

55371. And if the policy of breaking up grass lands is to get more tillage, you are in some measure, at all events, reducing the quantity of grazing land?—Yes.

55372. Now, with regard to the small holder, who it is suggested will find it more to his advantage not only to breed the cattle, but finish them, it is not an uncommon thing for the small holder with grass to keep a couple of cows?—No.

55373. And according to the theory that he is to keep his young stock for three years, the first year after starting with two cows he would have two calves, which he thus must keep till they are three years old. The second year he has two more calves to keep for three years, and when he arrives at the point when the first two calves should be finishing he has six calves of his own. Now, how is that small holder with a limited quantity of grass to do otherwise than part with his young stock, and if the conditions of the cattle trade do change is it not possible that that small holder would be obliged to part with some of his stock at lower rates, as he could not then get the same offer?—I quite agree. He has more stock than he can manage if he is supposed to keep them till they are three years old. He must part with some at an earlier stage.

55374. CHAIRMAN.—You say, in your opinion, if the grass land is broken up there will be a certain amount of more tillage and the result will be that, generally speaking, fewer cattle will be kept?—I said the cattle would require to be kept longer and he would not get the same market for them. That would not pay him so well, as he would want to turn over the money sooner.

55375. And therefore the result of that would be that there would be a decreased number of cattle to correspond with the decreased amount of land upon which they could be kept?—They would only be able to keep fewer cattle.

55376. Your theory is that 100 acres of land are able to support a certain number of cattle, and if you break that up you subtract 30 acres for tillage. The 70 acres left are only able to keep a proportionately smaller number of cattle?—I say the small holder will be compelled to keep a smaller number of cattle than at present, because under present conditions he can sell his young stock and get a good price for them. They are bought by the grazier and fattened. Under the new system the small holder would not have these graziers to buy his young stock. He would have to keep them himself until they were older. Under these circumstances he would not be able to keep so many cattle.

55377. Why should not the small man continue to sell his young stores to the men who will occupy no smaller lots than the original grass lands?—If there are people to buy them he could, but I am afraid there won't be any people to buy his small stores. They will be all breeders.

55378. You have got at present three people, A, B and C. A originally breeds the young stock and then passes them on to B, who is a large grazier living in Roscommon or East Galway. C is the man who has the fattening land in Leinster and finishes the stock. Now, if you break up B's grazing lands into smaller lots and put new men in possession, what is to prevent those new men continuing to buy from A?—Because these new men will breed the stores themselves.

55379. That is an assumption, why should they?—Unless they have very large holdings they will keep cows for their own use and breed stock. They will require milch cows and they won't be in a position to buy from anybody else.

55380. They might keep a cow or two for milk and to that extent they might be breeders, but except to that very limited extent is there anything to prevent them doing exactly what the graziers are doing to-day?—Well, such a man will be able to breed stock himself. He will have too many for his own purpose.

55381. Is there anything to prevent him doing exactly what the grazier does to-day?—There is nothing to prevent him, but, in my opinion, I do not think he will be able to do it.

55382. That is an assumption. There is nothing to prevent him buying the stock of the small man exactly as the holder of that land does to-day?—But he will be only a small holder himself. There is nothing to prevent him doing that, but I fear he won't be able to do it. He will be a breeder himself and he won't be able to finish them all.

55838. But that depends entirely on what you call a small holder. If a man has thirty acres of land and requires only a small portion for a milch cow, the rest will be available for stock bought from the small men further west?—The man with thirty acres would be able to keep only a little stock after all he would breed himself and have tillage for.

55384. But what he breeds himself amounts to only two calves?—He will have to keep them longer and the supply will be going on still.

55385. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Are you aware that, as a matter of fact, it is the small holder in Scotland who fattens the cattle?—I am not aware of that.

55386. CHAIRMAN.—Whatever may be the result, in your view, the breaking up of the grass lands will eventually lead to a fewer number of cattle being kept?—I think so.

55387. Even supposing that is so, which I don't admit, I ask you, from a public point of view, can you measure the prosperity of Ireland by the number of cattle which she produces?—Oh, I don't suppose you can, but the cattle industry at present is the staple industry of the country, and it seems to pay best.

55388. Now, would not the prosperity of the country be better promoted, even if there were fewer cattle, by a better distribution of the population?—I do not quite understand.

55389. Won't you get more general prosperity, better power to raise a family throughout the country if you were to grant more farms, which could be partly tilled, and partly in grass, to the population which now has no opportunity to extend their holdings—would you admit that would follow even if the result were in the aggregate, fewer cattle were turned out of Ireland than now?—Yes, but the people getting the land would want to have capital to start with.

55390. That may be so, but that is a minor point. The broad question remains, which enhances the prosperity of Ireland the more—the present system by which you have the cattle trade carried on, on an excellent system on big ranches, and the great proportion of the population congregated together in holdings they cannot make anything of, or a more general distribution of land on a basis of purchase by the people, even if it results in a smaller output of cattle?—But that ought to be done gradually, and by degrees, and not change the whole industry and trade of the country altogether.

Mr. Henry Murphy examined.

55391. Chairman.—You live in Galway, and are a solicitor?—Yes. I am a member of the County Council. I am asked to give evidence on behalf of the parish of Castlegar, which is in the division that I represent. Before giving detailed evidence of the several townlands in the parish of Castlegar, I may mention that it is one of the most congested parishes in the Galway Union. The Galway Union, taking into account its total rateable valuation, which is £44,794 16*s.* 4*d.*, and the number of agricultural holdings, which is 4,429, has one of the greatest proportional number of holdings not exceeding in value £4, viz., 2,092, which are rated at £4,969 4*s.*, or on an average of £2 7*s.* 6*d.* each holding. The total number of unhabitable houses is 1,813, of which 1,228 are in an order of third-class. The total area of the union is 198,535a. 2r. 25p., and the number of inhabitants is 36,465. That portion of the parish of Castlegar, which is on the estate of the Marquis of Clanricarde, is divided into eight townlands. Castlegar, within the urban area of Galway, is 106a. 1r. 30p., valued at £34 17*s.* Castlegar rural is 422a. 1r. 21p., valued at £208 17*s.* One-third of this townland is waste rocky land; the average size of holding is about eight acres, and they run as low as two acres, about half of which is wholly unfit for tillage. The portion within the urban area is subject to 8*s.* in the £ for rates. There is no turbary on this townland; the tenants have to buy turbary from the landlord, which costs £1 to £1 10*s.* a year. There are 29 tenants at valuation of £8 1*s.*, 13 of which are valued at 10*s.*, 1 at £2, 1 at £3, 3 at £4, 7 at £5 and 4 at £6. The townland of Carrabrowne contains 861 acres and is valued at £185 3*s.*, or an average of about 4*s.* 3*d.* per acre There are 19 tenants; average valuation, £9 2*s.*, of which 7 are valued under £5. About 25 acres are set to tenants living outside this townland. 285a. 3r. 26p. of this townland is turbary, and is held by the landlord. He sets turf banks to the tenants of this and other townlands.

55392. Who is the landlord?—The Marquis of Clanricarde. Sufficient turf for one holding costs the tenant about £1 per year. The hardship of drawing turf from this bog is very great; there is no roadway into it, and it has to be carried long distances by the tenants on their backs. It frequently happens, if the weather turns out wet, the turf has to be left cut on the bank for a whole year. In 1892 the landlord levied 1*s.* tax on each bank to extend a roadway to the bog. This extension was never made, though the 1*s.* is still paid by the tenants.

55393. Do you say he levied a tax on the tenants to make a road?—Yes. He levied a shilling on each turf bank in order to extend the roadway to the banks. That shilling still remains against the tenants.

55394. Sir John Colomb.—Is it collected?—Yes. The selling of the banks is in the bailiff's hands, and if the tenants refuse to pay, they might be refused the bank. About one-third of this townland is subject to floods every winter, owing to the neglect in maintaining the drainage works in the hands of the Corrib Drainage Trustees, though a tax is annually made for the maintenance of these works. Complaints have frequently been made without avail. In some of the cuts, where a boat could be taken five or six years ago, one could now walk across it owing to the mud and soil which are allowed to accumulate, and as a result causes flood over the adjoining land, doing immense damage to crops, and causing a disease in the land, which often proves fatal to stock.

55395. This is due to the stuff deposited on the land?—Yes. In this townland, if the turbary land was properly drained, the proper access provided, and the drainage works maintained, much relief would be given to a considerable proportion of the tenants. The townland of Corlough contains, within the urban area, 311a. 0r. 32p., which is valued at £90 12*s.*, or under 6*s.* per acre, and the land is subject to the urban rate, varying from 7*s.* to 8*d.* in the £. The portion in the rural district contains 52 acres, which is valued at £7 10*s.*, or a little over 7*s.* per acre. On this townland there are 17 tenants; their average valuation is £5 15*s.*, of which one is valued under £1, 11 are valued at £2, 2 at £4, and 1 at £5. Eleven of these tenants are joint tenants, and have land on sixteen different places, and each of these places are divided up into three parts—one part for each crop. Parts of the holdings are a mile away from one another. When the tenants bring a cart of weed for manure they have to divide the load into three or four portions before they can bring it to their holdings, as they are so inaccessible. Two-thirds of the holdings are covered with surface rocks, on which a horse can never be allowed to graze, owing to the clefts. In this townland, where a man might have twenty-five acres, the most that would be available for tillage would be four acres, and owing to the very small fields there is much land wasted by head land, and is of such light poor nature, that the tenants have to go elsewhere and purchase meadows, and pay from £5 to £7 annually, besides paying from 10*s.* to 12*s.* for turbary to the landlord. The townland of Killoughter contains 345a. 2r. 10p., and is valued at £127 16*s.*, on which there are 19 tenants of an average valuation of £6 1*s.*, of which 2 are valued at £2, 1 at £3, 8 at £4, and 7 at £5. The holdings are divided into small patches, and comprise very inferior land. The townland of Terryland, which contains 218a. 2r. 16p. within the urban area of Galway, is valued at £127 10*s.*; of this 83 acres are in the hands of the landlord, and set annually to graziers or people other than tenant-farmers, and is within half a mile of Coolough, and Ballinfoyle—two most congested areas—and would, if divided up amongst some of the tenants, relieve the present congestion. The townland of Sylaun contains 479a. 0r. 1p., and is valued at £36 5*s.*, is entirely in the landlord's hands. The greater portion is bog land. The landlord sets about fifty acres of meadow annually, some of which the tenants have to buy at competitive prices. This bog could be reclaimed, and if divided amongst the tenants would help them somewhat. The portion of this estate in Castlegar parish contains 3,657a. 2r. 8p., of which 729a. 0r. 33p. are in the landlord's hands. I next may refer to the estate, under the Board, of Erasmus Smith. The portion of this estate, in the parish of Castlegar, is divided into eleven townlands. The townland of Murrough rural contains 147a. 0r. 30p., of which only 25a. 3r. 12p. is let to three tenants. The balance is in the hands of Richard Blake, Esq., who lives in Annadown, a distance of fourteen miles away, and sets the greater portion of this land annually. The portion of Murrough within the urban area contains 102a. 3r. 3p., of which 38 acres are in the hands of tenants. The balance is in the hands of the landlord, who sets it annually. Roscam contains 420a.. of which there are only 19a. 0r. 34p. let to the tenants. 148 acres are held by a lady from the landlord, and she sets it for grazing every year. Renmore contains 479a. 0r. 12p., of which there are 20 acres a common along by the sea-shore divided amongst 17 tenants. There are 177 acres in the hands of Major Lynch, who sets it annually. Ballybrit contains 325a. 2r. 39p. Mr. Lynch holds 221a. 2r. 21p. The balance, 104 acres, is divided among six tenants. Ballybanemore, within the urban area of Galway, contains 73a. 2r. 2p., 40 of which are in the hands of Major W. Lynch, and the balance of 30 acres is occupied by 7 tenants. Ballybanebeg, in the urban area, contains 307a. 1r. 9p., of which Mr. R. N. Somerville, County Surveyor of Cavan, a middleman, holds about 86 acres, and which he sub-lets to Pierce Joyce, Esq. The Prisons' Board Inspector holds 145 acres, and Major W. Lynch, 64a. 2r. 9p. Ballybanemon is a district within the urban area, of which Mr. Somerville owns 82 acres. The balance only is set to three tenants. Coming to the Blake's Estate, I may say that the townland of Coarsfield contains 264a. 2r. 14p., which is valued at £31 6*s.*, or a little over 2*s.* an acre. This townland is often completely covered with the flood from the Corrib, extending two miles up from the shore—there is sometimes three feet of water in the houses, and the crops are often totally destroyed, while the tenants have to keep boats. The flooding is owing to the manner in which the level of the lake is kept up by the arrangement of sluices and falling boards at Galway in the interest of the salmon fishery. The landlord, when asked to sell, demanded 23 years' purchase. The next estate is Dr. Fair's Estate. The townland of Cloonacaneen contains 480a. 3r. 28p., of which the landlord holds a farm of 120 acres, which he annually sets for grazing, and also holds 82a. 2r. 37p. of turbary. The balance is set to thirteen tenants. Several fruitless attempts have been made to buy from the landlord. One-third

Sept. 25, 1907.

Mr. Henry Murphy.

of each holding is rocky and waste, and much damage is done by drainage. They have to buy meadow off the farm in the landlord's hands at £3 10s. an acre from Mr. Walsh, who has it at £1 10s. from the landlord. Sir V. Blake's Estate, at Menlough, situate on the borders of Lough Corrib, contains 692a. 3r. 29p., valued at £222 5s.; is set to 47 tenants, miserably small holdings, with very little land available for tillage; it is not an infrequent thing to see twelve or fifteen tenants sharing a crop in one field. The houses are very bad, and the land is rocky and impossible to use a plough in tilling. The average holding barely exceeds five acres. The barley crop was a great source of income some twenty years ago; it is not half the price it was then, and the land does not yield half the crop, owing to constant cropping, without a change of rest. Tenants have five or six miles to go for turf. In the parish of Castlegar, the tenants have lost much owing to the closing of the black marble quarries at Menlough, and also the marble quaries at Meslin Park—both of which might be worked with profit, as the marbles from both quarries were much sought after. The Conservators of Fisheries have prevented the tenants of Renmore boundary on the sea from fishing within what is known as the mile limit of the mouth of the Corrib. The entire of Castlegar parish should be scheduled as a congested district area, and without delay, as there are large grazing lands on other estates, which are being sold, and some of which might be available. The tenants are quite willing to migrate. The proper maintenance of the drainage works is a most important matter to the tenants who have holdings within the area intended to be benefited. At present the management is in the hands of trustees, some of whom have no interest whatever in the land. Their meetings are seldom. The immediate management is in the hands of Mr. Townsend, who also acts as secretary and engineer for the Navigation Trustees. The positions are inconsistent, and incompatible while in the interest of navigation the lake should be kept at a high level, it is to the interest of the Drainage Trustees that it should be kept at a low level. The management of the drainage works should be in the hands of the County Council, who have representatives from each district on their Council.

55396. Who appoints the drainage trustees?—Originally appointed under an award of 1860 they were appointed by the landowners of the district to represent them. There has been no representation from the popular point of view. We tried on one occasion to get the trustees to hand over the works to the County Council.

55397. Do you know anybody who gave evidence before the Drainage Commission?—I do not. The maintenance of the drainage which is neglected is most important. It should be entrusted to the County Council, which is in direct touch with the people who suffer if the drainage is not properly maintained.

55398. CHAIRMAN.—You suggest that the drainage should be handed over to the County Council?—Yes; of Galway and Mayo.

55399. Both for executing the work and also maintaining it?—Yes.

55400. You do not think there is any necessity for a Drainage Board?—No. I think the County Council would have a better opportunity of knowing what is required.

55401. Would the County Council spend the money necessary to maintain the drains?—They have to levy the rate at present.

55402. Mr. O'KELLY.—Are not the County Councils of Mayo and Galway joined?—Yes. They are joint works. Mayo pays a little more than Galway.

55403. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Would not you think it desirable that arterial drainage and maintenance of drains should go side by side?—Yes; I do.

55404. Do you think it possible for the County Council of any county to maintain a system of arterial drainage of a river running into more than one county, or would you not, in such a case, require a board composed of representatives of the several County Councils concerned?—I think it would work better if that were done. In this case Mayo and Galway contribute to the drainage of Lough Corrib and Lough Mask, but they have no more to do with it except to provide half-yearly in advance what the secretary or engineer estimates approximately will be required.

55405. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—There are two rival schemes by which arterial drainage may be conducted. One is by a Dublin department with powers for dealing with arterial drainage. Would you be disposed to entrust arterial drainage to such a body in preference to continuing the present system?—I think it would be better.

55406. Having secured your outfall by the construction of arterial drains you would entrust the branch drains to a smaller body?—Yes.

55407. Then you would be able to deal with the County Council?—Yes.

55408. The County Council would be a sufficiently large unit?—Yes.

55409. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—How do you propose to reconcile the different interests of the navigation people and the drainage people?—I think the navigation could be kept up without interfering with the drains. What is being done in Lough Corrib is that instead of keeping the channel clear they allow the mud to accumulate where the boats go, so that the level of the water is being raised. There are some of the drains into which formerly large boats could be taken and which now can be walked across owing to the accumulation of mud.

55410. Where do they dam back the water?—With falling boards, quite close to Galway.

55411. Have they increased the height of the walls to keep back the water?—They have increased them and it is a source of constant complaint, and they put up those boards according to the wants of the navigation trustees, so as to raise the level of the water instead of going to the expense of deepening the channel and allowing the lake to be drained.

55412. CHAIRMAN.—Deepen the water by raising the surface instead of lowering the bottom?—Yes.

55413. I don't quite follow your plan with regard to those districts requiring drainage which are at present on estates belonging to individual landowners. It seems to me that what you say applies more to drainage which you have close to a big waterway, the Corrib, or something of that kind, but take the case of an inland district where there are a certain number of farmers whose land would be improved by a large system of drainage. Who do you propose should do it in that case?—If the land has passed altogether into the tenants' hands that should be part of the drainage system. If there are small drains through the lands there must be some place to take the water along from them. The tenants cannot do more than maintain the drains on their land. Then you must have some body to drain big waterways like the Corrib.

55414. Who, do you propose, should do that?—I think it should be obligatory on the tenant to maintain the small drains passing through his land, and the larger body should get an opening for it to pass from those.

55415. The small drains are obviously a question for the tenants. We are constantly told that drainage is not attended to because there is no outfall from the holdings into the large drains. Who is going to make the big drains? If it is the County Council they have got to impose a rate on the farmers in a certain area?—A large area, I would expect, because that would be a big thing.

55416. Would it be very difficult to do that?—It would.

55417. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—It is done by ascertaining the amount of improvement and the extent of land served by the drain?—That is the principle on which the present tax is levied by the drainage trustees and the navigation trustees—on the area of land benefited by the drainage.

55418. CHAIRMAN.—Take the Berridge Estate. Obviously there are a great many places on that estate which would be greatly improved by drainage. If the Board was to buy that estate what steps should be taken to get drainage done? Who should do it?—That is a very large question. If there was sufficient money given to the Congested Districts Board to do it it would be to their advantage to do it. The lands would be far more valuable all along if they were drained.

55419. I take it your reply is that the Board should do it?—Yes.

55420. Suppose the Board did it who is to maintain it?—The tenants would maintain the drains through their own land.

55421. But the main drains, the big arterial drains: should the cost be levied on the whole county or on

that portion which benefits?—On the place which benefits.

55422. Would you allow the County Council to levy that rate?—Yes.

55423. Would not it be simpler to do it through the drainage authority?—If the drainage authority were a popular body that could be approached, not like the Board of Works and other bodies, as to which the people have no possible way of geting them to do the work. The County Council is the body elected by the people.

55424. The difficulty is if the original drainage were done by the Congested Districts Board the County Council might ask why should they have to pay?—We have really the same thing to contend with at present in the matter of piers and harbours.

55425. Therefore don't you think that the same thing might occur with regard to drains?—If the Congested Districts Board took the matter in hands they would do it in an efficient manner and the country would be quite capable of maintaining it.

55426. Do you say that piers and marine works have not been done in an efficient manner and therefore it is that the County Councils refuse to maintain them?—Yes. It has occurred over and over again that piers have been built on sandy soil, which has given way. The County Council has been asked to take them up, and when the first storm came they had to spend £300 or £400 on them. That occurs every day.

55427. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—If the Board bought an estate and had merely the single estate in the district, don't you think it would be difficult to provide an outfall for the main drainage?—Yes.

55428. On the other hand, if it bought blocks of estates it would not be difficult to execute the drainage?—No.

55429. When drainage works are executed we must assume that they will add to the value of the land drained?—That is so.

55430. Therefore, I take it you would not see any difficulty in the point that a pretty considerable portion of the outlay in draining the holding should be repaid by the instalments of the tenant purchasers?—No.

55431. So far for construction, and we are talking only of the construction of such things as would fairly come within the area of a block of estates. We have not gone to clearing big rivers. You very properly have said that as regards farm drains the farmer should keep up his own place?—Yes.

55432. Then you come to a more difficult part of the arterial drainage question, as regards a block of estates. I think you have answered Lord Dudley that you think on the whole the County Council could be got to keep up those drains?—Yes.

55433. There are some difficulties, but once the drains are made no doubt they serve particular people more than others, but that is true of roads?—Yes.

55434. Do you think on principle would it be more difficult to ask a local authority, such as the county authority, to keep up large drains that are serviceable than to ask them to keep up main roads that are serviceable?—I don't think so.

55435. Perhaps we had better not go into the big question of such drainage as the Shannon drainage and how it should be effected. You should then perhaps go to a central authority?—I should think so. I have been only dealing with an area like what your lordship mentioned. Where there would be a drain contained in several districts there would be no difficulty about that. We have roads which are county-at-large charges and roads which are district charges. It is just as easy for the County Council to levy a rate for drains as for the maintenance of those.

55436. Chairman.—You base your answers on the assumption that the Congested Districts Board had got control of a block of estates. What is to happen if they cannot get control of a block of estates? How is the drainage to be done if they are only acting on one estate?—That would be difficult if there was no outlet, that is, if the field was large; but there is a system of drainage in a small way. Those French drains can be put through land, and give great benefit without any main outlet for them. They have been done over and over again, and give great benefit to certain areas. A French drain is four or five or ten feet deep. Into that drain for three or four feet large loose stones are thrown. It is practically a waterway underneath. If a large flood comes it takes it off the surface of the land immediately it gets time to percolate through the ground.

55437. Sir John Colomb.—Everyone of these drains must have an outlet?—That is so, but there must be some fall to the land on some side.

55438. Therefore, before you can proceed to do that you must give to the farmers who will do that afterwards the necessary outlet to carry away the water that comes through the drains?—Yes.

55439. Mr. Kavanagh.—Did you see the Report of the Drainage Commission?—No.

55440. It recommended the formation of a Board for the whole of Ireland for large schemes, and the County Councils for all the county drains. Would you approve of that?—I think that would work.

55441. Mr. O'Kelly.—You would not approve of making the expenditure involved in drainage a county-at-large charge?—No. It should go on the area to be benefited.

55442. Mr. Sutherland.—How did the existing drainage authority construct the works?—It was done between the navigation and the drainage trustees. They got a loan from the Government, which is repayable by instalments, and certain areas have to bear those instalments.

55443. Is not that a good method?—Yes.

55444. I understand your objection to the present authority is that it is not popularly elected by the people who are benefited. But suppose that there were such an authority would not that be a good method of getting a loan to do the necessary work and repaying it?—It would if the repaying were not too much

55445. The complaint against the present authority is that they have not discharged the duty of maintenance. Suppose you substituted for the present body an efficient body would the method by which they did it in the past not do for the future?—It would if they did the work.

55446. So in that case they would not require to call in the aid of the Congested Districts Board at all?—No.

55447. If they were proprietors of the estate they would have to pay *pro rata*?—Yes, but at present the works require a great deal of outlay in order to make them efficient.

55448. Have the present body been levying the rate regularly?—Yes.

55449. What has been done with the money?—All that the County Council know is that they get from the engineer a certificate of the amount that has been levied, and another with an approximate estimate for the coming half-year. Last year the amount payable by the Counties Galway and Mayo was £296 half-yearly.

55450. Was that spent on maintenance and works?—The certificate of the engineer says so. I am quite sure it was.

55451. The conclusion is that the amount is not sufficient for maintenance?—No, but I think it is utter neglect.

55452. Sir John Colomb.—You mean that the money has not been properly spent?—Yes.

55453. The money has been spent, but wasted?—Yes. For a number of years they did not levy sufficient.

55454. Chairman.—Is Castlegar scheduled at present?—No. My evidence is for the purpose of having it scheduled.

55455. Do you know was it not scheduled because of the high valuation, and, if so, why is the valuation so high?—It is not high in that division.

55456. The valuation must be over 30*s.* per head?—I should say it would be.

55457. Thirty shillings is the minimum. Do you know why it is over 30*s.*?—I could not say. The people are very poor. The high grazing lands which are adjacent unfortunately raise the valuation in the district.

55458. Mr. O'Kelly.—Is Castlegar an electoral division?—It is not. Portion of it is in the urban area and portion outside it. My object in giving evidence was to have it scheduled. I understand it was stated before your Commission that poor tenants who live on such an area as that would not be able to cultivate the land if they went to better land. That is not correct. I think they would be as well able to cultivate the land as anybody else.

55459. Chairman.—That involves purchase of the estate by the Board?—Yes.

Sept. 25, 1907.

Mr. Henry Murphy.

55460. Why was the black marble quarry abandoned?—The real reason was that the parties who undertook the initial expenses of clearing away the rock on top of the quarries exhausted their finances, and were not able to conclude their work. The quarries are there now both at Menlough and at Remlin Park, and the marble is of excellent quality.

55461. One hears of certain suggestions put forward by people who are not perhaps business men and have not thought these things out as to what should be done with regard to quarries and mines. You are a business man, and know that generally that if a quarry shows signs of a possibility of being worked on commercial lines there is usually no difficulty in getting capital for it?—There is difficulty, I should say, in nearly all parts of Ireland, particularly in the West of Ireland. People don't wish to risk their money in Ireland at present. You cannot get outside capital in the country just now unfortunately unless to a very limited extent.

55462. This marble quarry was worked for some time. The people who worked it were quite cognisant of its quality and the possibility of marketing the marble. If they found that the expense of opening it was greater than they imagined, is not it probable that on representing that to their shareholders or bankers they could have got an increase of capital easily?—It might be possible.

55463. Is not it probable from your experience as a man of business?—Yes, but every other day you see business that has failed in the hands of one man falling into the hands of another and being made a great success. That occurs in every class of business.

55464. If it is badly worked that may be. Is there any reason to suppose that this was badly worked?—No. The reason was want of capital. They dropped such an amount of capital on the preliminary work that they could not continue.

55465. If they had been able to go to the bank or their own shareholders and show them that it was only lack of capital prevented them from making it a commercial success they would have got the money all right?—You would imagine so, but as against that I may refer to the Galway granite and marble works. They were carried on for a great number of years and had to be given up by the previous people who had them. They have been now taken up by a fresh company, and are doing well. The works are in Galway, and they are doing a magnificent business at the present moment.

55466. Where do they get the marble from?—About Galway, within two miles of Galway.

55467. They took up an abandoned quarry?—An abandoned quarry and marble works.

55468. How long ago?—They are now working for about eighteen months or two years.

55469. They are paying their way?—They are paying very well at present.

55470. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Why could not you get another company to do the same with regard to the marble?—They are not to be got every day, but it shows what can be done.

55471. CHAIRMAN.—Could not those people who are doing well extend their operations to Castlegar quarry if they thought the black marble was workable?—It is quite possible that they might in time, but they seem at present to have quite enough on hands. They have large granite quarries at present which they are working in Galway.

55472. Take a case like that black marble. Suppose you had a report from an expert of the Board that this marble was very beautiful and could be easily quarried, how would any report be able to say that that marble could be worked with commercial profit, and if it did not say that the thing could be worked with commercial profit would not a great many people go further, and ask that the Board should make the attempt?—Yes, but I think you are mixing up the question of a mine with the question of a quarry. For instance, in the quarry that I refer to the marble is to be seen there at the surface. There is no such preliminary work as Mr. Joyce referred to in the case of the mines.

55473. What is your particular suggestion with regard to that quarry?—I think the Congested Districts Board, if this area were scheduled, might try to work the quarry.

55474. One is not surprised to hear that from people who have not thought the matter out, but you are a man of intelligence, education, and experience, and it does seem strange to suggest that the Board should be asked to embark on a commercial undertaking with public money?—I do consider it rather strong, I admit, but still it is, and unfortunately there has been no chance of working it.

55475. If it is so observable any man looking for an outlet for his capital can very easily see what he has to work on?—That is so.

55476. It is not like as if a great deal of money should be spent on prospecting?—Yes.

55477. Does not it seem astonishing then that if this thing has commercial value no private individual with some command of capital has embarked upon it?—It does seem surprising. There it is, all the same.

55478. You are practically asking that the Board should use public money in starting a quarry which, at any rate, no private individuals have seen their way to undertake?—Of course, if they buy the estate, it would be there on the estate, and they would have to decide whether it would be worth their while to work it or not. It is a pity to see such a great source of labour lying idle in a poor district.

55479. I could understand the demand that the question of mines and minerals should be inquired into by experts, and an estimate made of the whole thing and the fullest information given to the public, but it seems to me that when you go further and suggest that the Board should themselves embark on these things with public money you are embarking on a very large enterprise; don't you think so?—I do.

55480. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—I suppose you think that a public body could do more than is done now to bring those quarries under the notice of the quarrying public?—Yes.

55481. Suppose, for instance, that a public authority considered it its duty to extract samples, have them duly polished and sent for exhibition in these countries and America; would not that be some advantage?—It might induce outsiders to come in, or some company to start it.

55482. It might attract the attention of capitalists interested in that kind of thing and be the means of bringing them to see the place, when otherwise they would not come?—Yes.

55483. When these quarries were working were there young boys employed as apprentices polishing the marble?—No. They were merely quarrying. In the works in Galway at present there are a number of apprentices. They are being subsidised by the Technical Committee of the Galway County Council. They have given £200 a year to the company for the purpose of training those apprentices.

55484. It seems to be a useful contribution towards the development of the locality. You see the difficulties of a body like the Congested Districts Board going into a commercial or manufacturing concern directly?—I do.

55485. Short of that it would not be so inconvenient or perhaps inconvenient at all, in your opinion, if a Board like the Congested Districts Board did what has been done by the Galway Committee, and gave capitation grants for carvers from the locality while training them on to turn out the manufactured article in its highest condition?—They could do all that without entering into commercial pursuits. The Board, if they did well on that, could probably give some money towards the machinery required for the working of the quarry.

55486. CHAIRMAN.—I don't understand what you mean by saying that a capitation grant could be given to a place. How can that be done before the quarry is actually working?—It would not be done before, but I think his lordship means that after the quarry is working this could be done for the purpose of encouraging people to take part in the working of it.

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Suppose there was a company working, and it came to the Congested Districts Board and said, "Will you give us a capitation grant for a certain number of years to enable young men to learn how to make paving setts out of granite blocks."

55487. CHAIRMAN.—This proposal is on all fours with the proposal you have made with regard to machinery. It is another form of assistance given to a company trying the experiment?—Yes.

55488. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You think in a country in which industries have not been developed

and have had a poor chance, that it would be legitimate to give such assistance as would enable new enterprises to compete with those that have in the past had much more assistance and a better chance?—I do.

55489. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Do you know any industries that have been built up that way?—I cannot instance one at present, but there has been a feeling in the country that people don't wish to invest their capital.

55490. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—I do not mean to suggest that any recent industry has been so encouraged, but I do very distinctly suggest that industries competing with Irish industries were in times past fostered in every conceivable way across the Channel so as to kill Irish industries?—Yes. I think no better instance exists than Galway, where no fewer than 27 flour mills were working at one time, and now there are only two mills, and only one of them is working.

55491. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—When did those mills come to an end?—Within the last 30 or 40 years.

55492. CHAIRMAN.—What was the date when they were in full swing?—There were 27 of them 50 years ago, and even 9 or 10 years ago there were 9 or 10 of them.

55493. What happened within the last 10 years to kill those 10 mills?—The importation of American flour.

55494. Then it comes to this, that it was the result of foreign trade?—Foreign trade, so far as Galway is concerned.

55495. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Was not the Irish woollen trade killed by hostile tariffs and prohibitions and bonuses to the woollen industry in England?—That is so.

55496. Mr. O'KELLY.—They encouraged the linen industry in the North of Ireland, and that is why the North of Ireland is comparatively well off?—If the woollen industry had been left us, possibly we would be as well off as the North of Ireland.

55497. CHAIRMAN.—In your view the decline of these flour mills in Galway is due to a change in the fiscal policy of the country?—It is due to the importation of American flour principally.

55498. That was in consequence of the change of fiscal policy?—I don't know whether I would say that.

55499. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—The result of the abolition of the Corn Laws?—I really could not say that.

55500. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Would you go further than that, and say that when these mills were in full swing the amount of tillage in Galway was very much greater, and very much more wheat was produced?—Yes.

55501. One goes with the other. The mills failed because the grain ceased to be produced; is not that so? And the grain ceased to be produced locally because it would not pay in face of foreign competition. Is not that the whole thing?—That is really it.

55502. CHAIRMAN.—Why did they cease growing the grain?—The grain could be imported more cheaply than they could grow it.

55503. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—How do these regrets for the past help us in the future? What is your proposal for the future?—To benefit the tenants; to try to give them larger holdings to live on. As regards the area about which I have been giving evidence, the tenants can scarcely live on their holdings.

55504. CHAIRMAN.—I take it, your suggestion on this point is that because, in your view, a change of fiscal policy, in which Ireland, after all, had not very much to say, led to the collapse, for instance, of these mills therefore there is some case for the employment of State money or public money upon the restoration and ameliorating of industries in this country: is that your point?—That is to say there should be some claim on the Government.

55505. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You would go a little way in the direction of subsidies?—Yes.

55506. But you will be prevented from going the whole way because of political economical doctrines? That is so.

55507. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Would Ireland's claim in that way be greater than that of any other part of the country that suffered from the change of the fiscal policy?—I cannot tell you that.

55507A. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Free Trade did not suit Ireland when it was introduced, but was the very reverse of serviceable?—That is so.

55508. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You have referred in your statement to restrictions put upon the salmon fishing at the mouth of the river?—That is at Renmore. They were prevented from fishing by the Board of Conservators. The first prosecutions were taken about a year or two ago. They had been fishing before that.

55509. Perhaps although the fishing had been going on the duty of the Conservators remained the same. You don't mean that the mouth of a river that was formerly free to everybody has been recently restricted?—No.

55510. What you mean is that the law has been recently applied, and that men have been deterred from a breach of the law by the prosecutions of two years ago?—That is so, but it was the first prosecution. They had been fishing there for many years.

55511. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Is the Erasmus Smith Estate altogether in that parish?—No; a great deal of it is outside that parish. Some of it is in the town of Galway.

55512. Is there a resident agent?—No. The agent lives in Cork. Nobody belonging to it, good, bad, or indifferent, is ever seen there except when collecting rent.

55513. Is any of the rent brought back to the district?—The agent takes it away, and the Board in Dublin allocates all the funds. One of the Erasmus Smith schools is in Galway.

55514. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Can you tell me if before the Act of 1881 there were any improvements done by the administrators of the landlord on this estate?—Not on the estate.

55515. Never?—Never except by the building of the schools that were built long before that by the estate.

55516. With your vast experience and knowledge of the land laws, is not it the case that the Act of 1881 stopped landlords who were willing to do so from making improvements on their estates?—I don't say it actually deterred them.

55517. CHAIRMAN.—Are you a member of the County Committee of Agriculture?—Yes.

55518. And take a great interest in its working?—Yes.

55519. How far is the County Committee of the County Galway operative with regard to agricultural improvement in poorer areas?—It is fairly operative, but our funds are limited for the area we have to cover. The money is principally spent on the breeding of cattle, horses, and live stock generally, and a good deal goes to shows through the country.

55520. Are you aware that at the present moment, taking the whole area between Spiddal and Roundstone, there is not one single local representative upon the County Committee of Agriculture?—I am not aware of that. If that is the case it is only their own fault, because the County Committee of Agriculture in Galway are elected every year by the County Council, and it is supposed that each district has representatives.

55521. But if you look through the list you will find that there is not a single representative of that area at the present moment. All I ask is this—is it possible that the people living in that area can have their needs attended to and their wishes heard upon the Committee without having a representative?—It is.

55522. How?—If they communicate with the Agricultural Committee.

55523. You know the sort of farmers in that district. How are you going to get those people to write their views and put them before the Committee?—They have a very able representative on the County Council—Lord Killanin. Of course, the Committee of Agriculture is not confined to members of the County Council. We have, in fact, more members outside the Council than we have members of the County Council.

55524. The County Committee has the allocation of the money?—Yes.

55525. Do they determine how many bulls, sires, and so on there are to be?—Yes, and their distribution through the country.

55526. Is not it probable that in an arrangement of that sort the districts that have representation will get the lion's share, as compared with districts

Sept. 25, 1907.

Mr. Henry Murphy.

that have no representation?—It is very easy to have representatives on the Committee. The Committee would co-opt anybody who would represent them at the present moment.

55527. The people co-opted from districts such as Carraroe would probably not be as powerful as representatives from richer areas? You would have of necessity to seek a smaller class of man than you would find in the more prosperous parts of the county?—Do you mean he would not be as powerful on the Committee?

55528. He would perhaps be a man of less education and less general knowledge than a man to be found in the richer area?—I don't think that would affect him on the Committee very much. We take the whole county, and send round inspectors wherever they are asked for. We have several clergymen on the Committee.

55529. Is a clergyman usually a sufficiently practical agriculturist to know what is needed for agricultural purposes?—Yes. Nobody probably would have the same experience as he, because his parishioners come to him, and tell him what is wanted, and he sees through the whole parish. He is not individually interested.

55530. You are inclined to think that the only difficulty at present is lack of funds?—Yes. Otherwise I think that the County Committees are doing their work well.

55531. Have you noticed any bad results following the change of the working of agricultural schemes from the Congested Districts Board to the new Department?—No.

55532. You think that the work of agricultural instruction and development is as well done now as it used to be by the Board?—Yes.

55533. How does that fit in with your view about money. I don't know whether you are aware that the Congested Districts Board used to spend £9,000 or £10,000 a year on agricultural instruction and on live stock schemes in the congested areas, and under the present arrangement £2,000 was handed over to the new Department for that purpose. As much cannot be done for £2,000 as used to be done for £10,000?—I don't say it is better done, but a greater amount of work is done than could be done by the Board. The people themselves take an interest in it. You have direct representatives on the Committee from the districts themselves.

55534. In this case it is not so?—That is an isolated case, and it is their own fault if they are not represented on the Board.

55535. Mr. O'Kelly.—Have they in fact suffered by reason of their not being represented on the Committee?—I don't think they have.

55536. Would it surprise you to know they got more animals—donkeys, premium bulls, boars, and mares, and more egg stations in the Connemara district than in the rest of Galway put together?—I am not surprised.

Chairman.—It is a district which needs more.

55537. Mr. O'Kelly.—Quite true, but I only want to point out the fact. It does not mitigate the injustice of their not being represented?—It does not, but it shows the consideration of those members who are on the Board in taking charge of districts that are not represented.

55538. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Would it be possible that some of the supply comes from the Dublin centre under the supplemental schemes?—No; I don't think so. It all passes through the Committee.

55539. Mr. O'Kelly.—Were those animals put in the various centres by the Department of Agriculture itself or by the Committee?—I think by the Committee.

55540. Or by both?—Of course the Department does send them in isolated cases, too, where there is a very great want of them.

55541. Chairman.—In the Abstract for Galway* you will see a list of the premium bulls now located under the county schemes, with the names and addresses of the holders. Look through these and tell me how many of those are in the district between Spiddal and Roundstone?—Carna, Barna, Lettermore, Spiddal, and Oughterard.

55542. You will see premium bulls located in congested districts which are paid for entirely out of the Department's funds or given on special instalment terms. How many of these are there?—They are nearly all in that district. There are 12 in the first lot, and 15 in the second.

Chairman.—That is 27 as against 5. So it amounts to this, that in bulls alone under the County Committee scheme, which is a scheme arranged on a popular basis according as is supposed to popular needs as expressed by the representatives, there are five bulls in that district, while 27 bulls are put out by an agency over which the local representatives have no control.

55543. Mr. Kavanagh.—But they know that these other bulls are being placed in the district, and, therefore, they need not spend as much money there as otherwise they would do?—That is so.

55544. Chairman.—Is the supplemental scheme in possession of the County Committee before the allocation is made?—Yes.

55545. Are you sure of that?—I think the places where they are located are known. The way this appears inconsistent is this. Under the county scheme you are aware that the person who has this bull to take charge of has to pay a large proportion of the purchase price. The people in Connemara are so poor that they could not get money to pay for those bulls.

55546. That may be the reason, but does not the fact remain that under the county scheme, unsupplemented by funds by the Department, only 5 bulls are brought in, whereas by an agency outside the county scheme 27 bulls are brought in?—That is so, but the extraordinary part of it is that the Department is confining itself altogether to the Connemara district.

55547. That is because in the county scheme sufficient attention is not paid to that district?—No. We have not sufficient funds.

55548. You may not have sufficient funds, but with the funds at your disposal most of the funds with regard to premium bulls have gone to districts other than Connemara?—Quite so.

55549. Does not that show that for the purpose of agricultural development in a country like Connemara the agency supplied by the County Committee is not sufficient?—That is so. The great drawback is the want of funds, and also the conditions under which we can give bulls. It occurs over and over again in Connemara that we may not be able to get the number of people who are required to take them up.

55550. The Department have said they have no funds out of which they can add to the grants to the County Committees?—I believe that that is so.

55551. You would not suggest that the County Council should have power to levy more than a penny in the pound for this purpose?—I think that the grants from the Department should be greater.

55552. If the Department has no more money?—It is a matter for the Government.

55553. So far as the present funds of the Department are concerned you cannot get any more money. You would not suggest in any of these districts a greater rate than now?—No. They could not bear it.

55554. Does not it come to this, that if the work is to be done it must be supplemented largely by funds coming from somewhere?—That is so.

55555. The supplementary schemes under which these bulls are being put in have been framed by the Department and are being financed by the Department for one year?—Yes.

55556. Is not it the fact that the Department have informed you this can only be done for one year?—They have given the impression that they may not do it again.

55557. They have made a special effort, which must not be regarded as permanent?—Yes. They have given notice that they cannot hold out hope that we will get it next year.

55558. If money has got to be found from some where do you see any reason why these supplementary schemes should not be framed by the Congested Districts Board?—Yes. I see no reason why they should not.

55559. Money has got to come from somewhere?—It has.

55560. Is not it perfectly proper, if the Congested Districts Board is the authority charged with the improvement of these congested estates, that to some extent also the work of agricultural improvement and the improvement of stock should also fall upon them?—To a certain extent, if they are charged with the

* See page 373.

55561. Is not it then reasonable to suppose that from the funds of the Board money must be found for the purpose?—Yes.

55562. If the money is to be found by the Board is it not reasonable that the Board should be the body to say what supplementary schemes are necessary for this district?—Yes.

55563. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Do you think it would be right for the County Council to apply to the congested area schemes which would be specially adapted to the wants of the congested area?—Yes.

55564. Do you think would it be possible for the County Council so to adjust its arrangements as to apply to the congested area all the treatment which the Congested Districts Board could apply to the area, given the necessary money?—That is, practically, that they would take over the work of the Congested Districts Board.

55565. Provided they had sufficient money would it be possible for the County Council, with an adaptation of its arrangements to the needs of the congested districts, to do for these districts all the agricultural and industrial improvements in connection with live stock?—With sufficient funds I believe it would be within their power to do it.

55566. Do you recognise any advantage in an arrangement which would leave to the Congested Districts Board everything in connection with the improvement of land, and to the Department of Agriculture, through its county organisations, everything dealing with the subsequent improvement of agriculture and the treatment of live stock, and so on?—If I am right in dealing with your suggestion it is that the Congested Districts Board should deal solely with the improvement of land?

55567. The question really is this: whether the Congested Districts Board should be entrusted with everything in the congested districts, not only the purchase of land, but the improvement and re-sale of land, everything that is supposed to be done by you now, or whether it would be more conducive to the general interests of the people that there should be a division of labour, that everything you are dealing with coming under your Local Government Act should be dealt with by you, and everything coming under the Technical Act and the Agricultural Department schemes should be dealt with by you, and that the Congested Districts Board should be entrusted with the improvement and re-sale of land?—I think with the division of labour it might be worked more satisfactorily.

55568. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—The funds which you have directly at your disposal at the County Committee, partly drawn from the local rate, the county rate, and partly from the Department's subsidy, would not enable you to put into the poor districts all the animals which you desire to send there?—No.

55569. Therefore, in what you call congested districts, which are not scheduled, more help should be found in that way than can be found unless more money is available than is immediately under the control of the County Committee?—That is so.

55570. That is to say, if congestion is to be relieved the congested districts must have differential treatment under some scheme?—Quite so.

55571. And it is because they are congested that that is to be done?—Yes.

55572. Therefore, would not it follow that, at all events, the body entrusted with relieving congestion should have a voice in saying how these supplemental schemes should be applied?—Yes. They should be more in touch.

55573. Supplemental schemes for these districts belong to the problem of relieving congestion?—Quite so.

55574. It would, therefore, seem to follow that the body charged with relieving congestion all over the county should have a voice in those things?—Quite so.

55575. Suppose that the Congested Districts Board had money at its disposal for these supplementary schemes, that is an improved income to enable them to put sufficient money into these schemes, it need not keep these animals itself, but could go to the Department and tell the Department and the County Council what it wanted, and ask the Department and the County Council to place those animals at the price which it cost them?—That would be practicable.

55576. In that way you would bring in the Congested Districts Board which, *ex hypothesi*, is finding the money as the authority for relieving congestion and the Department which now has these animals at its disposal, and you would bring in also the county committee?—Yes.

55577. Don't you think that would be a way of working out the thing which would tend to produce the best results at the least expenditure of public money?—Probably it would.

55578. The scheme would have practically the sanction of the Congested Districts Board, the authority for relieving congestion, and of the Department, which has a store all over the country of these animals, and of the county committee, which is interested in the poor district as well as in the richer district?—Quite so.

55579. Is there any other scheme which would be better than that?—No. At the moment I think that that would be not only practical, but of great interest to all parties, as they would have a part in the doing of it.

55580. The county committee is interested in looking after congestion in its own county. A body charged with relieving congestion could besides take a larger view and consider how much live stock and so on could be given to the poor area of each county to bring it up to the normal level of the rest of that county?—Quite so.

55581. I put that to you as a scheme which would have all the advantages of central organisation and local knowledge and of popular concurrence?—I think it would be practical.

55582. CHAIRMAN.—Does not it appear to you that if the improvement of poverty, which is another way of expressing relief of congestion, is to be carried on in these districts there should be a very intimate relationship between the authority improving the land and the authority improving the form of agriculture?—Yes.

55583. Is not your opinion that relationship and that close touch would be much better secured if the Congested Districts Board were to be in some way responsible, as his lordship has suggested, for the placing of this stock and the employment of instructors and soforth, than it would be if those matters lay entirely with the county committee and the Department of Agriculture?—I think it would. I think they should be both in touch with it. I think the scheme suggested by his lordship would meet all ends. It would be popular and give all parties an opportunity of taking an interest in it and having a voice in the matter.

55584. Those districts require very special treatment?—They do, undoubtedly.

55585. It is not certain that these special needs can be adequately expressed and adequately given effect to by the organisation which has been set up since the Local Government Act passed?—No.

55586. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Can you say whether in conformity with the system under which you are working it would be possible for you to get such an agency and such an adjustment of means to ends as would meet what his lordship suggests?—I believe it would be possible, but, in my opinion, no new form would work as well as where you have the three bodies suggested by his lordship in touch with one another, because you have the Congested Districts Board having the interests of the arranging of the land, who would have an intimate knowledge of the other matters which would be under the county committee.

55587. How, under the present system, could you set up an agency which would be sufficiently in touch with the Congested Districts Board?—I could not suggest any means at present, because you would have to have the Congested Districts Board brought into it some way or another. The only way you could do it would be to have a joint committee of the three bodies, which would be practically to have what his lordship suggested.

55588. Therefore for the special needs of these areas you must bring the Congested Districts Board into touch?—I believe the result would be much better than otherwise.

55589. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—That would be during the period that present conditions remain, for when congestion disappears and with it the Congested Districts Board, then in the usual way these districts would be under the county committee just as the other districts in the county?—Quite so. It would take absolute charge of them.

55590. Mr. O'KELLY.—It is difficult for people to come in from the far end of Connemara to Galway or Athenry to attend a meeting?—Yes.

Sept. 25, 1907.

Mr. Henry Murphy

55591. Did you ever consider the feasibility of appointing a sub-committee to look after Connemara district in the same way as the County Mayo appointed a sub-committee to look after Erris?—No. It was never suggested.

55592. Do you think that would be an improvement on the present system?—Yes. I believe it might work very well, though that committee should be subordinate to the principal committee.

55593. You know Connemara very well. You are acquainted with the migration schemes of the Congested Districts Board in your own district?—Yes.

55594. Do you know the class of men they migrate?—Yes.

55595. It was stated by a witness in Connemara that it would take generations if migrants were brought from there to educate them into working the farms inland. Do you share that view?—No. I think it is entirely fallacious.

55596. Your base your view on experience?—Yes. I think the particular man you were referring to gave evidence near Spiddal. There has been an actual instance from that district from which one of them migrated two years ago to within a few miles of Galway.

55597. What kind of land have they near Spiddal?—Very poor, part of it is mountain land. A very small migrant came two years ago from there to the Brownville Estate, within a few miles of Galway. The place he occupies might be seen going along the road and it is a credit to him.

55598. Have you any other instance in your mind?—Another instance is on the Comyns Estate, within a few miles of Galway, where people migrated from a very poor district, practically the same as Connemara or that particular portion of Mayo to which you refer.

55599. So you have no apprehensions as to the possible failure of those migrants?—Not at all. The difficulties they have in producing any crops in the poor districts in which they live enable them to have better crops in a better district.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Have you heard any dissatisfaction expressed at the absence of local representation on the Congested Districts Board.

55600. Do you think it would be a good thing to have local representatives elected on the Congested Districts Board?—Through the County Council, I should say.

55601. Let me put it in this way. It is desirable that the Congested Districts Board should have local information as to what is going on?—Yes.

55602. Let me suggest two ways of doing that. One is by having nominees on the Congested Districts Board chosen by the County Councils of the counties containing congested areas. The other way is to have the Board consisting of nominated members as at present, carefully selected, who would deal with congestion as a whole, and would not be interested in one congested county more than another; and then to set up in each of the congested counties a small committee, say, a sub-committee of the Rural District Council, or of the County Council, who would be invested with statutory powers of bringing themselves into touch with congestion in the neighbourhood, ascertaining the facts of congestion, and then making the recommendations and bringing them before the Congested Districts Board. So you would have two rival schemes, if I may so call them; one is direct representation by nominees selected by the County Council on the Congested Districts Board, and the other these local Committees in communication with the Congested Districts Board, submitting their views for consideration by the Board. Which would you prefer?—I prefer the representation from the County Council, because I think the County Council, from the frequency of their proceedings, and the number of the country people who do attend their meetings, have an opportunity which no other bodies have, of being able to know the grievance of the different districts.

55603. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Of understanding and knowing the details of the congested districts?—Yes.

55604. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—More than the members of the Rural District Council?—No, because the members of the Rural District Council would be living practically in the congested area.

55605. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—If the Council selected or nominated a man would they be willing that he should hold office, not for three years, but for at least a period of six years?—I believe they would.

55606. Don't you think, after three years' experience, he would be able to do better at a Board like that than during his first year?—Of course. I know that the Committee Sir Antony has referred to might have a more intimate knowledge of the particular districts, but I think, after all, when you have a County Council representing an entire county, representation through that Council might be more even for the entire county.

55607. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The real object of having this representation is not that a man should be acquainted with the county but with those particular districts of the county where there is this great congestion. Would it not be difficult to find in those districts—take the district from Spiddal to Roundstone—people who would have sufficient leisure to attend the meetings of the Congested Districts Board in Dublin?—No. I don't think you would find any difficulty.

55608. You have in your mind competent men living in those districts who would have the leisure to give to this work?—Yes.

55609. CHAIRMAN.—I want you to consider the two schemes put before you by Sir Antony MacDonnell. It is essential that the work of relieving congestion should be carried on smoothly with the least possible friction or misunderstanding?—That is so.

55610. At all times it is possible that the demands of any particular county or congested area may not be given effect to by the Congested Districts Board, possibly from want of funds, or because they are not so much impressed by the importance or necessity of the work in comparison with the needs of other districts?—Quite so.

55611. One suggestion is that there should be an Advisory Committee, who should bring before the Congested Districts Board the requirements of the locality; the other is that there should be direct representation of that area upon the Board. We will suppose that the Advisory Committee scheme is adopted. Suppose that the Advisory Committee lays a series of requests before the Board, and the Board are not able to give effect to their desire, is not it probable that under that system considerable misunderstanding and dissatisfaction might be aroused in the minds of the Advisory Committee?—Possibly.

55612. They would be unacquainted with all the reasons which had led the Board to refuse their request, and it would be impossible for the Board to communicate with them at such length as to make them fully aware of their reasons?—That is so.

55613. Is not it certain that unless the Board were to supply a verbatim report of the debates which had taken place at the Board it would be quite impossible for the Advisory Committee to be as cognisant of what had transpired at the Board, and of the reasons which had induced the Board to refuse the request, as they would like to be?—That is so.

55614. On the other hand, if there were a direct representative upon the Board from that area, and the request was to be refused, at any rate that man would have had the advantage of listening to the debate and of being fully cognisant of the reasons which had induced the Board to favour another locality than the one which he represented?—That is so.

55615. Therefore, in view of the necessity of harmonious working in a locality is not it probable that direct representation would lead to that more than would the Advisory Committee scheme?—That is one reason why I suggested it, that the representative would have an opportunity, when he went back to the County Council, of being able to show them why the request was not granted.

55616. If the reasons which had induced the Board were good, sound reasons, the County Council, as reasonable men, presumably would see the force of those reasons?—That is so.

55617. Whereas under the Advisory Committee scheme, unless the Congested Districts Board were to furnish them with verbatim reports of the proceedings it would be almost impossible for them to explain their reasons?—That is so. There is no doubt that the persons interested would have a greater opportunity of being satisfied and contented at the refusal if there were direct representation than otherwise.

55618. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Even if you had direct representation, and you had a man, say, in the congested districts in the County Galway, who would be so sized, and so acquainted with all the circumstances of the case as to be able to dispense with the information coming from such an Advisory

Committee or some other source such as you suggest, he would still require to make inquiries?—It would be his duty to make inquiries from the people in the congested districts.

55619. If he were a member for Galway on the Congested Districts Board he would have correspondents in various parts of the congested districts?—That is so.

55620. They would probably be an Advisory Committee such as I have mentioned, and would bring before him all the circumstances I have mentioned?—Yes.

55620A. His business would be to press for all the demands of the County Galway; is not that so?—Yes.

55621. In like manner men from the other counties would legitimately press for the demands of their particular counties?—Yes.

55622. So you would have the Congested Districts Board deciding between eight, or nine, or perhaps ten exceedingly vehement claimants for a certain limited sum of money. Would you like to preside over that Board? Presiding over a County Council would not be in it with it. While, if you had a Board that would look at various reports and various claims coming up from various counties, taking a view of congestion as a whole, relieving congestion in the County Mayo, where it is extremely wretched, postponing the claims of Kerry for a time, postponing other claims for a while, but directing their energies impartially, and with a broad view of the situation, do you not think on the whole the work would be better done?—Practically at this present moment you have an Advisory Committee in a different form. We have, through the County Council, made suggestions and applications to the Congested Districts Board over and over again, and the replies are nearly always a refusal, and there is a great deal of dissatisfaction owing to that.

55623. Do you think that being present at the settlement of the reasons for refusing you would make the refusal more easy?—I think it would be more satisfactory.

55624. Mr. O'Kelly.—Suppose you had the County Council nominating a member from Connemara, and in the course of business it was proposed to bring a large number of migrants from Connemara to Roscommon, do you think that that would tend to peace at the meetings at which the matter would be decided. Do you think the Roscommon men would have anything to say?—Yes.

55625. Do you think would they vigorously oppose it in the interests of sons of tenants?—Possibly.

55626. These local members will look to the interests of their own counties, which may not be the interests of the congested areas. Do you think there may be some danger in that way?—That is so.

55627. If that is so, is not that a principle of selection to be avoided?—You have the same thing on County Councils at present. The members attend to the interests of their own localities, but still they have a great deal of work to do in common for the entire county.

55628. If you were appointed on the Congested Districts Board for Connemara, and you were most industrious and tried to get things done for that district and you were not able to influence the Board as far as you would wish, at the end of some years might it not be said by the County Council, "Mr. Murphy has not got all we wanted, and we will replace him," and this would be just as you were beginning to understand the rudiments of your work?—That is not my experience of the Galway County Council.

55629. You could not have experience of that?—I think if a man does his best, his best is recognised.

55630. I am afraid there is that danger. If you did not get enough of grants your chance of re-election would be very slight?—I have myself since the beginning of the County Council been re-elected, and I am afraid I did very little work.

Mr. O'Kelly.—I am referring to re-election to the Congested Districts Board, and not to the County Council. I am afraid there is that danger. I am a democrat myself, but I would like to proceed very cautiously in these matters.

55631. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—No matter how the Congested Districts Board is constituted there should be members on that Board from the congested areas?—That is so.

55632. Is not the fact of nominating members from the scheduled area liable to pretty much the same objection as electing members from the scheduled area on the score of its being supposed that they are anxious for their localities?—Practically the same.

55633. Has it not been said that because certain districts are not represented they don't get a fair show with the Congested Districts Board?—That has been said.

55634. Do you think would the County Council tell their man to do his best not only for the area with which he was familiar, but also for the general solution of the problem?—I think they would give him an order both ways, and I think he would do his best for the general interests as well.

55635. Do you think that a representative from Galway would work for Galway and for the relief of congestion throughout the country?—I believe he would.

55636. Suppose he came back from a meeting of the Board and that some project of his was not carried there would be a disposition to think that it did not fail for want of advocacy, and that no particular explanation of the failure was required?—I think they would be satisfied to some extent that he did his best.

55637. No doubt the County Council would expect him to look after his own particular county, but don't you think that they would give him considerable latitude?—I think they would look after the interests of both their own districts and the general interests of Ireland. I think there are such men to be got, fair to both sides.

55638. I think your own feeling, if you were a member of the Congested Districts Board, would be that you should work for your particular locality and also help in the general work of the Board?—If each man worked only for his own district very little work would be done for the congested districts at the end of the year.

55639. Do you think would there be a reasonable hope of getting from the County Councils men either from their own ranks or from outside who would discharge on the Congested Districts Board duties we all would expect them to discharge?—I don't believe that the County Council would wish to limit their nominations to their own ranks.

55640. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—Assume that the appointing body is fully competent, fully well-informed, and fully actuated by the desire to get men for the place, do you think, under these circumstances, a nomination would not be more likely to get the proper man for the proper place than an election? Do you think that a proper appointing authority, having a complete range over all the congested districts and the adjacent districts, would not be more likely to get a suitable man for the purpose than a County Council who would act by election?—That is a difficult question, because you assume that the election would be made in a manner——

55641. No; I make no such imputation. I merely refer to the nature of things?—Take my own County Council. The County Council of Galway would appoint a man to represent a certain area who would be just as independent and do his work as well as any man who could be nominated otherwise.

55642. His independence I admit at once. What I mean is, in the circumstances of the case would nomination by an entirely competent body, such as I have mentioned, be more or less likely to procure a suitable man and a man fit for the place than election by a body of 30 or 40 men, everyone of them wishing to get the best man? In other words, where you have a thoroughly competent body can you predicate thorough competence and thorough knowledge of 40 or 50 men equally well as of the body that you contemplate?—Who are the nominating body to be?

55643. I don't mention that. I give a general abstract question, and I ask for a general answer?—The question entirely is, who are the nominating body to be? If you leave the nomination to the County Council it comes to the same thing. I don't think the question of election or nomination by the County Council would make any difference.

55644. What I mean to say is, are you more likely to get an entirely competent, suitable man for the Congested Districts Board by nomination by an entirely competent authority or are you more likely to get a suitable person by means of election by the County Council?—If you ask me the question, I would say nomination, but then if you go back and ask me about the Galway County Council, I would

Sept. 25, 1907.

Mr. Henry Murphy.

say that the same man would be chosen by that body whether it was nomination or election.

55645. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you think would there be many men anxious to represent the County of Galway on the Congested Districts Board?—I do.

55646. Therefore, if the Board were made up of members elected by the County Council you would be brought face to face with this position that there would be two, three, or more men desirous of being appointed to represent Galway on the Congested Districts Board, and there would at once be active canvassing and asking for votes. Would not that happen?—I expect it would.

55647. There at once you get intermingled with all other sorts of considerations. Do you not think there is some danger there to the smooth working of the Board on the broad lines of relieving congestion?—It does not follow that the best man may be selected. We have a member of our body elected to the General Council of Irish County Councils, and there has never been any trouble.

55648. The General Council has not the distribution of public money?—No.

55649. Mr. O'KELLY.—Has it any functions at all?—I am not a member of it.

55650. CHAIRMAN.—Very often in order to carry out successfully a scheme which the Board might have for the relief of congestion it will be necessary that there should be a public opinion in favour of it. For instance, in reference to migration it is necessary that public opinion should be formed with regard to this policy generally in order that the Board might be able to carry it out?—That is so.

55651. Suppose that nomination in the sense that Sir Antony has put before you would be as successful as election by the County Council in obtaining the best man to represent the district, I want to ask you this, to which man, the nominated man or the elected man, would the people in the district be more likely to lean? Is it not the fact that if the County Council elect a man they would be more likely to be loyal to his views and to be influenced by his advice with regard to a policy which might be at the time rather unpopular than if that same man had been appointed by the Government?—Decidedly. There is no question about that.

55652. Would they not feel that having elected him they were bound in a certain way to stick to him, whereas they would not feel that, even with regard to the same man if he was nominated by the Government?—Yes. I think that the views of an elected man would be more popular and more likely to meet the views of the people. Of course, you have the difficulties of election which Sir Antony referred to, which are avoided in nomination; but there is no doubt that the people would be more satisfied with the work of the elected member.

55653. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Then what would happen when that man was fighting with the Board. If he came down here his loyal colleagues would stick to him in his fight with the Board. It is all right if he agrees with the Board, but if he comes down to his constituency to preach a policy of opposition to the Board what would be the result?—I should say we would tell him to try again.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You would have constant turmoil.

55654. CHAIRMAN.—As a matter of fact, when you have analysed this to the bottom, does not it all amount to this question, whether popular Government or nominated Government is the better?—That is so.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—I must respectfully submit, my lord, that that is not the issue. Popular Government and nominated Government are not in it. What you want to get is the most efficient instrument for carrying out the work of relieving congestion.

CHAIRMAN.—Popular administration or nominated?

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—I submit that the essence of the question here is efficient administration. The popular element would be regarded in endeavouring to get for the province the most efficient and, at the same time, the most popular man you could find.

55655. CHAIRMAN.—Presumably the scheme adopted by a body popularly elected would be a popular scheme?—That is so.

55656. The scheme adopted by a popular body would make a demand upon popular opinion in the congested areas?—Yes.

55657. Is not it obvious, therefore, that unless in some extraordinary emergency such a scheme would have a body of public opinion at its back that a nominated body would scarcely have?—That is so.

55658. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Would you apply the Congested Districts Board principle to the Local Government Board and the Board of Works?—That is outside the present question, but I think an elected body in any Department would be the best.

55658A. If this is a good principle it is capable of universal application. It would be likely to have the approval of the people who benefited by it.

Rev. JAMES CRADDOCK examined.

Rev. James Craddock.

55659. CHAIRMAN.—You are parish priest of Castlegar?—Yes. After the very exhaustive statement made by Mr. Murphy, solicitor, Galway, on behalf of the tenants of Castlegar, it would be unreasonable for me to trespass at any length on your time. There are one or two matters, however, to which I would direct your attention. The parish of Castlegar ought to be scheduled under the "Congested Districts Board." The facts given by Mr. Murphy prove it to the fullest. I have nothing to add to his figures. I don't think a stronger case could be made. I have no hesitation in saying that if the existing state of things in this parish were fully known that the Board would not have the smallest hesitation in recommending the district to be scheduled. I respectfully then invite an inspection, and it will be found that there are townlands in this parish as poor and congested as in almost any part of Ireland. In consequence of this congestion you have emigration increasing. Forty-five young men and women left this summer for America. Some more went to Queensland on the free emigration ticket. That is a very serious drain in such a short time from a small parish. I feel confident that the exodus will continue yearly, but in greater proportion, owing to the dearth of land. It is a hard case, and enough to beget the greatest unrest; plenty of land in the parish to satisfy many, and thus stop emigration, and yet the State will take no effective steps to remedy this evil. Congestion and want of employment are clearing the land with a vengeance, and if it is sought to keep our people at home whatever remedies of amelioration for the country are in contemplation should be applied at once. To relieve this congestion I would advise as one of the remedies migration under the following circumstances:—1st. Migration to a strange locality should not be applied until the available lands of the parish are exhausted. 2nd. When such lands have been divided I suggest that the migrating tenants should be taken in batches from the same townland, and be located in close proximity in the district of their new holdings; thus the wrench caused by leaving would be rendered less painful. 3rd. Finally I suggest that if landlord and tenant in a congested area cannot come to terms that the Congested Districts Board or the Estates Commissioners should be empowered to deal compulsorily with such cases. In the congested area this is of the highest importance. Landlords not willing to sell in such cases at a fair value are an obstacle to the prosperity of an entire community.

The Commission adjourned.

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH PUBLIC SITTING.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 1907,

AT 11.0 O'CLOCK A.M.,

At the Courthouse, Tuam.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (Chairman); The Right Hon. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL, G.C.S.I.; The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; Most Rev Dr. O'DONNELL; CONOR O'KELLY, Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.; ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esq.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Mr. JOSEPH A. GLYNN examined.

Sept. 26, 1907.

Mr. Joseph A. Glynn.

55660. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—What is it you wish to tell us, Mr. Glynn?—Well, I consider that there is too much overlapping in the working of the Estates Commissioners and the Congested Districts Board, and I do not think the Congested Districts Board a good purchaser. I would prefer to see the lands purchased by the Estates Commissioners, who have given great satisfaction in the county. They are very expeditious, and until the Act of 1903, and even since then, the Congested Districts Board was too slow. As an example of expedition by the Estates Commissioners, I may mention the estate of Captain Hugh Henry, near Tuam. It was inspected in June and July, 1905, striped in November, 1905, and the houses were built and inhabited by May, 1906. The tenants built their own houses with grants from the Estates Commissioners, and under the superintendence of inspectors. The result was the houses and fences cost much less than the houses which have been built by the Congested Districts Board in this district. All the tenants are perfectly satisfied, and out of the 104 tenants twenty or twenty-five have got new holdings on grass land, and the remaining tenants have each got sufficient land to make the holding economic.

55661. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—When do you say that this transaction was completed?—It was completed in May, 1906. The whole thing was carried out in less than twelve months from the inspection, and the whole of the houses were built. I acted for the tenants at the sale, and I was present at all the negotiations, and the tenants were satisfied with the price, and the landlord was satisfied with the price.

55662. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Are you a lawyer?—I am a solicitor, and I am acting for 37 estates in this county.

55663. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Were there any improvements carried out on those lands before they were given to the tenants?—No, except to make roads. There were some roads made. Of course, fences had to be built on the grass lands.

55664. Were the lands all grass?—No; there were about two thousand acres of grass land, and there were 104 tenants, most of whom had small holdings, and they were lying all round this estate. It was originally evicted fifty or sixty years ago. There were a number of them taken out of the old holdings and planted on the new land. Some small tenants on the adjoining estate, the O'Sullivan estate, got holdings on the farms which adjoined them. The remainder of the land was divided amongst the other tenants as near as could be to their holdings.

55665. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—So that all the operations were carried out which are generally done by the Congested Districts Board?—Yes. In that case it was exactly the work that is done by the Congested Districts Board, and it was done with more expedition.

55666. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—And besides the putting of tenants into new holdings and the removal of tenants from the old holdings, and making the additions to the holdings, were there any works of reclamation or improvement carried out?—I do not think there was any reclamation required.

55667. Was there any striping?—The land was striped, and then in the old holdings when any man was taken out, his holding was divided up amongst his neighbours, and, of course, there was re-arrangement of boundaries.

55668. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Was there anything like rundale on that estate?—There was not that I am aware of—I think not.

55669. And houses were built for the new tenants?—Yes.

55670. Were those houses built by the Estates Commissioners or was there money given to the tenants, and then they were allowed to build their own houses?—There was money given—I think £100, not more; and the plans were given by the Estates Commissioners, and the work was carried out under their supervision. And the tenant made his own contract for the building of the house, he had his own labour, and he supplied the stones, with the result, of course, that he got his house much cheaper in consequence of having his own labour and the help of his neighbours than if it had been built by the Board.

55671. You say you think the Congested Districts Board is not a good purchaser. Would you be disposed to have the work of purchase made the business of the Estates Commissioners, and leave the rest to the other Board?—No; I would prefer the entire operations to be carried out by the Estates Commissioners.

55672. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You stated that there were 104 tenants who had their condition improved?—Yes, my lord.

55673. Of those, twenty-five got new holdings?—There were twenty-five new holdings altogether, but some of the new holders were from the adjoining estate, Mrs. O'Sullivan's estate—not more than twenty-five.

55674. In all twenty-five. Twenty-five were given new holdings?—Twenty-five.

55675. Were those given to existing tenants or were some sons of tenants?—I know of one case or some cases where the sons got them, because they were married and able to work themselves.

55676. But the remainder of those new holdings were given to existing tenants?—I could not say now. Of course, I could get that information from Mr. Stewart.

55677. Now, with reference to those who have got those holdings I want to ask you this. They were bought from an adjoining estate called the O'Sullivan estate?—Yes.

55678. Were they brought into the congested district from a scheduled area?—No; there were none from a scheduled area.

55679. But they were from a poor district on the margin of this district, and were tenants who required enlargements?—Yes.

55680. But not from a scheduled area?—Not from a scheduled area.

55681. You have also stated that though the holdings were striped it was not a case of rundale?—There was no rundale that I am aware of on the estate.

55682. Are you aware that in dealing with poor

Sept. 26, 1907.

Mr. Joseph A. Glynn.

estates the Congested Districts Board has frequently had to deal with rundale estates?—Oh, yes.

55683. And that is a much more difficult operation?—Yes.

55684. And then there are three characteristics of this very laudable transaction. First, that sons of the tenants got some of these holdings?—No; I understand there was one. I was not sure of the number; but I understand there was one.

55685. Number two is that tenants were brought in from a non-scheduled area?—Yes.

55686. Number three; although the estate was striped and was much in need of this class of operations, the estate was not in rundale?—It was not. But I chiefly mentioned that estate in order to show the expedition with which the Estates Commissioners carried out the operations.

55687. CHAIRMAN.—Of course, the expedition is accounted for by the fact that there was really no work to be done on the estate?—There was the building of houses and the building of fences for the 2,000 acres of grass land, and the making of roads.

55688. But the work of the re-striping of holdings and the making of roads and the making of drains, and so forth, is work that takes a long time, is not it?—But the Estates Commissioners did not wait to put the tenants into the land till they had done that. They put the tenants in first, and then when the tenants were in they put them to work on those roads and fences and things, and in the meantime the tenant was getting the benefit of the land, whereas the Congested Districts Board will not allow a human being on their estate till they have everything ready, cut and dry, to put them into it, and that takes years.

55689. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Then the houses were not built by the Commissioners?—Yes.

55690. By the men themselves?—Yes.

55691. Can you fancy tenants requiring new holdings who cannot build the houses themselves?—They were built with money from the Estates Commissioners. They were not built with their own hands.

55692. Could that be done so easily if migrants were coming from a distance?—I should imagine so, if the men had anywhere to live in the meantime. It is difficult if a man was brought from a distance; he might have nowhere to live till the house was built.

55693. Do you not think if migrants are brought from great distances you must have the houses for them?—You must have the houses in a great many cases.

55694. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Are you aware that migration has been going on in other parts of the country in the same way that you refer to?—I was not aware of that, but I think it ought to be done.

55695. CHAIRMAN.—You told the Bishop that the men who had moved there did not come from a scheduled area?—No, my lord.

55696. Did they come from the same estate or from another estate?—All from the same estate, with the exception of four or five, and they were across the boundary of a grass farm which was at the far end of the estate adjacent to the estate on which they lived, but far away from the tenants on the Henry Estate.

55697. Was it under Clause 6 that that estate was bought?—Under Clause 6. Now, another estate in the neighbourhood of Tuam, near Milltown, known as the Kilclooney Estate, was purchased by the Congested Districts Board. The Kilclooney Estate was rather a famous estate. The estate was purchased by Mr. Parnell for the purpose of doing practically the work that is now being done by the Congested Districts Board and by the Estates Commissioners, that is, planting the people on the grass land. The operation, or rather the experiment, failed, and the company went into liquidation, but all the tenants purchased their holdings, and the grass lands were taken over by the Land Commissioners under their mortgage.

55698. What was this estate?—It was known as the Bodkin Estate of Kilclooney, near Milltown. In that case, in the year 1900, I approached the Land Commission about the purchase of the grass land on that estate, and it took me a year and a half before we got a definite reply one way or the other from them.

55699. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—From whom?—From the Congested Districts Board. I approached the Land Commission, and the Land Commission referred me to the Congested Districts Board as the only statutory body at the time that could have purchased it.

55700. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—This is a rather famous case, and as Mr. Glynn has undertaken to put it forward, I submit that it should be taken separately. It is exceedingly important?—By the directions of the Land Commission I approached the Congested Districts Board, and I wrote to them in October, 1900. There was nothing done, and in the following June I wrote again—in June, 1901—enclosing a memorial which was signed, amongst others, by his lordship, Dr. O'Donnell, and asking that this estate should be sold out for re-purchase and distribution among the tenants in the place. Then we raised the question in Parliament, and after some further negotiations the Congested Districts Board agreed to buy (so far as we were concerned, that is, the tenants and myself). The estate was purchased by the Board in 1901, and all the grass lands at that time were in the hands of graziers, one or two of whom had been allowed, really through the negligence of those in charge of the estate, to get fair rents fixed, but there was a considerable quantity of land which was available and ought to be purchased. I wrote myself then to the Congested Districts Board saying that there were people who held tenancies on the land, and who did not live there, who, I thought, would be willing to sell the interests they held in those farms to the Congested Districts Board. I had it personally from a tenant, and there was no question at all then of compulsion or inducement, and the only reply I got from the Board was a direct snub for attempting to speak to any tenant about selling his land to the Congested Districts Board, or writing to the Congested Districts Board on such a subject. They said they never purchased any land, except the owner himself came and offered the land to them.

55701. Was there a snub in that—have you the letter?—Oh, that was some years ago. I have not it now. I never dreamt the thing would have cropped up again.

55702. But you are a lawyer?—I am; and it would be very unfair to ask me to go back six years for letters which were finished and done with in 1901. I am stating exactly from memory the words which were in the letter, and that was that I had absolutely no authority, and that it was very improper to have spoken to any tenants about the purchase of those holdings or suggesting that I should communicate with the Congested Districts Board about the purchase of them.

55703. Did they give any reason?—Well, I was acting as solicitor for the tenants, and I do not know what reason they gave, unless they thought it was an undue interference with the tenants on the lands. The last paragraph was about purchasing where the tenant offered, and I adopted that paragraph, and wrote to the tenant that offered the farm, and it was purchased by the Congested Districts Board.

55704. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Who was the landlord?—The landlord was the Land Commission, and this was one of the tenants who held the tenancy of a large place, and the lady did not live there at all. And then all the available lands were purchased in 1901. The Land Commission were mortgagees in possession.

55705. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Would it not be better to explain to the Chairman and the Commission the whole transaction from the time of the Parnell migration company?—Certainly. I was just starting to do that when your lordship asked me to take it separately, and I could not follow the thread of my discourse.

55706. I mean the Kilclooney Estate?—The history is pretty well known. The Bodkin Estate was purchased by a company which had been formed by Mr. Parnell for the purpose of migration, and it was known as the Migration Company. The company found it was unable to carry out the purpose for which it was formed, and the Land Commissioners, having advanced the greater portion of the purchase money, went into possession. Under their managemenet the shareholders of the company had to pay up the entire amount of the calls on their shares. The sale was carried through, and the tenancies of the grass lands were kept over by the Land Commission, because I believe at that time there was no power of striping them and dividing them, and there was no Act in

peration for that purpose. The Act which enabled en acres to be given to tenants had not been passed. That was in 1885, and the Congested Districts Board ad not been formed. So it remained in the hands f the Land Commission for several years, and all he grass lands were set to graziers; and it was in 900 that we heard that all the occupying graziers ad been approached by the Land Commission with he object of selling out those farms to them under he Act of 1891. And then I took that matter up vith the assistance of some local people who were in- erested in it, to see if the estate could not be divided n some way among the tenants; and the result of my egotiations with the Land Commission was that I vas directed to communicate with the Congested Dis- ricts Board, as I have said, and after a certain mount of delay it was bought in 1901. It is to the period after that that my complaint applies.

55707. Would it be legitimate to ask you why omebody like you in the locality did not take steps before 1901 to prevent that land from passing into he hands of graziers?—I was only a young appren- ice at the time.

55708. You do not know how it was that when money was collected all over Ireland to get this land for the benefit of poor men it was allowed to pass into the hands of the graziers?—I do not know the particulars of how that company came to be smashed up entirely. At the time it was smashed up I was a boy.

55709. Do you mean to say that when the Con- gested Districts Board agreed to buy that property the case was not specially complicated, out of the ordinary run of such properties?—It was very com- plicated, and I am not denying that at all; and I am making no complaint up to 1901. I merely state the fact that when they did purchase the property they left it a long time idle, and grazed it themselves for a number of years, and made no attempt for years to stripe it.

55710. Give the dates?—I am giving the dates now. It was purchased, to the best of my knowledge, in the end of 1901, and it was vested in the tenants on the 27th of July, 1906. Therefore, it was practi- cally nearly six years from the time it first began and five years from the time it was purchased before the tenants were put into occupation.

55711. Tell the Commission anything that you con- sider was well done by the Board in that period— what was the process?—They did not do anything for two or three years, although we had made numberless complaints of the delay.

55712. What was being done with the land during that time?—It was being grazed.

55713. Who grazed it?—The Congested Districts Board set the grazing.

55714. To whom?—To several graziers about the place, but I could not say.

55715. Did they allow any cattle on?—I do not think they did in that case. I think it was left practically in the hands of several of the graziers till they required to take it up for striping.

55716. Do you know any reason why it should have been left in that way?—Except that they were too busy elsewhere, and had not time to attend to it.

55717. If you had the re-arrangement of it what would you have done with it?—I would have striped it up, and put the people on it.

55718. Do you mean the people that are now there? —No, but the people from all round. I know they bought them from Dunmore. I know one man that was brought from Dunmore.

55719. Do you object to men coming in in that way?—I do not, if there are not people in the locality who want it; but we object to people coming from long distances when you have heaps of people in the immediate locality.

55720. Were there any people under £5 valuation? —I have not gone into the particulars.

55721. Were there no men on the margin under £5 valuation?—I daresay there were, but what I com- plain of is that they for two or three years did practically nothing.

55722. Are you aware that unless the men on the margin are under £5 valuation the Congested Dis- tricts Board has at present no power to enlarge their holdings?—I am aware of that.

55723. Do you not think that is a very serious ob- stacle?—A very serious obstacle.

55724. What has happened to the mansion house? —It is the possession of a Mr. Gordon at present.

55725. Was it the policy of the Congested Districts Board to bring in a big man in that way?—Whilst he left enough for the enlargement of holdings—yes.

55726. Was he a tenant elsewhere?—He was.

55727. Do you approve of that?—I do.

55728. Do you not think it is rather difficult in Ireland to get a mansion house like that disposed of? —I do.

55729. Does any reason at all occur to you why the Board did not proceed earlier to stripe these lands?— Really it does not. I think myself that the only reason was that they had too much to do in the County Mayo.

55730. Now, who held this land?—A grazier.

55731. Who?—Mr. Stephen M'Donagh held some, Mrs. Bodkin held some, and then others surrendered or sold to the Congested Districts Board.

55732. And did you get the people to surrender or sell to the Congested Districts Board?—Oh, they did it themselves. Those people were dealt with and disposed of in the year 1902.

55733. Could you fix the period when they were dealt with?—I know Mr. M'Donogh was dealt with in 1901 to my own knowledge, because I remember the transac- tion well.

Now, the Congested Districts Board have no legal authority to enlarge a holding, except in a limited way, on the margin. The only authority of the Congested Districts Board to dispose of the land was to take people from a distance, and to take them down there, and that, which was the only way the Board had to dispose of the land, you object to. What was the Board then to do?

55735. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—May I ask whether the people who settled down there were taken from congested districts elsewhere or from tracts which were not congested?—Oh, I think that the people that were brought by the Board to the Kilclooney Estate were taken from scheduled areas.

55736. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—What was the reason, when you cannot enlarge the small men on the margin unless they are under £5 valuation, why you objected to taking in men from a distance? Does not your objection point to the fact that men like you, who deservedly enjoy public confidence, would be in- clined to wait till the Board had legal power to do this thing that you want?—If that was the reason that they waited it would be a very good one. But I am chary of believing that that was the reason. I do not think it was.

55737. Will you tell me what they could do?—Well, my lord, at the time they could have striped it and brought migrants from where they liked, but they did nothing. I am only stating my own personal view— that they ought to give it to the people of the locality. It is more satisfactory in every respect, if they could do so.

55738. And I say that when men like you have that view of it, it would be very reasonable that the Con- gested Districts Board should remain even longer for an amendment of the law?—They never gave us that reason, and we never could get any reason from them.

55739. Is not it exceedingly difficult for the Con- gested Districts Board, dealing with a sharp and wary lawyer like you, to be always wearing their hearts upon their sleeves?—I have never known them to do that. They were always able to deal with any lawyer they met.

55740. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You say you would prefer that they should give the land to people in the locality rather than to give it to people from a distance?—Yes, sir.

55741. Am I to infer from that that you would be opposed to migration from a distance?—Oh, I am not.

55742. I mean that you would give priority in deal- ing with grass land to people on the spot in preference to people in other congested parts—would you give priority to the people on the spot?—By all means. I mean fair priority; because we have heaps of cases where the tenants of adjoining estates over £5 valua- tion need to be brought in. But, of course, there is the sub-section against giving it to a tenant over £5 valuation.

55743. Do you think the £5 valuation too limited? —I think so.

55744. What valuation would you suggest?—I would suggest, certainly, double that. I suggest that the limit should not be less than £10.

Sept. 26, 1907.

Mr. Joseph A. Glynn.

55745. Am I to understand that you propose to give priority to tenants in the vicinity of these estates under £10 valuation, and that you are satisfied to give land to people from a distance?—Yes.

55746. Would you exclude the sons of tenants in the locality?—I would not.

55747. Would you give preference to congests from a distance rather than to the sons of tenants in the locality?—Well, I would not give them preference; but the way I look upon sons of tenants is that you have in a great many cases active young farmers whose parents are often able to assist them if they can get a farm; and I think that it is a great hardship for those young men to have to go away when they could earn their living here.

55748. But the question of the quantity of land for the purpose of relieving congestion about the place is important. The relief of congestion is the primary object of the Board?—Of course, the relief of congestion is the primary object.

55749. And, then, if you had sufficient land wherewith to enlarge the uneconomic holdings on the spot, and to supply land to men from other congested tracts, do you not think that they should get priority over the sons of tenants?—Oh, yes; in those circumstances I would give them priority, undoubtedly.

55750. CHAIRMAN.—Tell me in regard to local opinion, you go about, I suppose, a good deal among the tenants?—Yes.

55751. And, therefore, you are well aware of their point of view. Should you say that in the view of the majority of tenants living about the place, if the land were bought by the Estates Commissioners the sons of tenants would be more likely to be given holdings than if the land was bought by the Congested Districts Board?—Yes. The tenants prefer the Estates Commissioners to buy it, and that is one of the reasons.

55752. That is one of the reasons?—It is. There is no doubt about it.

55753. In their view the Congested Districts Board is an authority for the relief of congestion, and the Estates Commissioners are more an authority for the redistribution of land amongst the sons of tenants—is that so?—Yes; amongst the tenants and sons of tenants.

55754. That is the popular view?—That is, to a certain extent, the view that prevails in a great many places.

55755. And, therefore, they prefer the Estates Commissioners, and there was a feeling that probably if the Congested Districts Board bought the land there would be trouble about migrants being bought in?—Yes; if the Congested Districts Board bought in a non-scheduled area; because if the Congested Districts Board bought in such an area the tenants are, to a certain extent, cut out, even the tenants themselves, from the grass land. When the Congested Districts Board buy in an non-scheduled area just outside the other area the tenants naturally object to it in a case like that, and properly object; because there is no means of affording them additions to their land.

55756. Over £5 valuation?—Over £5 or under £5.

55757. But if your suggestion was accepted, and the limitation was raised, that objection would be removed?—If you raised the limitation.

55758. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You say you do not think the Congested Districts Board a good purchaser as compared with the Estates Commissioners?—Yes.

55759. Do you mean as good a body for rearranging the land after purchase, or do you mean as good a purchaser with regard to the simple transaction of acquiring land?—As regards the acquiring of the land and the subsequent expense on the land. That is my experience. My opinion is that on the estates that have been purchased by the Congested Districts Board they have more difficulty in getting the people to take their farms, because the rent they put on them is too high; and in the other case, that of purchase by the Estates Commissioners, there is always a reasonable rent.

55760. Do you or do you not think that the Congested Districts Board can acquire land as easily as the Estates Commissioners?—I think they will acquire it more easily, because they give much more money.

55761. You tell the Commission that the Congested Districts Board acquire land more easily than the Estates Commissioners?—I think they will, with less trouble.

55762. The primary condition in dealing with estates is the acquiring of the land?—Yes.

55763. And, therefore, as far as that goes, the Congested Districts Board can, you think, take the initial step more easily?—They will get the land more easily, because they give more money.

55764. Then, when you say that the Congested Districts Board is not so good a purchaser as the Estates Commissioners, are you really thinking of the price, and are you basing your opinion on the condition of things arising on the acquirement of the property?—Yes.

55765. And, therefore, this opinion of yours is to be interpreted as signifying that the Estates Commissioners can settle property once acquired more quickly and more satisfactory than the Congested Districts Board?—That is my opinion.

55766. Now, with regard to this particular estate, the Bodkin Estate, I should like to ask you this. You have given us a narrative of what happened before the Congested Districts Board was created. I want to ask you one or two questions with respect to the previous history. The Congested Districts Board was only created in 1891. Is not that so?—Yes.

55767. Now a Migration Association—I need not give the full technical name of that body—was created in 1884?—About 1884 or 1885. The Irish Land Purchase and Settlement Company was the regular name of it.

55768. And the origin of that company was in the fact that Parliament voted a sum of £50,000 for the purpose of migration. You are aware of that?—Yes.

55769. And having that sum of money voted then this company was formed to take advantage of it for the purpose of moving people out of congested districts into better circumstanced districts?—Yes.

55770. And, then, having that money in prospect, and having got the approval of nearly all classes in Ireland, their next step was to take up the Bodkin Estate?—Yes.

55771. Now are you aware that before a Committee of the House of Commons, in 1888 or 1889, the whole question of the Kilclooney Estate was examined, and Mr. Parnell himself gave evidence before it?—I am aware that there was such an inquiry.

55772. Are you aware that one of the causes to which the failure of the company was ascribed was the objection of the people in the locality to the migration from outside at all?—No; I am not aware of that. I do not know. It may be.

55773. Then we are to take it from you that you are not fully aware of the circumstances under which the Congested Districts Board came into touch with the estate in 1891. You are not aware of the circumstances leading up to that point?—In referring to that particular estate I did not want to go back to the history of it, because I do not know it affects my view of the question. I merely instanced two estates in the immediate vicinity of Tuam—one dealt with by the Estates Commisioners expeditiously and the other an estate which was purchased in 1901 and vested in 1906; and I cannot see any reason for thinking that the previous history of the estate affects the question. It is, I think, beside the question.

55774. But in order to judge fairly of the operations of the two different authorities dealing with these two estates, surely it is essential to the Commission in order to give due weight to your evidence, to ascertain whether you yourself are acquainted with the previous history leading up to conditions you have described?—I was acquainted with it in a general way, but the exact causes of it I do not know.

55775. I was a member of the Committee of the House of Commons, and the whole case, and parties connected with the transactions of that particular association, were examined, and you see I know what evidence was produced there, and so I was about to ask you some questions, but I gather from you you are really not acquainted with the subject?—I am not acquainted with what occurred before the House of Commons Committee.

55776. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Your evidence is that in a certain year, 1900 or 1901, or about that time, the Congested Districts Board was seized of a certain property, a certain area of grass land?—Yes.

55777. No matter what the preceding circumstances might have been they were at that time in the possession of this grass land, and what you are doing is comparing the method of treatment by the Congested Districts Board with that adopted by the people of the

Estates Commissioners with regard to similar land?—Yes, exactly.

55778. CHAIRMAN.—I think you told us that the estate was not vested in the tenants of the Congested Districts Board till 1906?—Not vested in the tenants till the 27th July, 1906. It was purchased in 1901.

55779. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You have admitted to me that the antecedent history of this estate makes it a very exceptional property?—I admit it is a very exceptional property in the purchase [illegible]

55780. Are you aware that the Congested Districts Board had to arrange as to a heavy mortgage with the Land Commission before they could get the property at all?—Yes.

55781. Would you be surprised to know that the Congested Districts Board has dealt in less than a year with the Nugent Estate, within nine miles of Tuam?—Not a bit. I know the facts of that estate, too, and I know it has been dealt with rapidly; but I think the Estates Commissioners gave the example for it.

55782. It has been dealt with rapidly?—Yes. I mean there has been no delay. It has been taken up and dealt with fairly rapidly.

55783. Then it is undeniable that the Nugent Estate, within nine miles of Tuam, has been dealt with by the Congested Districts Board within a year, and I think you will find that in those other estates where there have been evictions the greatest possible difficulties may exist, and that the exceptional circumstances of the Bodkin Estate entirely account for the delay?—I do not agree with that view. I do not think that accounts for it. And then against the Nugent Estate there is a second estate close to the town of Tuam. Judge Leonard's Estate, which was purchased, to my own knowledge, at least three or four years ago, and it has not been striped, and it is still in the hands of the graziers.

55784. Was it vested in the Congested Districts Board?—I understand that they have taken in graziers on it for the last two or three years.

55785. Do you think it is vested in the Board?—Yes; I believe so.

Let us get the date of the vesting.

55786. CHAIRMAN.—Was there any difficulty on this Bodkin Estate with regard to who should be given the land, and the way the Congested Districts Board disposed of it?—The tenants, I understand, got additions to their holdings, a good many of them, though they brought in people from outside, and the only difficulty I heard was that the Congested Districts Board had some difficulty in getting tenants to take the land at the rent.

55787. How long elapsed between the time the Board got possession of the land and the time when the tenants on the estate got enlargements of their holdings?—To the best of my belief, there was at least three years.

55788. Three years elapsed before any tenant on the estate got an enlargement of his holding?—Yes.

55789. Then, do you wish to tell the Commission that three years elapsed before anything was done at all?—I believe so, certainly; three years.

55790. And at the end of three years the tenants got enlargements?—They began the work then on it of striping and enlarging, and they continued it for a year or a year and a half. The work is going on, progressing gradually. They did Ardnagall farm first, and then they settled Kilclooney farm.

55791. But did any length of time elapse between the period when the tenants got enlargements and the time when the rest of the people were brought in?—There was some little time, because in Ardnagull farm they made a road, and they divided it into four farms, with houses and fences, and that was going on at the same time that they were doing the other, and then they got migrants for this Ardnagall farm.

55792. That was the last thing that was done, getting in tenants for this farm. Were there any local applicants?—There was any amount of local applications, I am aware.

55793. Was the delay due to any difficulty the Board might have had in discussing the claims of these local applicants for these new holdings?—The final delay might be. There might have been some delay in getting the thing through. I know there was a certain amount of delay, but the chief delay arose from this, that some of the men themselves told me that when they looked at the place and found the price put upon them they would not go in at this rent. They would not pay it.

55794. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You will admit that it is not a desirable thing that grass land bought by the Congested Districts Board should be immediately split up—would you not be disposed to say that a certain amount of deliberation is necessary in order to choose the proper people to put in?—Undoubtedly.

55795. Any man, for instance, a migrant from the West of Mayo, who had been in the habit of cultivating an acre and a half of land, might not be a proper person to put into a holding of twenty acres?—Undoubtedly.

55796. You should give them sufficient time to consider who would be a proper migrant to go to such an estate?—I would, sir.

55797. And it would be a question then of whether the lapse of time which has taken place would, in view of that reasonable delay, be proper and suitable?—Yes.

55798. And although you would be willing to admit that a certain amount of time is proper, still you think that in this case there was too much delay?—I think so.

55799. Mr. O'KELLY.—You said that the Congested Districts Board can acquire land more easily than the Estates Commissioners, because they pay a higher price?—Yes.

55800. Have you made a comparison between the prices paid usually by the Congested Districts Board and the Estates Commissioners?—I am only taking some particular cases in the immediate vicinity. I am only taking the few cases that I have been speaking of.

55801. Do you take these as a general index of the prices paid by both those Boards?—Oh, no; I am not going into general evidence on the prices paid by both Boards.

55802. Then is not your statement rather sweeping?—That is the information that has been given to me by people on cetrain estates in the locality.

55803. Your remarks apply to other cases. Might it not be that the Congested Districts Board would pay as reasonable prices as the Estates Commissioners in other parts of the country?—Unquestionably.

55804. And then, to that extent, you will modify the statement you have made?—I did not make it as a general statement. It is merely my own experience in certain estates round here, and from information that has been supplied to me by tenants on those estates.

55805. What are the estates?—I take that very estate that the tenants told me about—the Kilclooney Estate. And then there is the Nugent Estate, the one referred to by Dr. O'Donnell, and they told me the same.

55806. Was it purchased by the Congested Districts Board?—The Nugent Estate was purchased by the Congested Districts Board.

55807. I want to find out the estates contrasted?—I am contrasting them with the Henry Estate.

55808. Did the Congested Districts Board make any offer for the Henry Estate?—No; the Congested Districts Board had nothing to do with it at all.

55809. Did the Congested Districts Board get those properties to which you have made reference because they gave a higher price for them than the Estates Commissioners were willing to give?—No; I do not think that that inference can be drawn from what I said.

55810. I want to know what you mean by saying that the Congested Districts Board can acquire land more easily than the Estates Commissioners, because they give a higher price for it. What particular estate had you in your mind?—That really came out in the course of a question that I replied to in my direct examination. I stated that I considered that the Estates Commissioners were better purchasers than the Congested Districts Board, and I gave my reasons; because when finally the thing was done, and the tenants were put on the estates, I found that on one estate the tenants were satisfied; they did not complain of the amount of the annuities they had to pay, while on the other estates they did; and, therefore, I considered the one body a better purchaser than the other.

55811. And, therefore, were not the Commission to conclude that the Congested Districts Board pay higher prices for estates than the Estates Commissioners?—

Sept. 26, 1907.

Mr. Joseph A. Glynn.

I do not know, because I have not the figures of what they are paying all over the province. I give you the facts regarding three estates. On one estate the tenants were perfectly satisfied with their annuities, and did not complain, and on the others they did.

55812. Now have the Congested Districts Board the same class of tenants on their properties that the Estates Commissioners have on theirs?—The tenants already there were the same, of course, but the migrants brought in by the Congested Districts Board were from scheduled areas, and a different class as a rule.

55813. Do the Estates Commissioners make the same expenditure on their properties as the Congested Districts Board do?—They do not.

55814. And that would, to a certain extent, account for the fact?—And that is what I believe; because the Estates Commissioners, as a rule, build their houses and make their fences at much less cost than the Congested Districts Board.

55815. Do you think the procedure in all those cases is the same?—It is not; and that is one of my complaints: that the Congested Districts Board's procedure for dealing with estates is expensive.

55816. The Estates Commissioners, as I understand, give grants for the purpose of building houses?—Yes; the prospective occupier is to provide the balance of the money. He has not actually to supply any money, but he has to supply money's worth in labour and in sand, and things like that. The actual £100 given is sufficient to pay for material and to pay the carpenter and the mason.

55817. And on this particular Henry Estate did each tenant and each migrant get £100 for the purpose of building a house?—Every tenant that there was a house put on got a grant—those that required it. They got £100. That is the average. That is my belief.

55818. You are aware, of course, that the Congested Districts Board are able to build a house for £110?—I always thought that it was a little more—from £120 to £140; but £100 in the case of the others covers the fences—the grant from the Estates Commissioners.

55819. The one thing I want to have clear is this, that you do not subscribe to the view, or do you subscribe to the view, that, taking the counties, the Congested Districts Board pay a higher price than is given by the Estates Commissioners. Have you any knowledge to lead you to that?—I have no regular knowledge. I would not care to say that before this Commission, because I have not the evidence that would justify me in saying so.

55820. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Are not the respective prices paid by the Congested Districts Board and the Estates Commissioners published in the Blue Book?—They are. They are available to everybody, and I have not taken the trouble to go into it, because I know that the Commissioners have had these figures long ago before them.

55821. Mr. O'KELLY.—Do you say that they are available?—I understand that that is so, and that the prices can be got in the offices.

55822. And that more is paid by the Congested Districts Board for property?—I do not know about that, but I believe that the annuities are higher.

55823. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Would you not think that the bringing of men from a long distance to the Bodkin Estate would be more expensive than if the men were brought from only a short distance?—Yes, it would, my lord, certainly.

55824. And, therefore, the long distance accounts for what you say, to some extent?—I fail to see how it could account for all. Is not it only a case of bringing a man ten or fifteen miles, and in the case that I made complaint of they only came ten miles.

55825. There can be no doubt about it, that a man cannot leave his own house fifteen miles away as easily as he can cross a bog?—That is true. He cannot.

55826. Now, one general question as to your statement about the Bodkin Estate. That is the estate on which the initial effort was made?—Yes.

55827. With various accidents that was a big project. Is not that so?—Yes.

55828. And there was an arrangement that had to be made with the Land Commission?—There was.

55829. Would you be surprised to hear from one member of the Congested Districts Board that he regards the extrication from that difficulty and the settlement of the migrants on the Bodkin Estate as the most successful act of the whole of the Board's proceedings?—I am sure it was successful, and I am only complaining of the delay in attaining that success.

55830. CHAIRMAN.—As a matter of fact, you state that the Estates Commissioners are able to build houses and make fences at a much less cost than the Congested Districts Board?—Yes, my lord.

55831. I suppose you would not have made that remark unless you were prepared to give us the relative figures of the two cases. Will you give me those figures?—Well, the Estate Commissioners, with a grant of £100, have been able to get the tenants to build their houses and their out-offices, and make all their fences. As to the average grant of the Congested Districts Board, we have had it officially, and Mr. O'Kelly puts it as low as £110; and the house alone on a Congested Districts Board's farm costs £110. To that has to be added the cost of the fencing.

55832. What is the amount of that?—I do not know what the cost of that is, but they have to pay that in addition to the price of the house.

55832. But you do not know the cost?—I do not know.

55833. How can you compare the two if you do not know the prices?—The cost of the house, even at the figure given by Mr. O'Kelly, is £110. For £10 less the Estates Commissioners can do all that is required on the farm, and, therefore, the cost is much less for the whole thing.

55834. According to the statement you have given us, £100 builds the house and extra fences in one case, and in the other £110 makes the house?—I do not agree about the £110. I saw it stated in evidence by one of the officials of the Congested Districts Board that the cost was more than £110. I think he put it at least at £120.

55835. How can you come before the Commission and say that one thing was done at so much less cost—I wish only to know exactly?—Because I read that in the official evidence of one of the witnesses of the Congested Districts Board. He said the figure was from £120 to £140.

55836. Mr. KAVANAGH.—What kind of a house would £100 build?—The houses on the Henry Estate are exceedingly nice cottages. They are one-storey, roofed with slate, and they have a loft inside, a second room on top; and they are exceedingly good, and well worth the money.

55837. And that is done for £100?—Yes; but you must take the tenant's labour and all that the tenant himself supplies into account. They would have a local mason or a local contractor to build the house, and then the tenant would purchase the timber, and have a carpenter to do the carpentry work. And the houses are within two or three miles of the town. Some of their houses are two-storey; but I think the houses on the Henry Estate are ample for any holding.

55838. The Congested Districts Board's houses are two-storey?—I daresay they are; but there is no necessity for having those elaborate two-storey houses. I think the houses on the Henry Estate are good enough. The Henry Estate houses are pretty houses, and really nice cottages, and they are kept in an admirable state by the tenants.

55839. CHAIRMAN.—Go on?—I suppose I can pass from that subject. I was anxious that the whole of Connaught should be scheduled.

55840. Tell us of the Leonard Estate?—That, to the best of my knowledge, has been purchased for some time, and, so far as I am aware, nothing has been done there yet. They are taking grazing stock into it, and the estate is lying there, unstriped, untouched.

55841. The Leonard Estate?—Yes; it was purchased some few years ago, and it has not been touched, so far as I am aware. I cannot give any more definite information than that. I have been speaking to the tenants, and they tell me it has not been striped amongst them or anything done about it, and the fault lies in the amount of work that the Board has to do, with an inadequate staff and insufficient resources.

55842. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—But they have dealt rapidly with the Nugent Estate?—Well, since 1903 there has been more energy shown in dealing with estates by the Congested Districts Board, at least, to my knowledge, in some of the estates they have dealt with; and I attribute that, to a certain extent, to the fact that they saw the other Commissioners were at it

to do their work so rapidly. It is the force of good example.

55843. The 1903 Act gave more money?—Well, then, take that other case of Judge Leonard's Estate. The Act of 1903 has been in operation since, and they have not moved in it, so far as I am aware.

55844. CHAIRMAN.—Go on?—I would be in favour of giving the distribution of the land entirely to the Estates Commissioners, and leaving the Board to attend to the economic side of the question.

55845. Mr. O'KELLY.—What do you mean by that last answer to Lord Dudley?—I will go into it more fully later on as to what I think ought to be done.

55846. What do you mean by leaving to the Congested Districts Board the economic side of the question?—I would leave all the purchasing, striping, and distribution of the land in the hands of one body—the Estates Commissioners—and let the Congested Districts Board attend more practically to what it was doing in its earlier years—schemes for the development of the properties. There would be a vast amount of work to be done by them for technical education and questions of agriculture and the development of the province, which would take the Board's entire time.

55847. Is not that the work of the Department of Agriculture?—I will deal with that later on.

55848. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Before you go on, I clearly understood from you that what you complain of is that the Congested Districts Board has delayed action on certain estates?—That is one of the complaints that I have to make, and also I complain of the prices, as shown by the annuities paid in each case.

55849. But you say that the cause of what you complain of is the amount of work that the Board tries to do with an inadequate staff and insufficient resources?—Yes; that is for the delay.

55850. And do you consider the Board's staff inadequate and its resources insufficient?—I think so, for the entire province.

55851. And, therefore, we may take it from you that your opinion is that if the Board's staff was more adequate and its resources more sufficient, what you complain of would disappear?—Well, the delay might disappear.

55852. But that is what you complain of?—That is one of the things I complain of, and that is the particular point I was dealing with there.

55853. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Are you aware that the delay was largely caused owing to the delay in vesting the estates?—I daresay, my lord. I was only giving details of certain estates.

55854. You could not make substantial improvements and alterations in holdings, and so on, till the estate was vested, though, it might be, less important things could be done?—Yes, that is so.

55855. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—I shall, later on, ask you the question whether the views you have formed does not lead you to consider the abolition of the Congested Districts Board and the transfer of its work with all its estates to the Estates Commissioners?—It does not. I say that all Connaught should be scheduled as congested, and that the Estates Commissioners should get much more extended powers than they have at present for dealing with estates.

55856. CHAIRMAN.—The Estates Commissioners?—Yes. The Estates Commissioners should have more power. They have not sufficient power. All Connaught should be scheduled as congested, and the Estates Commissioners should get much more extended powers. There are in County Galway 12,953 holdings under £4 valuation; average valuation per holding, £2 5*s.* 4*d.*; and 10,375 holdings over £4 and under £10; average valuation per holding, £6 9*s.* 6*d.* This gives 23,328 uneconomic holdings in County Galway alone to be dealt with. The Board cannot do this work and do its regular work as well.

55857. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—What is its regular work—is not its regular work the relief of congestion?—The relief of congestion; but in the earlier years of its existence it did a great deal more than the mere touching of the land question. There are questions for the higher development of the province, to relieve congestion by more means than that.

55858. That is what they have done?—That is, to a great extent it has been interfered with by the Agricultural Department; and now we have so many Departments, with different powers, that the work is really complicated, and there has been loss, and we have not enough of funds in any of them to do any of the work right. If the settlement of the estate and the striping were transferred to the Estates Commissioners, they should get more powers for spending money on slum estates, much more than the 10 per cent. that is supposed to be allowed under section 6, and they should have compulsory powers in Connaught.

55859. CHAIRMAN.—Had you any talk about the evidence you were going to give with anybody before you came before the Commission?—I discussed it with several of my colleagues in the County Council.

55860. Only with your colleagues on the County Council?—That is all. I asked information in several quarters. I do not quite follow your lordship's question.

55861. I do. Go on?—Of course I got any information I could and I am giving my own experience in all these cases. I am not the mouthpiece of the County Council.

55862. Was anybody aware of the exact line you were going to take?—I do not think there was a human being, my lord.

55863. Mr. O'KELLY.—You speak for the whole County Council?—Yes. Well, I do not say I speak for the whole County Council, but I speak for what I believe to be the general trend of opinion in this county.

55864. You said you spoke for the whole Council?—I did not say that, but that I spoke to several of my colleagues on the County Council and they agreed with the views which I have expressed now.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—I cannot see any harm in Mr. Glynn talking to anybody before he gave his evidence—none—or in his consulting anybody.

55866. CHAIRMAN.—I do not see any harm. I only asked the question?—The next point is the question of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction. The advent of the Department first caused the Congested Districts Board to abandon the work done by it in the congested districts. When I say "abandon" I mean that they transferred to the county committees the work they had been doing, so as not to have any overlapping between the two bodies, and I think that is bad, because the result has been that the work has not been done at all in the same way by the new body, the Department of Agriculture and by our county committees. As it was done by the Congested Districts Board the work was admirable in every way.

55867. Would you change the word "abandon"?—It is limited to a great extent. They do not deal with the work in the wide way they used to do before.

55868. You are speaking of the agricultural work?—Of the agricultural work and technical instruction work, both.

55869. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Isn't there a lack of funds?—The county committees cannot do the work for lack of funds. With the money they get they give some domestic economy instruction. The county committees cannot do their work. They have not the money.

55870. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—If they had the money?—If they had the money they would probably be able to do the work thoroughly well all round the county. But they have not the money.

55871. CHAIRMAN.—You say that the settlement of estates as now carried on by the Congested Districts Board should be transferred to the Estates Commissioners?—Yes.

55872. But the work would be done by the Estates Commissioners exactly on the same lines as those of the Congested Districts Board?—Yes.

55873. That being so, you go on to say that the Estates Commissioners should have compulsory powers in Connaught?—Yes.

55874. Why do you limit it to Connaught—the work is exactly the same all over Ireland; then if they are to have this power why limit it to Connaught?—I am dealing with congestion and the relief of congestion, and I think that in order to deal with that question effectively Connaught must be treated as a whole, and therefore if you deal with it as a whole you must have compulsory powers all over Connaught.

55875. Then it is your view that the land available in Connaught, even if compulsorily acquired, would relieve congestion in Connaught?—Not the whole of it, but it would do a great deal towards it.

55876. Why, then, do you want these powers to deal with Connaught alone?—Because I do not want to be

Sept. 26, 1907.
Mr. Joseph A. Glynn.

asking for things that I cannot get. Because I think there is no use in asking for compulsory powers for all Ireland at present.

55877. I am afraid you do not appreciate my point. Your proposal is that the Estates Commissioners should be clothed with exactly the same power and resources that the Congested Districts Board now exercise for the relief of congestion. Is not that so?—Yes.

55878. But you then go on to say that they should have compulsory powers in Connaught for the purpose of relieving congestion. Is not that so?—Yes.

55879. And you tell me that you yourself acknowledge that the land in Connaught does not admit of relieving congestion?—Not the entire of it. So I understand.

55880. Then the only reason you give me why that suggestion is made is because you cannot get it beyond that?—That I cannot get the land beyond?

55881. Yes?—No. I think it would be at present useless to ask for compulsory powers for the Estates Comissioners all over Ireland, or for any body that deals with the problem. But this is a special problem.

55882. If the amount of land that could be acquired in Connaught proved, as the evidence before us shows, insufficient to relieve congestion, do you propose then that the Estates Commissioners should stop altogether or go on simply because you have got an artificial line?—I do not.

55883. Then what is in your mind as to the future?—To go a little further when we have reached that. It would be good for them to go gradually.

55884. Then what you propose is compulsion for Connaught with the view of getting it elsewhere later on?—If it is required.

55885. Now, let me take this case. The thing is in full swing and the Estates Commissioners, a salaried board, are at work. They take the land in Connaught and deal very rapidly with congestion as far as they can. Is not that so?—Yes.

55886. Meantime the same body, it is apparent, has the means of acquiring grass land outside Connaught?—Yes.

55887 And then their diminishing power of relieving congestion is to be recruited by acquiring land in the rest of the country?—I think it is a very Utopian view of it to say that we should get at that stage in a very short time. I do not think we shall acquire all that grass land with such rapidity as you imagine. I think we are going a little more slowly even than that. I do not think that that question arises at all practically at present. There will be plenty of grass land, I believe, idle for settling Connaught even if they settled it as rapidly as possible. My own view would be that there ought to be compulsion everywhere.

55888. In your view you would have the Estates Commissioners not merely acquiring land, but settling it and doing all the work of the Congested Districts Board in Connaught, and you would confine the Congested Districts Board to what?—To developing the resources of the whole province in industries and fisheries and agriculture.

55889. And you would eliminate the Congested Districts Board from the purchasing or striping of the land?—From purchasing or striping the land.

55890. Or dealing with the land?—Or dealing with the land.

55891. And they would become a board for dealing with fisheries as far as they could and industries as far as they could, and nothing else?—Well, they have a vast amount of work before them.

55892. That is your programme?—That is my programme.

55893. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—In developing Sir John Colomb's question I should like to ask you one or two questions. You say you would give over the distribution of the land to the Estates Commissioners and leave the Congested Districts Board to attend to the economic side of the question. Let us take a concrete case. Let us take an estate which is badly congested. The Estates Commissioners, or whatever the authority is, agree to purchase that estate?—Yes.

55894. It would not be in accordance, I presume, with your views that that should be immediately, in its unimproved condition, re-sold to the tenants?—No, certainly not.

55895. It may be, probably, that this estate is held in rundale and the holdings are small, under £4 valuation. Would you like the Estates Commissioners to retain possession of that estate till they could get untenanted land?—Yes.

55896. And would you say that with the object of dealing expeditiously with such an estate as that they ought to put themselves in possession of a stock of untenanted land beforehand for such purposes as that?—Yes.

55897. Then would not the Estates Commissioners holding that stock of land migrate tenants as far as they could, and so enlarge the holdings?—Yes.

55898. When they put the holdings into a state in which, in your opinion, they should be, and in which they would be economic, you would then have the Estates Commissioners retire?—I would.

55899. And have their places taken by the Congested Districts Board?—Yes.

55900. Whose functions would then be limited to the improvement of the holdings by drainage, and by improved seeds, and so on. Is that your idea?—Yes, exactly.

55901. That is so?—That is what I call the economic side of it.

55902. And these functions of the Congested Districts Board then would greatly overlap those of the Department of Agriculture?—They would.

55903. Then would you eliminate one or the other—would you eliminate the Department of Agriculture or the Congested Districts Board?—I would sooner eliminate the Department of Agriculture in this county. I cannot speak outside our own county.

55904. It would disappear?—For the present.

55905. Now let me put another aspect of the case. You are bent upon the maintenance of the Congested Districts Board?—Yes.

55906. Is it your view that the Board should remain and should perform the duties which now devolve upon it in regard to improvement of holdings, and the duties which devolve upon it in regard to agriculture, or what would you say to a plan by which the Estates Commissioners would buy property in Connaught at the requisition of the Congested Districts Board, and, having bought the property, then hand it over to the Congested Districts Board for the purpose of striping and improvement, and soforth?—Well, that is a question really that I have not considered. I would not like to give an off-hand answer to that. It would be really rather rash.

55907. It is involved in the charges which you have made?—It is.

55908. You say that the Estates Commissioners should be the purchasing body?—Yes.

55909. And you go still further and say they ought to be the distributing body?—Yes.

55910. I can fancy certain reasons why conferring upon them the power of distribution would seem to complicate matters instead of making them more smooth, but the simple method I suggest to you would be for the Estates Commissioners to purchase the land on the requisition of the Congested Districts Board, and, having purchased, to make the land over to the Congested Districts Board for improvement?—Well, that would meet my views. On considering it over, I would not have any objection to that.

55911. Do you think there is any advantage, in the interest of the public taxpayer, in having one purchasing body?—I think it is better to have one purchasing body, and, when it has been purchased, to hand over the estates in the way you suggest to the Congested Districts Board. It makes no great difference.

55912. What would you say to a proposal to exclude the operations of the Estates Commissioners from Connaught altogether except on the requisition of the Congested Districts Board?—I would not at all approve of it. Personally I would say I utterly object to it.

55913. What is the reason?—Because the Estates Commissioners have given satisfaction, at least in this county. We have been dealing with them here since 1903. I have been personally dealing with them in those cases of estates, and in all cases they have given satisfaction.

55914. But look at it from this point of view. The Estates Commissioners buy estates and re-sell them, and they have no relation to the methods of the Congested Districts Board in regard to the relief of congested properties which they have purchased.

They have no relation to the policy of migration. Would the retention of the existing arrangement by which the Estates Commissioners purchase and distribute, and get rid of property not conflict with the policy of migration?—Well, at present it does, undoubtedly.

55915. By your own admission there is not sufficient grass land in Connaught to enable you to carry out the whole policy of migration?—It would to a certain extent, but my remedy would be to give them extensive power to deal with migration.

55916. Then you would have two bodies overlapping, a thing which you deprecate?—If you take the work of the purchase of land from the Congested Districts Board you could let the Estates Commissioners, when they purchase on the requisition of the Congested Districts Board, hand over those particular estates to them in the way you suggest.

55917. Then you think the policy of migration with which the Congested Districts Board is identified would have its full development?—It would. But I certainly would not eliminate the Estates Commissioners from Connaught.

55918. But then there would be the other evil of conflict?—There will be no conflict if they have not to do with the purchasing of estates.

55919. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—I should like to ask you a question in connection with that matter. Suppose even that the Congested Districts Board were the purchasing authority throughout Connaught, the legal processes could still be in the hands of the Estates Commissioners in the transfer of all the estates?—Yes.

55920. Now there are two things you might consider with reference to your suggestion. You suggest that the Estates Commissioners should be the purchasing authority and the distributing authority?—Yes.

55921. Now, if they were the purchasing and distributing authority, do you not think that the class of tenants who have got a good show from them would rather seriously object to migrants being brought in?—That is inevitable. The tenants would object everywhere to people being brought in upon top of them.

55922. Would the sons of tenants object?—They would object, probably, too, but not to a great extent, because they did not do so on the Nugent Estate nor on the Kilclooney Estate. There has been no trouble, although they brought them from scheduled areas to the Kilclooney Estate and the Nugent Estate.

99523. Who brought them?—The Congested Districts Board.

55924. You are putting the matter very clearly. The Congested Districts Board has not been doing much for the sons of tenants to say the least of it. On the other hand, the Estates Commissioners have done a considerable amount for them. If the Estates Commissioners were the authority, the Congested Districts Board might be impeded in its work for the relief of congestion by being driven to provide for the sons of tenants, because the sons of tenants would say, "We are entitled to these lands rather than these congests"?—Oh, I do not think the Congested Districts Board would be impeded, because the Estates Commissioners would exercise care in the selection of the people for migrants; but a conflict might take place with the tenants on adjoining properties under £5 valuation, and that is the reason that the Estates Commissioners are driven to provide for the sons of tenants. If they had extended powers they could bring them in from different localities, especially if the whole province was scheduled.

55925. Do you think there would be much difficulty in the matter to which I refer?—There might be a little difficulty here and there, but not a difficulty to make people afraid to face the problem.

55926. Now, I have another question to ask you. Suppose an estate is bought by the authority. Have you thought out whether the purchasing authority should be the distributing and ameliorating authority?—Well, I would certainly prefer to have the one body purchase and distribute the land.

55927. Would you not prefer that the purchasing authority should be the re-modelling and the re-selling authority?—Yes, to re-model and re-sell the estate.

55928 Have you formed an opinion on that subject, that whoever was the purchasing authority had better be the re-modelling and re-selling authority?—Yes; I have no objection at all to the course outlined by Sir Antony MacDonnell.

55929. But you prefer the other?—I prefer the other.

55930. One point more. There has been good work done by the Estates Commissioners in acquiring 236,000 acres of land, of which 186,000 were in the County Galway?—I am glad to hear that they have done good work in the County Galway. I can only speak for my own county.

55931. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—You prefer that one body should do the work of purchasers and distribution. Would your preference be that that one body should be the Congested Districts Board?—No; my preference would be the Estates Commissioners. I have no hesitation in saying it.

55932. Sir John Colomb.—I want to understand what is in your mind with regard to Sir Antony MacDonnell's question, to which you gave a sort of tentative adherence. The question was whether, while the functions of the Congested Districts Board were retained for the settlement of land in Connaught the only purchasing authority should be the Estates Commissioners, and that the Estates Commissioners were to buy land in Connaught on the requisition of the Congested Districts Board. That was the question, and you gave a certain amount of adherence to that. Now, supposing in consideration of the policy to be pursued in Connaught, where congestion is enormously great, they might say, "In order to relieve this congestion we must have such and such a block of lands," practically embracing several estates. Have you ever made a calculation in order to arrive at the figure that would be suitable and proper to give for that property for the purpose of relieving congestion. Supposing they requisition the Estates Commissioners to buy that block of property involving several estates, who is to determine what the price is to be? It is necessary for the relief of congestion the Congested Districts Board should have that block, and they requisition the Estates Commissioners to buy it, and they say, "You know how to buy this, and you must buy it." How are you going to provide for that condition?—Well, I must confess that I think myself that the Estates Commissioners ought to be the persons to fix the price of the land.

55933. And, therefore, although the Congested Districts Board have formulated a scheme on the basis of a certain price in their own minds, and which they are ready, on public grounds, to give, you will enable the Estates Commissioners, being the purchasing authority, to put it aside and to say, "We won't buy that or pay that price"?—I do not think such a case would be very likely to occur. If the Estates Commissioners have the price which the Congested Districts Board will put before them, I am sure they will do all in their power to meet that, but I cannot understand such a case to arise as that there would be such a discrepancy between the two Boards that one Board would absolutely refuse to buy at the price suggested by the other.

55934. Then where is the advantage of introducing two bodies to do the same thing if you say there is not much difference?—Because I think the Estates Commissioners are better valuers of land, and they buy better, and their men are better.

55935. You have said just now that there would not be much difference?—I say that I cannot understand such a case arising.

55936. I want to get a light on this question. As I have put this case it appears to me to be a possible and probable case, but you say it is not likely to arise, because there would not be that difference, I suppose, about the price between the Congested Districts Board and the Estates Commissioners?—I say I could not understand that there could be such a big discrepancy. I understand the question, but I could not understand how two bodies of men both presumed to have a knowledge of the value of land in Connaught, could arrive at such a divergence about the price.

55937. Then you mean to say that two bodies like the Congested Districts Board and the Estates Commissioners are not likely to have much difference in estimating the value or the price. Then, can you get any advantage from denying to one of these bodies the purchasing power?—Because I think they have not been able to buy as well as the other body up to the present. That is the only reason.

Sept. 26, 1907.

Mr. Joseph A. Glynn.

55938. Then, according to that, the Congested Districts Board, would be likely to make a very different estimate of the price from that made by the other body?—I am only speaking of the rents.

55939. But, on the other hand, when I put my question to you, you said there would not be much difference?—I confess I do not understand it as a business proposal.

55940. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—There would not be two purchasing bodies?—It would not be their business at all.

55941. There would be one purchasing body, and that purchasing body as buyers of properties all over Ireland would be more likely to come to an equable price than if there were two bodies?—That is quite so.

55942. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Of course, you mean, or do you mean, that the standard of prices of the Estates Commissioners should be the standard of prices in every part of Ireland?—No; I do not believe in a standard of price in any part of Ireland. I believe that the price that the Estates Commissioners would give for an estate would be a price that would be reasonable and fair, considering the sort of land it is, and its circumstances and everything connected with it. I do not understand an even standard of price all over Ireland at all, because a farm worth so much an acre in the County of Dublin would be of very little use perhaps in the County of Galway.

55943. I think that you have got something at the back of your mind for establishing the same prices everywhere?—I have no such thing in my mind at all.

55944. What is to happen. The Congested Districts Board being charged with the relief of congestion finds it a necessity for the relief of congestion to have a certain block of land forming several estates. Do you mean to tell me that they are not to make a suggestion to the Estates Commissioners about the price they were willing to give for the land necessary to carry out the scheme, and say "We are ready to give so much for it"?—The Congested Districts Board would not have the power of saying "We will give so much for the land," They would merely requisition the Estates Commissioners, saying "We want a certain estate for the relief of congestion," and the Estate Commissioners could only make an offer for that estate.

55945. In arranging for acquiring a great block of land surely the Congested Districts Board might as a business body look all round the question as a whole. Do you mean that the Estates Commissioners would buy the block of land, if requisitioned by the Congested Districts Board, at the Congested Districts Board's price?—No.

55946. Then they should have a valuation of holdings on each of the estates concerned to arrive at a price?—They will give the price that their inspectors say is reasonable and fair. When there are disputes with tenants in some cases one of the Estates Commissioners' inspectors will say, for instance, that in his opinion the price is too much, because it is an invariable rule to send down their man where they will not agree. It has been done by Judge Ross.

55947. CHAIRMAN.—What power do you say that they should have?—They ought to have more extended power to settle grass land. They are restricted too much at present to people on the actual estate.

55948. Oh, no?—They are, because they have difficulty in bringing tenants from a distance.

55949. Surely their powers with regard to migrants are just the same as those of the Congested Districts Board?—I know they have some difficulty on some estates in giving them to tenants some distance away.

55950. That must be on account of local difficulty?—I would raise the limit for admission from adjoining estates from £5 valuation to £10.

55951. That applies to the Congested Districts Board also?—Yes.

55952. And therefore extended powers in that direction may be necessary for both bodies; but so far as bringing in migrants from another area, the Estates Commissioners have exactly the same powers as the Congested Districts Board?—Yes.

55953. So far as legal power is concerned, there is no difference?—There is not; but I would like to see them have power in the way I suggest.

55954. But the Estates Commissioners now have power after having purchased an estate to buy untenanted grass lands anywhere they like for the purpose of the redistribution of that estate?—Yes. Some of the other questions I wanted to touch upon are more local.

55955. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—One word before you pass away. If there was one authority purchasing land in Connaught, and a different authority purchasing land in the rest of Ireland, would there be a competition?—There might in certain cases. Such a thing might happen if you had the Congested Districts Board buying in Connaught, and the Congested Districts Board required land outside Connaught to bring migrants to.

55956. There would not be competition with the Congested Districts Board buying in Connaught and the Estates Commissioners outside?—On the other hand, it might arise.

55957. There would not be so much as to the variation in the case of Sub-Commissioners fixing fair rents?—There would not.

55958. Is there anything else you would like to say?—Yes; there are one or two other points I would like to touch upon. I would prefer to see the work of agricultural and technical instruction carried on by the Congested Districts Board in congested districts rather than by the Department. I think it is there that the Congested Districts Board did a great deal of useful work that at present the local committees are unable to get at, as, for instance, the formation of Parish Committees and the establishment of small model farms, practically one in each parish where farmers in the locality would have an opportunity of having a good class of bulls or boars for use there, and also the advantage of seeing proper classes of seeds and everything connected with his work on the farm. I would prefer seeing that work carried out by the Congested Districts Board. In the districts around the seaboard there is the question of piers, which was a very large question in County Galway. These piers were built regardless of expense, and the County Council was expected to keep them in repair. A large number of these piers are utterly useless, yet the County Council is expected and bound to keep them in repair. Since we came into office we have been worried by the Board of Works over these piers. A lot of these piers are useless, yet the cost of maintaining them will have unfortunately to fall on the very districts that can least afford to pay—the districts of Clifden and Oughterard.

55959. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—The local authority, in your opinion, ought to have a voice in the construction of works that fall on the local rates?—Yes. We are forced to keep them in repair, and it is the unfortunate people of Connemara that have to pay for them. At present we are putting a good deal of this cost on the county at large simply to relieve the rates in Connemara, but that cannot continue.

55960. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—You would not grudge money for the maintenance of piers?—We do not grudge the money at all, but unfortunately in this county there are about 200 piers, and we have it officially from our own officials and others that one-half of these piers are utterly useless, and not one boat in the twelve months comes into them. They have been built in most out-of-the-way places.

55961. Is that the reason they are of no use?—That is the reason, and if a storm breaks one of them down we are compelled to spend £300 or £400 putting it in repair.

55962. Surely, this fair deduction from the circumstances you state is that there is no fishing?—There is fishing, but the fish are found in certain localities.

55963. Then, do the fishermen go to places where there are no piers in preference to places where there are piers?—There are piers where they go to, but there are also piers where they don't want them, and don't go to.

55964. Then there are too many piers?—Yes; and we are compelled if a storm blows them down to rebuild them.

55965. CHAIRMAN.—What would you like to deal with next?—It is the ferry at Lough Corrib. I was anxious that some of the members should see it, and I wrote to the Secretary of the Commission about it. The Commission had to go from Oughterard to Galway, whereas if there was a ferry at Lough Corrib made by the County Council with the assistance of the Department of Agriculture and the Congested Districts Board you could have come across it and on to

Tuam. The ferry is only a quarter of a mile across, and you could have brought the motor cars along.

55966. What happened the scheme?—The County Council voted £400 to help to make the ferry, and we got grants from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, and the Congested Districts Board, and the County Council also, undertook to maintain the ferry when made. When all had done so far we were then informed by the Local Government Board we had no power in law to make the ferry at all. I then approached Sir Antony MacDonnell about it, and he promised that a Bill would be introduced in Parliament to remedy the defect in the law. There was a Bill introduced to remedy that defect in the law, to enable us to make ferries, and do other work in connection with harbours. But I understand that unfortunately the Treasury put in some objectionable clause which the Irish Party objected to, and the Bill was lost. I think this is a case in which the Congested Districts Board if they have the money should carry out the work. Some public body ought to make the ferry, as the County Council is debarred from doing the work, and there can be no doubt it is wanted in that whole locality.

55967. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—I think the trend of what you say is that this country suffers from very indifferent legislation?—There is no doubt about that. I have long thought that.

55968. Is that the trend of opinion?—There is no question about that. *Sept.* 26, 1907.

55969. It was owing to the unsuitable enactments of law as it stood that that work was prevented from being done?—That is the way it stands, and there seems to be no chance of remedying it. When Bills are introduced they are lost. Mr. Joseph A. Glynn.

55970. Mr. Sutherland.—Has the County Council power to maintain ferries that are in existence?—Yes; if the ferry had been in existence we could have maintained it, and worked it; but this was the establishment of a new ferry, which we evidently could not undertake.

55971. I knew Councils elsewhere can maintain ferries?—Yes, and we are in a bad way here for want of that ferry.

55972. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—This work would come within the scope of operations of the Board of Works?—Yes; that is the Board that would have charge of it.

55973. Well, when you were given the chance of having the Board of Works under your control you rejected it?—Yes; we rejected it, and I stand by that rejection still. I think that Bill would have robbed us financially, and that is my experience of the Treasury.

55974. Chairman.—I don't think that comes within our terms of reference?—Well, I was asked the question, and I had to answer it.

Mr. E. G. Armstrong examined.

55975. Chairman.—You live in Ballinasloe?—Yes.

55976. And you have been nominated to give evidence here by the Landowners' Convention?—I believe so.

55977. What is the evidence you wish to give?—I have been asked to give some evidence to you as to the effect the breaking-up of grass lands would have on the value of the cattle and sheep and other animals in this country. The money represented by live stock is the chief wealth of this country. I fear the dividing up of the grass lands into small farms would injure the cattle trade. The small farmer in this part of Ireland either rears calves from his own cow or cows, or buys calves from Limerick and Tipperary dealers. They feed these up to a year or a year and a half old, and then sell them to men who hold a hundred acres or more. These men keep them for a year or six months, as the case may be. They are then sold to farmers who keep them for six months or a year, and finally they come into the hands of Leicester graziers, or are exported to England to be fattened. It is quite impossible for a small farmer to feed these cattle until they are fat. They have not got room for them. Their small portion of grass land, even if good enough, would not be able to fatten them. Take a hundred acres of rich fattening land, say; this would carry seventy or seventy-five three and a half year-old fattening cattle, and be able to finish them during the summer. Supposing this hundred acres of grass lands was divided into four or five smaller fields the cattle would not do on them; they want a wider walk, and the different sorts of herbage they would pick up in walking over a large tract, and besides there is the question of water. I have hardly ever seen a country farmer sell a fat beast in a fair off grass. They sometimes do in the winter from stall-feeding, but as a rule these are bad cattle, an old cow or something of that sort that they want to try and get rid of. A small farmer with thirty acres of land would have, say, eight acres in tillage, and would keep a couple of cows, two or three ewes, and a mare. Next year he would have two cows, two calves, three ewes and their lambs, a mare and foal, and so on. The amount of acres he would have would not be sufficient to feed them. Who is to buy his yearlings or year and a half olds? They cannot all go to England. The fairs would be full of sellers and no buyers. For these reasons I do not agree with Mr. Doran in his endeavour to do away with the middlemen. I think the middleman or grazier holding moderately good grass land is a useful member of the community. I take it that the true interest of the country requires four different holders of land, to wit, the small farmer who rears the cattle, the moderate farmer, who feeds for a year, the grazier with fairly good land, who feeds for another year, and the Leinster man, or English or Scotch, who finishes. Above all things, I wish to impress on this Commission the wisdom of going slowly, of the Congested Districts Board and Estates Commissioners feeling their way bit by bit, and doing nothing in a wholesale way to upset the trade of the country on which the whole prosperity of the country depends. Besides this, I fear the breed of cattle would deteriorate. These small farmers would not have the capital or means of getting good bulls or rams; consequently the capital of the country would fall off. I take it that Ireland is naturally a grazing country, and I do not think it judicious or wise to go against nature. I have considerable experience of farming, and of fairs and markets. I farm over twelve hundred statute acres myself, and manage about 3,000 acres for others. From 1882 I was engaged buying cattle and managing for landowners in Meath, Kildare, Westmeath, Kilkenny, Roscommon, Galway, and Mayo. I think the landowners who farm their own land and the large graziers have been the means of improving and keeping up the breed of sheep and cattle in this country. Many years ago, in the County Roscommon, the Frenches (De Freyne family), the Lloyds, and the Irwins, and, in a small way, my grandfather and my father, imported "shorthorn" or "Durham" heifers and bulls. The blood of these animals has been disseminated, and kept in the County Roscommon about Boyle, Elphin, and Strokestown. The land in that part of Roscommon being very good, the cattle bred and reared in that country are about the best, in my opinion. I have no doubt the same remark would apply to many other localities in Ireland. I believe it would be ruin to the small farmers to be left depending on cattle dealers for the sale of their own cattle for exportation. Besides, the small farmer must keep a good portion of his land for meadow for winter feeding, which is the most profitable in this country. I do not object to the principle of dividing the grass lands, and the creation of farms of from thirty to forty acres, and the migration of tenants from congested districts to others; but I am strongly of opinion that this must be done slowly, bit by bit, gaining experience as you go on. I believe the wholesale cutting up of grazing lands and wiping out of large graziers would be the ruin of the country, and would bring this country to national bankruptcy. The work must be done gradually. Very few of the men from congested districts would understand the management of a larger farm of better land. The breaking of grass lands for division should be very carefully done. Strong, heavy, fattening land or wet rushy land is not suitable. Light land, dry moory land, or even good reclaimed Mr. E. G. Armstrong.

Sept. 26, 1907.

Mr. E. C. Armstrong.

land, are better suited. I consider thirty Irish or fifty statute acres as little as will make a farm capable of maintaining a family. I am much struck by the enormous quantity of weeds all through the country. This evil is increasing steadily year by year. I think at least thirty per cent. of the strength and fertility of the land goes to the production of weeds. I have been very much struck by that within the last month. I drive a great deal through County Galway, County Roscommon, and Westmeath, and I can say that the increase in weeds is enormous. The land is absolutely covered with weeds, and it could not possibly give good crops of potatoes, oats, turnips, or anything else.

55978. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Would it be a good thing if the owners gave prizes to their tenants for well-kept fields?—I think that anything that would decrease the amount of weeds on the land would be a good thing. I should like to see a law passed to compel every owner of land to keep his land clean. The grass land of this country is one mass of filth, and there must be a general clearance of weeds, because if one man cuts thistles, yet if his neighbour does not do the same, that man's land is also poisoned, although he has done all he could. I pay rent for all the land I hold, and I could not afford to pay that rent if I left half of my land to grow weeds, which do not pay, and are a terrible injury to the country.

55979. Chairman.—What is your opinion as to the work done by the Congested Districts Board?—I think the Congested Districts Board has done and is doing very good work. It would be a national calamity to destroy this Board, or amalgamate it with the Estates Commissioners or Land Commission. I consider it would be better to increase the capital for the Congested Districts Board to work with. There is no need at all for compulsory purchase; there is plenty of land to be had if a fair price is given for it. It is hard to lay down rules for the valuation of land. I do not believe in figures much. All land must be carefully inspected and valued by competent valuers, for this reason, that it is so very rare to find a tract of land homogeneous, or all of one quality. I have seen a good deal of farming in England and Scotland, and there you find very large tracts of land, half a parish, of very much the same nature. I do not think I have ever seen a townland in this country in which the land was all of the one sort, part of it is heavy, part light, some of it dry, some wet, and some moory. It is very hard to estimate the value of land. I do not believe in figures very much and you cannot write down rules for it, but I believe the Estates Commissioners have to go on the land and value it just as one would value so many head of cattle, one by one, or bit by bit. As to the rearing of young cattle, I would like to explain that what I mean is that I do not see how a farmer with 20, 30, or 40 acres of land can keep his cattle long enough to fatten them or fit them for the butcher. They must go through the hands of other people. As to the value of untenanted land, there can be no doubt that landowners are possessed of both the fee and the occupation interest. I think the limitation in paragraph *c.* of Section 2 (1) of the Land Act of 1903, that a tenant on a neighbouring estate, whose holding exceeds £5 in rateable value, is not qualified for additional land is a very serious drawback. The limit should be £10. As to the purchase of estates by the Estates Commissioners, the delay in getting the money is a most serious drawback, and the security offered to the vendor is doubtful.

55980. Sir John Colomb.—The general impression your evidence leaves on my mind is that you are by no means opposed to the policy of breaking up certain grass lands, but you see danger in it, and you represent to the Commissioners that operations must go slowly and cautiously?—That is exactly what I do mean.

55981. That effects the quantity of land taken, and now I wish to ask you a question regarding the quality of land which it would be advisable to deal with first. I presume you would agree that there are areas of grass land that are not so good for permanent grazing where a course of good tillage would largely improve them?—Yes.

55982. And may I take it that the two things you wish to impress upon the Commissioners are that while in sympathy with the general idea of breaking up grass lands, the programme should be carried out slowly, and that the first lands to acquire would be the grass lands that in their nature would improve by good tillage?—Yes; lands that would be suitable for tillage.

55983. You think those should be the first lands to proceed with?—Yes.

55984. And the last lands you would touch would be the really good land?—I doubt if it would be wise to touch them in any case. You see, if all the country is cut up into small parts it would mean everybody rearing cattle and everybody trying to sell young cattle. Who is then to buy them? I can notice that in the fairs. I was in a very large fair on Tuesday buying cattle myself, and a great many people said if all the small farmers have nothing but young cattle to sell who is to buy them. The Meath and the English men don't want them. We hardly ever sell cattle in this country until they are 3, 3½, or 4 years old, and then they go to England or Scotland either for slaughter or finishing. The small young cattle are bought by the local farmers. I am not at all opposed to the general principle both of cutting up grass lands and migrating tenants to them, but I think it is rash.

55985. Your general contention is, if you take up good grass land now used for grazing and for the process of maturing cattle and you cut that up among so many holders you are diminishing the amount of land available for maturing cattle and increasing the number of producers of cattle?—Yes, I think so.

Mr. Cornelius J. Kennedy examined.

Mr. Cornelius J. Kennedy.

55986. Chairman.—You are a member of Tuam Rural District Council?—Yes.

55987. You have been appointed by that Council to give evidence here?—Yes.

55988. You wish to tell the Commission something about the estates in the union?—Yes. I may say that the area of Tuam Union is 190,649 acres, population 30,924, and valuation £77,625 3*s*. In October of last year I asked the Clerk of the Union for statistics showing the number of acres of land in the union under grazing and so forth. He carefully prepared a return as follows:—"Gentlemen—In compliance with your order of the 18th August last, I beg to submit the annexed return taken from the rate books showing the number of acres of land under grazing in Tuam Union. From the return it will be observed that there are 56,925 acres of land under grazing, including two demesne lands unoccupied, at a valuation of £22,692, and that the said grazing lands are in the possession of 98 non-resident and 171 resident graziers in the union, and that the valuation of 2,315 occupiers is below £5. The population of the union in 1881 was 39,832, in 1891 was 34,630, and in 1901 was 30,924."

55989. In what part of the union do you live?—I live in the town of Dunmore, where I carry on a large trade.

55990. In what line?—A shop; grocery, provisions, and a bar. I am a Rural District Councillor for the division of Dunmore, and County Councillor for the county electoral division of Dunmore. I am aware that acute congestion exists in part of the Tuam Union, particularly in the neighbourhood of Dunmore.

55991. Is Dunmore scheduled?—Part of it is, but I would have the whole union scheduled under the Congested Districts Board. I would relieve the present overcrowding by migrating some of the tenants into the grazing farms adjoining the villages and giving their lands to the remaining tenants in addition to their own, and I would acquire the grazing lands by compulsion if necessary. I have no sympathy with the eleven months' grazier, and I would clear him out without any compensation. I hold that the non-residential grazier stands on a different footing. I would acquire the lands from him also by compulsion if necessary, but I would give him such compensation as would enable the tenants to live in comparative comfort afterwards. In all negotiations for the transfer of lands from landlord to tenant I would have all sales carried out by some competent authority, such as the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board. I would have no private treaty between the landlord and tenant les

the latter might be tempted to give more for the land than would enable him to live in comfort afterwards and pay his annuity without any inconvenience. I would enlarge the powers of the Congested Districts Board and have local men on, elected on the popular franchise. Local interests would then be well looked after and the over-staffing of the Board would be prevented. I wish to give some statistics which will reveal an unprecedented condition of things in the history of modern economics. In 1881 the population of Tuam Union was 39,832, in 1891 it was 34,630, and in 1901 it was 30,924, or a decrease of 8,908 in this period. The number of acres under grazing in the union is 56,925, the valuation of which is £22,692. The number of occupiers under £5 valuation is 2,315, the number of resident graziers 171 and the number of non-resident graziers 98. Now as regards Dunmore and its neighbourhood, the village of Luhro has eleven tenants. The average acreage of the holdings is 3½ acres and the valuation £2. Carnagur has eight tenants with an average acreage of the holdings of 6 acres, and a valuation of £3 10*s*. Cloonkeen has thirty-six tenants with an average acreage of 7 acres and a valuation of 17*s*. Carnaseer has twenty tenants, with an average acreage of 6 acres and valuation of 4*s*. Britenagahy has fourteen tenants, with an average acreage of 4½ acres and a valuation of 4*s*. These poor tenants are surrounded by hundreds of acres of grass land. They have twenty-five patches of land in that one townland.

55993. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—So that the whole holding of the small farmer would not be valued at more than 4*s*.?—No.

55994. Chairman.—This is all in the union of Tuam?—Yes. There is another division, Lisabodder, in which there are six tenants holding only on an average six acres, and valued at £1 15*s*. These unfortunate tenants have to carry bags of flour home on their backs, as they have no roadway.

55995. The people who live round you are living on extremely small holdings?—Yes; very small.

55996. And I suppose they are very poor?—Yes, very poor. I would like to refer to the remaining divisions. Killooney has forty-two tenants, with an average acreage of five acres, and a valuation of 3*s*. 10*d*. Cappagh has thirty-two tenants, with an average acreage of ten acres, and a valuation of 4*s*. Carramanagh has thirty-two tenants, with an average acreage of 9½ acres, and a valuation of 4*s*. Clooncun has six tenants, with an average acreage of five acres, and a valuation of 3*s*., and Sleir has fifteen tenants, with an average acreage of eight acres, and a valuation of 5*s*. 10*d*. The population of the town of Dunmore is under 600. The town is surrounded by the best of grazing lands, except on one side. With the exception of a few shopkeepers, the inhabitants are very poor, and the majority have practically no land. The grazing lands come right to the very walls of the town. The want of grazing for even a milch cow is keenly felt by the very poor. This grazing cannot be procured from some of the graziers at any price. It is right to mention that an honourable exception to this deplorable condition of things is Captain Martyn's agent on the Deering Estate, who gives some grazing accommodation at £3 10*s*. per annum. The town and its immediate surroundings suffer very much, not only from the periodical flooding of the River Elare, but also from the want of suitable railway accommodation.

55997. Do you wish to see some authority buy up all the grazing land?—Yes.

55998. And when the land is bought up what would you do with it?—Migrate some of the tenants in the villages to it, and throw in their holdings to the holdings of those who remain behind.

55999. You would migrate people from round Dunmore to this grazing land, and amalgamate the holdings they vacate with the holdings of those who remain?—Yes, and they are prepared to go.

56000. You think that all the grazing land acquired should be used for that purpose?—By all means.

56001. Sir John Colomb.—Are there many shopkeepers holding grazing there?—There are.

56002. Are they included in the 171 resident graziers?—They are.

56003. And therefore, if you take their lands you would give them something in the way of compensation to keep them in "comparative comfort"?—I do not understand that point.

56004. I thought you said the non-resident grazier was to be cleared out, and get nothing?—Certainly.

56005. And that you would give the resident grazier something in the way of compensation to enable him to live in comparative comfort?—Yes; I would be inclined to compensate him.

56006. The resident graziers include shopkeepers, and you would give them something to keep them in "comparative comfort"?—No; the tenant.

56007. But I thought you were speaking of the people from whom you took land?—I would not be inclined to give any compensation to the eleven months' man, but I would give the others fair compensation.

56008. You have got two groups—resident graziers, who number 171, and non-resident, who number 98, and these latter are eleven months' men?—The majority are.

56009. Your policy would be to get rid of them without giving them anything?—Certainly.

56010. But when you come to deal with the 171 resident graziers, which includes shopkeepers, you would give something in the way of compensation to them?—Yes; something that is fair—I won't state the sum.

56011. Having got this grazing land, would you distribute it among the people of the locality?—Certainly; by all means.

56012. Would you object to people from Carna and Lettermore, in West Galway, being brought into this locality after the small men in the locality had been provided for?—Certainly not; they are all welcome, provided the men in the locality were sufficiently provided with land.

56013. Quite so. But when that is done you are quite willing to let others from a distance in?—Yes, quite willing.

56014. Having acquired a tract of grass land in your neighbourhood, would you first give sufficient to turn uneconomic holdings in your neighbourhood into economic holdings?—Yes.

56015. And nobody else is to have a claim on that grazing land but migrants and local congests?—No.

56016. You would leave out farmers' sons?—I would on this condition.

56017. You would use these grazing lands purely and simply for the relief of congestion, and for nothing else?—Certainly.

56018. Mr. O'Kelly.—You mean you would give priority to congests from a distance over the sons of farmers?—Yes. I may say that in the town of Dunmore there is a population of about 600, and you could not get a cow's grass there without begging and paying heavily for it, and that notwithstanding the fact that about 700 acres of grass land is owned by a North of Ireland grazier.

56019. Chairman.—The Estates Commissioners have been buying a good deal of grass land round there?—Yes, in the union; but not, unfortunately, in my locality.

56020. But it is within the union that you look to see grass land bought for the poor people that live around you?—Certainly.

56021. Under the powers exercised by the Estates Commissioners I understand that a certain number of holdings have been given to sons of tenants?—Yes.

56022. Have you any proof of that?—Not exactly.

56023. Now, if that policy were extended, do you think it would make it more difficult to give larger holdings to the people you represent?—My view is that we want the land for the people, and until that is granted there will never be peace or happiness in this country.

56024. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—You have said that the man holding under the eleven months' system should not get any compensation?—He should certainly not.

56025. He has no interest in the land?—Certainly not, because he has overstocked it, and has the heart eaten out of it.

56026. But there is a class of men to whom you would give a certain price?—Yes. Mr. Glynn made reference to some land purchased out by a neighbour of mine on the Bodkin Estate, and, to my mind, that man should get fair compensation.

56027. Is he living on the land?—He is not.

Sept. 26, 1907.

Mr. Cornelius J. Kennedy.

56028. His tenancy of it is either present or future?—Yes.

56029. In such a case there must be compensation?—Fair compensation only.

56030. You think it would be a good thing if some one who knows the wants of a locality like yours should be on the Congested Districts Board to place matters required by your locality before the Board for consideration?—I do.

56031. How would you select such a man. Would you leave it to the County Council or to the Government to nominate him?—I would leave it to the local authority—the Rural District Council.

56032. You would like to see congestion remedied all over the country as well as in County Galway?—Certainly.

56033. Do you think that the man selected by the County or Rural District Council would take a broad view, and look at congestion as a whole rather than the needs of his own particular district?—I do not know that; perhaps he would.

56034. It would be useful to have such a member?—I would prefer the District Council, the local authority, to nominate him.

56035. You would give the local authority the right to nominate a member?—Yes.

56036. And I suppose the man selected by the local authority need not be a County or District Councillor?—Certainly not.

56037. Now, if the duty devolved on the County Council of nominating a member of the Congested Districts Board do you think they would send to the Board a man who, besides attending to the local wants of County Galway, would have a great interest in solving the problem of congestion all over the country?—That might be.

56038. Would they send a good man of that class?—I believe they would.

56039. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—That would be one way of bringing local knowledge to the aid of the Congested Districts Board?—Yes.

56040. Might not another way be this—that the Rural District Council would appoint a sub-committee, who would make themselves acquainted with all the facts concerning congestion in their scheduled areas, find out what was wanted, what was necessary, have statutory powers to make representations to the Congested Districts Board, and be entitled to have those recommendations considered—would that not be another way of bringing local knowledge to bear on the Congested Districts Board?—Of course it would.

56041. And don't you think such a system with the Congested Districts Board, a small body of the best men you could find in Ireland, who would take a general and broad view of congestion throughout the country, and not be exposed to the difficulties of local representatives, might be useful?—I think it would be most useful.

56042. Wouldn't it occur to you that if districts had members direct on the Congested Districts Board that each member would be striving to get as much as he could for his own particular district?—That might be.

56043. It would be rather difficult for such a body to do its work properly; it would be like a team of horses, all kicking over the traces, and wanting to go different ways?—Exactly.

56044. You have experience of the Rural District Council?—Yes.

56045. Sometimes it is a little difficult to attend to all the districts?—Very much so. You can't please everybody.

56046. Mr. O'KELLY.—You said you would take up residential farms?—Certainly.

56047. You do not mean you would take up the farms on which the owners' live?—No, I would leave them.

56048. But there are cases in which a man may have half a dozen farms; he lives on one quite adequate to his means, and the other five are non-residential, and are some distance from his own house. You would take possession of such farms?—I would, of course.

56049. You are, therefore, referring to non-residential farms?—Exactly.

56050. Following up the questions asked by Sir Antony MacDonnell, don't you think that having representatives from the County Councils might not altogether conduce to the harmonious working of the Board?—Sometimes it might not.

56051. Don't you think that instead of looking at the question of congestion as a whole there is a possibility of these representatives urging the needs of their own particular districts?—I think sometimes they would.

56052. Now, if in the transaction of the business of the Board it was proposed to migrate tenants from Connemara to Roscommon, is not it possible that the Roscommon representative would vehemently oppose the migration of people from West Connemara to his county?—That might be so, and probably would be so.

56053. That is a defect in the suggested reconstitution of the Congested Districts Board. Now, take the case of the representative on the Congested Districts Board for County Galway. The interests of Connemara and the rest of County Galway are hardly identical, and what kind of a dilemma would the representative of County Galway be in if it was proposed at a meeting of the Board to migrate people from West Connemara to the Athenry district?—He would be in a difficult position.

56054. Because the Athenry people would resent the migrants coming into the district?—I think they would.

56055. Then would you be rather disposed to agree with Sir Antony MacDonnell's suggestion?—I would.

56056. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Now take a County Council. The interests of the different districts which the members represent are not the same?—Certainly not.

56057. The interests of one district in County Galway are not identical with the interests of another part, and, accordingly, the County Councillors have somewhat divergent interests?—That is so.

56058. Yet, notwithstanding these divergent interests, they manage to transact their business?—They do.

56059. And there is harmony out of diversity?—Yes.

56060. Occasionally there might be a little breeze, and that is not altogether deplorable?—Well, frequently there are breezes.

56061. The County Councillors manage to agree in substantial things. Now these men coming to the Congested Districts Board, especially with the nominated element there, might manage fairly well to agree over the affairs of the congested areas?—Perhaps they would.

56062. I do not press this question, because, probably, you have not thought very much about it, but which do you think you would prefer, to have a local advisory committee, to advise the Congested Districts Board in an official way of the needs of their district, or for the County Council to send a member, who would have a voice in the affairs of the Board, like every other member?—I prefer the local individual.

56063. You prefer the County Council representative?—Yes.

56064. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Would not the advisory committee, composed of local men, have much more local knowledge than the one representative elected by the County Council?—Sometimes it might.

56065. Don't you think that an advisory committee, men selected from the congested areas, would have more knowledge, and would be able to furnish the Board with more information regarding the needs of their districts than a single representative, who might not live in the congested district at all?—That is so.

56066. CHAIRMAN.—Which plan do you think would be the more likely to secure your wishes: the representations of an advisory committee, which was merely consulted, or by a strong representative on the Board itself?—The local individual. I would be for that entirely.

56067. Mr. KAVANAGH.—That would mean that the representative of a county would be trying to get all he could for his own county?—That is so.

56068. Mr. O'KELLY.—Suppose he didn't succeed in getting a large number of grants for his county, what would his chances of re-election on the Congested Districts Board be?—He would be defeated.

56069. And that would be just at the very time when he was beginning to master the technique of the Congested Districts Board?—Quite so.

56070. That result is hardly one to be approved of?—Not in that sense.

56071. You admit if he did not succeed his re-election would not be likely to take place?—I think so.

Mr. O'KELLY.—And, knowing County Councils, I quite agree with you.

56072. CHAIRMAN.—As you seem to take a great interest in this subject, why did you tell Mr. Conor O'Kelly that in your opinion a man would be defeated just at the time he was learning the technique of his work on the Congested Districts Board? What had you in your mind?—If he had not succeeded very well at the Board he would be defeated if he went in for re-election.

56074. I can quite understand he might be defeated under those circumstances, but why do you say he would be defeated just at the moment when he was learning the technique of his work on the Board? Had you in your mind that the life of such a representative on the Congested Districts Board would be the same as the life of a County Councillor?—I had not.

56075. Then why did you answer Mr. Conor O'Kelly as you did?—I just gave the answer.

56076. Mr. Conor O'Kelly asked you whether you didn't think that if a man was unsuccessful in getting the wishes of his district attended to by the Congested Districts Board that when he came back again he would be defeated. You expressed the opinion that you thought he would. We pass that over for the moment, but then you said that representative would be defeated at a particular moment, namely—the moment when he was learning the technique of the work of the Board?—Yes. I said I thought he would.

Mr. O'KELLY.—Well, assume he had the life of a member of the County Council—for three years.

56077. CHAIRMAN.—Yes; that is the point. Did you understand that?—Not clearly.

Mr. O'KELLY.—At the end of the three years the County Council would be taking stock of the benefit their representative on the Congested Districts Board had secured for the county. If they found he had not been as successful as other representatives of counties they would consider whether it would not be desirable to give another man the chance of trying to do better. That would occur at the end of the representative's three years' service, and just when, as I say, he was beginning to understand the Board. I do not suppose a man would master the work of the Board in less time than that.

56079. CHAIRMAN.—Do you agree with that? It means that if the county has a representative on the Congested Districts Board that representative should be elected for three years?—Yes; by the people.

56080. Do you see any objection to giving him a longer period of office—say, six or nine years?—Three years is quite sufficient, in my opinion.

56081. Then, if three years is quite sufficient, you might have exactly what Mr. Conor O'Kelly has suggested?—He might be re-elected again.

56082. But he might not be re-elected. What would be your objection to extending his period of membership for six years?—Personally, I have no objection; but I imagine three years would be quite sufficient.

56083. You would have no objection to seven years?—Not personally.

56084. Don't you think if the period was extended to seven years, that might get over the objection Mr. Conor O'Kelly has pointed out?—That is so.

56085. You would say that?—Yes.

56086. If the period were extended to six years you would virtually lose control over him?—Perhaps we might.

56087. Would he be altogether useless in the work of the Board if he knew he would not retire for six years?—I do not know what is the best thing to do.

56088. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—If he is elected every six years he may become careless, but if he is elected on a much shorter term he knows he will be turned out unless he is importunate?—Yes, with the shorter term he will be more careful.

56089. That is the position?—Yes.

56090. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—The existing members of the Board are appointed for life, and they need not be careless?—My point is to get a good man.

56091. And to get a good man on the Board you want the choice to be with the local authority?—That is so.

56092. And it is not necessary to suggest that the County Council need have constant control over him?—Not at all.

56093. CHAIRMAN.—In which will you have most confidence, a man selected by the Government or a man nominated by the County Council?—The man selected by the voice of the people.

Mr. JOHN R. D'ARCY examined.

56094. CHAIRMAN.—You appear on behalf of the Glenamaddy Rural District Council?—Yes; I am the Clerk to the Council.

56095. What is the nature of the evidence you wish to give?—I would like to say that the number of occupiers in the union is 3,423, and of these 3,204 have a valuation of under £6. The area of unoccupied land available for re-distribution is 15,013 acres, with a valuation of £6,000.

56096. When you speak of 15,000 acres available for re-distribution, are those all grass lands or are any bog lands?—It is partly grass and partly bog, but mostly grass.

56097. Are all these 15,000 acres capable of being tilled?—I would not say all, but certainly 10,000 acres are. This land is in the hands of sixty-four graziers. The area of land occupied is 71,296 acres, held by 3,245 occupiers. The population has been steadily decreasing. From 1881 to 1891 the decrease has been 18 per cent.

56098. Have they gone to America?—Mostly to America. I think if the lands were divided up and factories of some sort started and better railway accommodation provided the country would become more prosperous. We are a great distance from a railway station.

56099. What is the nearest railway station?—The nearest railway station to Glenamaddy is Ballymore, which is about ten miles distant. Then you have Donamon, Woodlawn, and Tuam.

56100. Is there enough land in the district to make the small holdings there economic?—I think there would be.

56101. What is your view as to the order in which a public authority should distribute grass lands. Do you think the congests on uneconomic holdings have a better claim than the sons of tenants?—I do.

56102. Would you be prepared to support the policy by which the relief of congestion should be carried out before the claims of sons of tenants were considered?—Yes.

56103. Even if that meant bringing in men from some little distance away?—I would not like to go so far as that. I am afraid the people round there would not agree very well with them as they have an idea that the lands about there should be striped out for themselves.

56104. That is for occupiers and the sons of tenants?—Yes.

56105. Now, if that view is to be encouraged how is congestion to be cured in those cases where there are no grass lands in the immediate neighbourhood?—I agree that it would be very difficult.

56106. Is it not more than a difficulty? Is it not an impossibility?—Perhaps it is.

56107. The great mass of congestion and the great mass of poverty exists along the seaboard?—Yes.

56108. And that is the locality in which there is a less amount of grass land available for distribution?—Yes.

56109. Now, I ask you if the grass lands in those areas where it is available for distribution is to be given to the sons of tenants, how are congested people along the seaboard to be relieved?—That is a great difficulty unless where there is a very large tract of land available.

56110. Would it not be your opinion that if the land all along the great grass tract that lies in East Galway and Roscommon is to be given to the sons of tenants that makes the relief of congestion along the seaboard impossible?—Yes.

56111. What remedy do you suggest in your union?—Well, if the whole of the union were scheduled it would be a great thing. There are only seven out of the eighteen divisions scheduled.

56112. Have you any idea of the sort of factories that should be established?—I would like to see some factories to keep the people at home. There is no inducement to the people to stop at home at present.

56113. What sort of factory would suit?—A woollen

Sept. 26, 1907.

Mr. John R. D'Arcy.

factory would be the best, because it is more or less a sheep country.

56114. Are there many sheep round there?—Yes.

56115. Is any local weaving done?—Very little.

56116. Did the people do any in olden times?—They did.

56117. And why did they drop it?—I believe because they did not find it paying. When the young people reach sixteen or seventeen they are off to America.

56118. But that does not seem a reason why the people who remained should not go on weaving?—They found the weaving did not pay them so well. The old system was very slow. The weaver at present could not make more than 1*s.* 6*d.* a day, and has to work very hard to do that. It is very hard to rear a family on that income.

56119. Then how do you propose to get over this difficulty. If it is cheaper to buy ready-made clothing than to pay for the weaving, how do you propose to set up a woollen or weaving factory which would have any chance of paying?—I think it would pay, because you could get your stuff sent away. You would not depend on selling it in the immediate vicinity.

56120. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Is there good water power in the district?—Fairly good.

56121. Apart from the factory, has any improvement been introduced in the cottage looms? Perhaps there are none?—No.

56122. Do you think it would be an advantage to have an instructor of weaving going through the district teaching young men to weave with an improved loom?—I think it would.

56123. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—Of the people who go to America do many return?—They return only to go away again.

56124. None return to settle down?—Very few.

56125. Chairman.—And those who do settle down, do they farm, as a rule, or start a shop?—Well, they farm where they can get it.

56126. Can they get a farm easily?—No, there is great difficulty.

56127. Then what do they do?—Those who can go back to America again.

56128. In your district have many of them started shops?—I do not know one.

56129. What do you do yourself?—I am Clerk to the Rural District Council there.

56130. Does that employ your whole time?—Yes.

Very Rev. Canon Macken examined.

Very Rev. Canon Macken.

56131. Chairman.—You are Administrator for the Archbishop?—Yes.

56132. What evidence do you wish to give?—In giving my evidence I propose to deal with three or four of the questions set forth in the terms of reference of this Commission. And, first, as regards the working of the Congested Districts Board in the locality, I may state that throughout the entire poor law union of Tuam there are only four electoral divisions scheduled as congested—Addergoole, Belclare, Dunmore, and Levally. But with 56,925 acres of land under grazing there is ample scope for the operations of the Congested Districts Board in the purchase and distribution of this grazing land. I believe that, having regard to the area, the parish of Tuam possesses more than an average proportion of land under grazing. And yet in this parish only two small estates were dealt with by the Board. Seven or eight new cottages were built, and from interviews I have had with the occupiers and some of their neighbours, I know they are all very emphatic in stating that the annuities payable are far too high. For instance, in the townland of Ardnagoll, on the Bodkin Estate, one of the tenants named Birmingham pays an annuity of £16 5*s.* for twenty-three statute acres. This holding is in three separate divisions, and the occupier paid £82 to get possession. He wrote to me to say that he took the land on the understanding that he was getting twenty-five statute acres instead of twenty-three, and he requests me to urge the Commission to come to his relief.

56133. On what estate is that?—The celebrated Bodkin Estate, of which you have heard so much to-day. The letter was written to me to represent his case to the Commission, in the hope that he would be relieved.

56134. Was this man put upon the holding from a congested area?—Yes.

56135. The annuity is the one fixed by the Board?—Yes.

56136. Mr. Sutherland.—Did the man see the holding before he got it?—Yes.

56137. Then it didn't matter much as to the exact acreage when he saw what he was getting?—That is so.

56138. I suppose you do not put this forward as a very serious grievance?—No, I certainly do not; and I have already mentioned that to the man outside here.

56139. Chairman.—What is the next point?—It is this: that for the congested area in Tuam parish nothing was done until about six weeks ago, when we were promised a grant of £50, to be expended by the Parish Committee. No tenant of this congested area got additional land, and, on two occasions, questions were asked in Parliament by the member for the division, Mr. Hazleton, inquiring why nothing was done for Levally. Since this division was scheduled grazing land, to the extent of 1,000 acres, was sold in Gallagh, close at hand, to the grazing occupiers, under the Ashbourne Act at a price of eighteen years' purchase. This extensive grazing tract would have been more than sufficient to relieve the congestion in the Levally division; and the price was so moderate that large holdings could have been provided at very moderate annual payments. This particular instance goes to show the necessity of having some body with greater resources than the Congested Districts Board, who could act more promptly and effectively in solving the problem of congestion. The Board itself might possess these extended powers, and amongst them a wider representation, or some other means of keeping in closer touch with the varying conditions of each district.

56140. What resources have you in your mind that the Board have not now got which they should have?—I would certainly say there should be some readjustment of the work of the various bodies acting at present. The principal point I have in my mind is that here was an estate sold out and gone away from the hands of the Board for ever, whereas if the Board had had greater resources and a greater staff to act more promptly they could have availed themselves of the opportunity of purchasing the estate, and reselling it at a reasonable figure.

56141. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—You consider that this grazing land should have passed to the people?—Yes.

56142. In what year did it pass to the present purchaser?—In 1900, I believe.

56143. Sir John Colomb.—You said the sale was under the Ashbourne Act?—Yes.

56144. But, surely, the funds were exhausted before that. Was it not under the Acts of 1891 and 1893?—No; I think it was bought under the Ashbourne Act.

56145. Chairman.—Would it meet your point on that question if the Board were endowed with greater revenue, so that they might be able to buy land more quickly?—Yes, that would be one way; and another thing required is, I think, to have wider representation, in order to have some means of knowing exactly what is going on in a district.

56146. Sir John Colomb.—In a district or a county?—Well, the county would be the area represented.

56147. Chairman.—What is the next point you wish to deal with?—I would like to treat of the important question—"What changes in law or administration are needed for dealing with the problem of congestion as a whole?" Taking a broad view of congestion as embracing areas not scheduled as congested by the Board, I think it cannot be too strongly insisted upon that the Land Act of 1903 requires to be promptly amended. The financial system upon which it is based is obviously unsound. The question from this point of view seems mysterious, and people are afraid to deal with it. But it is quite clear, even to the man in the street, that more than one-sixth of the purchase money is not provided by the Government Land Stock. At the passing of the Land Act of 1903 it was expected that Irish Land Stock, paying a dividend of 2¾ per cent., would stand in the market at 100 or very near it. As a matter of fact Irish Land Stock touched 95½ in 1905. And what do we find to-day? This year

Irish Land Stock fell as low as 81, and at the present moment it stands at about 83. This implies that out of every £100 paid to the landlords for their land only £83 comes from the Irish Land Loan. The other £17, more than one-sixth of the whole amount paid to the landlord, or more than one-fifth of the actual amount derived from Land Stock, must be paid ultimately by the ratepayers of this country. It is no answer to say that some of this balance comes from grants given in relief of the rates. For these grants were not a gift, and even if they were a gift the rates would increase in proportion to the amount used in the purchase of land. If the purchases proceed at the present rapid rate, and on the present financial system, the balance of the purchase money required will, in a very short time, become an enormous and intolerable burthen for the ratepayers of Ireland. And, to add to its inequity, the burthen will fall not merely on the purchasing tenants but also on those ratepayers who have never owned a sod of land in their lives. These are some of the points so ably discussed by Mr. Russell at the sitting in Castlerea. But there is another important consideration which militates very strongly in favour of an immediate alteration in Clause 45, and the other financial clauses of the Land Act. It is an incontrovertible fact that with the fall in Irish Land Stock other gilt-edged securities have fallen in almost the same proportion. For example, India 3 per cent. reached 99⅞ in 1905, and fell to 84½ in the present month. This means that the earning power of money has considerably increased since the first issue of Irish Land Stock. It is not overstating the case to say that it has increased by 10 per cent., and I think 15 per cent. would be nearer the truth. Stated in terms of years' purchase, this implies that the landlord who received seventeen or eighteen years' purchase for his land to-day is as well off as the landlord who received twenty years' purchase in 1904. In these circumstances why should the price of land remain stationary? The point seems to be appreciated by some of the Land Commissioners. In valuing an estate recently in this county they fixed the price at £7,800, and for this same estate the tenants had offered some years before £11,000. I am not perfectly certain of the exact figures, but they are substantially correct. The landlord should get his net income, but in calculating this income an allowance should be made for agents' fees, wages of bailiffs, rent warners, etc., lawyers' fees, bad debts, and the rates payable by landlords. I would allow nothing for what Kruger called moral and intellectual damages. It is no use saying at this time of day that the question can be settled by the ordinary law of supply and demand. The Irish tenant will pay anything for his land. His attachment to the land is proverbial. He does not understand investing his savings in any security besides land. He sees no industries round about him to supply him with labour or with a means of investment. He regards land as the one permanent abiding thing that is sure to keep body and soul together for him in all times of stress and difficulty. And so you cannot get him to look 68½ years' ahead. You cannot get him to weigh the probabilities of the importation of Canadian live stock, of the development of vast grazing tracts in the United States, in the Argentine, in Australia. Above all, he cannot understand how the juggling of big financial houses depreciating Irish Land Stock or Irish Bog Stock on the London Stock Exchange should impose an intolerable burthen on him in the near future. All this shows that he must be saved from himself, and that the question must be settled by some external agency. If the Land Act is altered, if rents are reduced, as the figures there given and present-day conditions would justify, if the Congested Districts Board or some other body gets power adequate to the work, then we shall be in sight of that settlement for which we have been longing through the years.

5148. What would you like to say regarding congestion in the Tuam Union?—In dealing with the problem of congestion as presented by the Tuam Union, this is the part of my evidence which has the most direct bearing on the conditions existing in this locality. It would furnish an answer to the question in the terms of reference: "What areas outside the districts now scheduled as congested require to be dealt with as congested?" I will deal in some detail with Tuam rural electoral division, because, as will be seen, what I say of Tuam rural applies to a great extent to all the other thirty-four electoral divisions of Tuam Union. To understand the circumstances then it will be necessary to bear in mind that what was known till that date as the electoral division of Tuam was divided on the 5th April, 1898, into the electoral divisions of Tuam urban and Tuam rural by sealed order of the Local Government Board. Tuam urban consists now of the township of Tuam, which has an area of 604 acres, and a population of 3,012 persons. Tuam rural consists of the rural portion of the old electoral division of Tuam, and of some additional townlands borrowed from some of the neighbouring electoral divisions. Looking then to Tuam rural as at present constituted, we find that it contains no less than eighty-two tenants, whose average valuation is only £2 10*s.* 4*d.* In Levally, on the other hand, which is scheduled as congested, there are only sixty-five tenants, rated under £5. And taking all the tenants of Tuam rural electoral division, I mean tenants who are not graziers, they are 155 in number, and the average valuation of these 155 tenants is only £5 10*s.* And yet in this very division of Tuam rural there is an area of 5,811 acres of untenanted land, of which the valuation is £2,996 3*s.* If this land were divided amongst the Tuam rural electoral division it would give every tenant in the division a valuation of over £25. The figures on which these calculations are based have been supplied to me from the books of the union, and they can be easily verified by any competent authority. With eighty-two tenants at an average valuation of £2 10*s.*, and nearly 6,000 acres of excellent grazing, I think it will not be easy to find anywhere a more striking example of wretched poverty side by side with rich grazing land. The whole electoral division lies within two miles of the town of Tuam, and I would respectfully suggest that the members of this Commission should go and see for themselves the rich grazing land on the one hand and the terribly backward and primitive condition of the tenantry on the other. Being concerned in the distribution of some charitable funds, it is my sad experience as well as the experience of the other clergy, to see some of these people coming week after week for sorely needed assistance. I know their feelings, and I can testify that they will come only under pressure of the most dire necessity; and it is heartbreaking to think that whatever help may be given in this way whilst affording some temporary relief can never effect a real permanent improvement. Labour is very scarce, and many of these people eke out an existence by cutting turf in the bogs and selling it in the town for fuel. The people are industrious and anxious to earn an honest living. But until heroic measures are adopted, until these people are provided with economic holdings, and get a fair start in life, it seems a mockery to be exhorting them to self-help and self-reliance. Whilst areas of this kind remain to be dealt with the problem of congestion cannot be said to be solved in Ireland. In the same electoral division is situated the estate of Mr. Day. There is a grazing farm on this estate of seventy Irish acres, which was let to a grazier some thirty years ago, when the price of land was extremely high, at a rental of £2 per acre. In recent negotiations for purchase the tenants, over thirty in number, offered twenty-three years' purchase of the above rental for this farm, though an excellent farm was sold at the same time on an adjoining estate for 22½ years' purchase on a yearly rent that had been considerably reduced. These poor tenants pay £4, £5, and £6 an acre for conacre meadow and grain crops, and they see that their condition would be improved by purchasing the farm even at the above figure, which, having regard to the yearly rent, is extremely high. The farm is over a mile distant from many of the tenants; it would give each tenant only about two acres additional land, and such a division would do little more than perpetuate their present uneconomic condition. This shows the urgency of the question. What has been said of Tuam rural may be affirmed to practically the same extent of the entire poor law union of Tuam. From an official table of statistics, drawn up in October, 1906, and furnished by the clerk of the union, it appears that there are 2,315 occupiers of the union valued under £5, whilst, at the same time, there are 56,925 acres under grazing, at a valuation of £22,692. This vast tract of grazing land would supply each of those occupiers with over twenty-four acres additional land, and would increase their present valuation by £9 16*s.* The present valuation of the whole union is £77,625, so that about two-

Sept. 26, 1907.

Very Rev. Canon Macken.

seventh is grass land. To mention particular examples in the union, the parish of Abbey has 300 families with less than £5 valuation. In the single electoral division of Dunmore there are no less than 205 occupiers whose average valuation falls below £5. Claretuam, another electoral division, with fifty-six occupiers valued under £5, and 3,170 acres under grazing, gives us a most striking example of extreme poverty contiguous to rich grazing land. The ruinous rundale system is found in Carrowrevagh and some other places in this parish, and gombeenism, with over 100 per cent. interest, flourishes in some of the neighbouring parishes. Well, perhaps, I should qualify that. I have heard of three or four cases of it. But it does not flourish now to anything like the extent it did some time ago.

56149. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Is the money lent direct or on the sale of goods?—It is direct.

56150. Chairman.—What is your next point?—I wish to refer now to the province as a whole. If Swinford, Westport, Clifden, and a few other unions are excepted, which are already in great part scheduled as congested, Tuam Union may be regarded as fairly typical of the other poor law unions in Connaught, and the whole province and other places similarly circumstanced require to be dealt with as congested. The whole system of scheduling was radically wrong from the beginning, and is, I believe, responsible for much of the disturbance that exists to-day. The Board followed the wooden rule of congested areas instead of looking to the poverty of individual occupiers or even townlands of small extent. The consequence was that many districts were excluded from the benefits of these Congested Districts Acts, in which there was far more poverty in extent and intensity than in the scheduled areas. I have shown this to be the case in contrasting Tuam Rural with Levally. The whole world knows that the sole reason for this inequality of treatment is the presence of the grazing lands. The tenants are a quick-witted race, and they are not slow to perceive that those farms are a positive grievance and a hardship, depriving them of substantial advantages to which they seem in equity entitled. Can they be expected to look with friendly eyes on those neighbouring ranches? What good is the grazing farm to them? So far from being an advantage, it constitutes a positive grievance, and whilst such grievances exist, the tenants, with the rough-and-ready logic of their past experience, will continue to agitate and seek reform. I believe then that this system of scheduling explains, if it does not justify, much of the unrest and trouble of the present day. And it helps to explain, too, why so many persons are applying for labourers' cottages on these ranches in the hope that, like Micawber, "Something will turn up" which may give them before long, not a statute acre, but a respectable slice of the farm. That is very much in evidence round here at the present time. I have tried to show the extent of the evil, and I would like now to say something as to the remedies. First, and before all, the people must get the land; and, furthermore, they must get it at a price which will enable them to live and thrive. "First catch your hare" is a sound direction, but if the huntsman is also the cook he must not be so exhausted in the chase that he will have no energy left for the cooking. This is precisely what is happening in the acquisition of land, and if the present system is continued the evil will be enormously increased in the near future. A tenant on the Gallagh congested estate, whose house is not yet built, let his entire holding in the open market last year at a lower price than his annual payment to the Board.

56151. Sir John Colomb.—Do you mean that he sublet?—Yes.

56152. His own holding?—Yes. He did not leave the place he was to be migrated from. The house was to be built, and he didn't care to enter into occupation, and then he let the holding for grazing.

56153. As a temporary arrangement?—Yes, and to be strictly accurate, I should say he let the holding for £11 10*s*., and he was paying £13 10*s* That was the interest charged by the Board, and it is now reduced to £10 19*s*. 2*d*., but even that will show you how high the annual payment is.

56154. Chairman.—What do you suggest should be done?—To get the land on suitable terms an immediate change, as I have already indicated, is necessary in the finance of the Land Act. Then there should be some readjustment of the present bodies engaged in Land Reform, a better division of labour to prevent overlapping. I bear willing testimony to the excellent work the Congested Districts Board has done throughout the province, but it seems to be the feeling here that they are inclined to pay higher prices for land than the Estates Commissioners. However this may be, prices should be lower than in the immediate past, and if this lowering of prices should stop sales altogether, then landlords would have to face a considerable reduction in rents, or compulsion would become necessary. I think some modified form of compulsion will be required; and having regard to the general good of the community the exceptional landlords who may stand in the way, ought, if their net rental is fairly secure, to get nothing for the fact that the sale is compulsory. This principle has been already applied in the acquisition of sites for labourers' cottages. The second remedy for the evils of the present day would be the improvement of the land of the country. Under this head would come afforesting and arterial drainage and other drainage on a large scale. But by far the most urgent thing in this connection is agricultural instruction. Agricultural instructors are doing good work, but it is altogether too transient and superficial to effect the change that is necessary. The Irish people are wonderfully tenacious of their old agricultural methods, and it is extremely difficult to persuade them that any other system is an improvement. I think a holding of ordinary size and quality should be acquired by the Congested Districts Board or some other Board, for a term of, say, five or six years. Any tenant would be willing to give up his holding for a time for little more than his net income. The Board should have the power to work the holding on their own methods, and this working should be on a basis that would not be beyond the resources of other tenants of the same class. The holding should be in a public place where the other tenants could see the working with their own eyes, the kind and amount of artificial manures used should be made known, and there should be nothing secret about its working. If a model holding of this kind was shown to be more productive than other holdings round about the people would not be slow to follow the example. I was discussing this point the other day with a number of tenants, and after we had talked it over for some time, several of them cried out in chorus, "Father, that's the only thing that will ever change the people in this country." In Belgium, priests, after their ordination, get a two years' course in the Agricultural College of the University of Louvaine, and I have it on reliable authority that the excellent agricultural system in Belgium is due, in very great measure, to the enlightened direction given by the clergy. The last remedy I refer to would be collateral industries, and these must follow the settlement of the land question. Undoubtedly the establishment of industries here is a most urgent necessity, and I have it from a gentleman of distinguished business capacity who has carefully studied the subject, that a woollen factory worked on business lines could be made a complete success in the town of Tuam. The tenants in this locality are peaceable; they are looking forward now, with eager, anxious hopes, to the time when they can devote their energies, not to agitation, but to the cultivation and development of their new holdings, and it would be an awful responsibility to dash these hopes and drive them once again into apathy and despair.

56155. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—You advocate agricultural improvement. Have you considered whether that system of agricultural improvement should be carried out by the Congested Districts Board or the Department of Agriculture?—I had in my mind some modification or division of labour. Either of them could do it, but I have the general idea in my mind that there should be some unification of the various Boards which are working at present. I think this multiplication of Boards is unstatesmanlike, and one body with various departments would be more likely to do the work and do it better than a number of Boards independent to some extent of one another and with their work overlapping. I would not mind what Board did the work provided it was taken up and done effectually, as any of the Boards at present could do it.

56156. You have a knowledge of the procedure both of the Congested Districts Board and the Department of Agriculture?—I have some idea.

56157. Would you think that the result you contemplate would be better produced by concentrating

the work in the Congested Districts Board or in the Department of Agriculture with such adjustment as would be necessary?—I rather think it would be more in the line of the Agricultural Department to give instruction in this way. I think it is the work they are doing at present, and it is more suitable work for them than for the Congested Districts Board.

56158. Are you authorised to express the opinion of the Archbishop on that particular point?—I am not authorised to state any opinions for him at all.

56159. You are aware that the Department has taken over the agricultural work formerly done in congested districts by the Congested Districts Board?—Yes.

56160. And that the Congested Districts Board have now nothing to do with such work?—Yes.

56161. Your view is that that work should be followed by the Department on existing lines?—Yes.

56162. If that is so where is the necessity for co-ordination which you seem to foreshadow—where is there any clashing between the boards?—I do not say there is any clashing in the matter of instruction, but there is in other respects in the purchase and development of land.

56163. As regards agricultural instruction and development, there is at present no clashing?—Not to any extent.

56164. Is it your view that agricultural instruction and development are carried out as thoroughly as they should be?—Oh, certainly not.

56165. What, in your view, is the reason they are not?—Well, the Department has not the resources.

56166. In other words, more money is required?—Yes, and all that more money will produce, such as an additional staff, working out ideas, such as the example of model holdings.

56167. Then it comes to this, that the difficulty at the present moment is not one of machinery, but merely a question of money. You want more money?—I certainly think the two difficulties go together; because if you have not sufficient money you will not have sufficient machinery. With more money the machinery could be obtained, and it would work out more universally and rapidly.

56168. By machinery you mean the staff?—Yes. I should say the money is the chief difficulty.

56169. Now I will take you one step further. Do you see the necessity for agricultural instruction and development being closely allied to the work of improving the holdings?—Yes; I think it would be very desirable that it should be closely allied.

56170. If the Congested Districts Board are to be endowed with powers, or if the powers which it at present possesses are to be retained for developing holdings which may be bought, don't you see the great necessity that there should be close alliance between the men who have carried out that agricultural development and improvement and the men who will carry it out afterwards?—Certainly; that is my point. I had that in my mind when I suggested more co-ordination and unification.

56171. Does it mean, therefore, that if the Congested Districts Board are to be the body who in the future will improve and develop holdings, that they should have a large say at any rate in the schemes for agricultural instruction and development which may be initiated by the Department of Agriculture?—I have no objection at all to that conclusion—not the slightest.

56172. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You are very anxious that the transfer of land, its distribution and rearrangement should take place as speedily as is practically possible?—Yes.

56173. And I understood you to say that the owners of land, when the price is being fixed, should be secured their net income?—That is my view.

56174. And, of course, net income means, not gross, but the amount the landlord is free to put in his pocket after discharging all obligations on the estate?—Yes; quite so.

56175. Further on in your evidence you said you were an advocate for modified compulsion?—Yes.

56176. Do you mean by modified compulsion that the landlord who will not accept net income as the basis of purchase should be compelled to do so?—No; my idea was that compulsion should be first used in regard to the grazing lands held on the eleven months' system, and that in purchasing these lands the basis of purchase should be net income.

56177. Let me, in order to clearly understand that, take a case of grazing lands?—The idea I have is that I would not apply compulsion all round. I would not compel a landlord to sell his whole estate. If he had grazing lands on the estate they should be acquired first, and perhaps that would be sufficient to relieve congestion. If it was not, then I would apply compulsion all round.

56178. Now, take the case of grazing lands, and suppose that the landlord can show that during a period of ten, twelve, or fifteen years he has been in receipt, after deducting all outgoings, of a certain income from his land, you would take that income as the basis on which the land should be acquired?—Yes; but I draw attention to the fact that in making investments the landlord is now in a better position than some five or six years ago, and I would not necessarily give him that net income out of Consols for example. I think he should take chance in investing in something other than Consols.

56179. Quite so; but you are aware that if the land is held by a limited owner he is not a free agent to deal with his investments?—Yes.

56180. And that the Land Act of 1903 extended the area over which he could spread his investments by including certain special investments?—Yes.

56181. Then you think that a limited owner, taking all these investments together at the price at which they stood, should receive his net income out of the money invested?—I should say so.

56182. What you mean by modified compulsion is that you would apply it if the landlord would not sell his land on the basis of net income?—Yes; quite so.

56183. You advocate the establishment of woollen industries in this town?—Yes.

56184. Are you influenced in that advocacy by the fact of it being a sheep country?—Partly; but to a great extent by the fact that I see industries of a similar kind flourishing in Galway, and we have facilities here for making it a success, at least as good as they have in Galway, and also in Athlone.

56185. Now, if the sheep grazing lands were divided up, do you think there would be as many sheep?—Perhaps there would not be quite so many. I rather think there would not.

56186. Therefore in the establishment of a woollen factory here the fact would have to be borne in mind that if the land policy were successful the number of sheep to supply the factory with wool would be a diminishing quantity?—Yes; but at the same time I do not think that would militate against the success of the woollen factory, because although the sheep would diminish to a certain extent, there would be still quite enough available to keep a factory here well supplied. In Galway at present the area round there is certainly not as sheep producing as here, and, even with the division of lands here, we would still have more abundant wool than in Galway, and I believe such a factory could be made a success.

56187. Do you go so far as to say that the prospective attractions of successfully establishing the woollen industry here are not sufficient to draw private capital, and that therefore it is the business of some public authority to find the money to start such an industry?—No; that is not my idea. I would not go so far. I think it is rather a pity that private capital would not be used for the purpose of establishing industries here, and I attribute that to the fact that there are no industries in the country, and no tendency to devote capital in that direction.

56188. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You said you would be in favour of compulsion so far as the acquisition of grass lands is concerned?—Yes.

56189. Am I to infer you would limit compulsion to the acquisition of grass lands and would not ask for it in the case of tenanted estates?—My view is that I am inclined to think that if compulsion is used for grass lands there could be sufficient grass land acquired in this district, or perhaps within the province, to relieve congestion, and scarcely more than that form of compulsion would be required.

56190. But you could not utilise these grass lands until you had become possessed of the estate of which they formed part?—Yes.

56191. That is a condition precedent to acquiring them?—Yes.

56192. Do you consider it at all necessary with a view to acquiring estates that you should consider compulsory powers necessary?—When I mentioned the fact of compulsion I was contemplating a source of supply for providing economic holdings. I was not looking at it in the wider sense of purchasing a whole estate in order to migrate people from it.

Sept. 26, 1907.

Very Rev. Canon Macken.

56193. Now that you see it capable of further extension are you disposed to say anything?—I should modify my view.

56194. How?—I think it should be more widely extended to acquiring estates to which people were to be migrated.

56195. Mr. O'Kelly.—You heard the evidence of Mr. Glynn?—Yes.

56196. Do you agree with him when he said there ought to be one purchasing authority?—My view on that point would be that if there are two purchasing authorities and the competition brought down the price of land, then there should be two.

56197. Mr. Glynn's evidence went to suggest that there should only be one purchasing authority, as they seemed able to purchase land cheaper than the other. If that is so, would you also favour one purchasing authority?—The view I have expressed already would be a sufficient answer to that. If two purchasing authorities did not have the effect of reducing the price of land I certainly should not have two.

56198. Don't you think competition will enhance the price of land. For instance, a man may try one authority and then go to the other?—There is that difficulty, but the tendency among these rival departments is to purchase as cheaply as possible. The rivalry is in that direction just now. I know, as far as County Galway is concerned, that the Estates Commissioners have purchased land more cheaply than the Congested Districts Board. That came out in Commissioner Finucane's evidence when he said the Estates Commissioners purchased at 25·5 per cent. of the valuation as against 28 per cent. by the Congested Districts Board, but it must I think be said on behalf of the Board that they are more limited in their scope for purchasing. For instance, they always try to get an estate near a congested district, whereas the Estates Commissioners can roam abroad more freely and offer a price which if not accepted they say no more about.

56199. Have you considered the wisdom of having only one purchasing authority?—I have thought it over.

56200. What conclusion have you arrived at?—My view would be one responsible authority should have the purchasing in their own hands.

56201. As between the Estates Commissioners and the Congested Districts Board, which of these two authorities would you have?—I would simply unify the four Departments at work at present, and have one body, call it whichever you like.

56202. Now from your experience of the two bodies which of them would you favour being the purchasing authority?—As to that, my experience is rather limited, but you have in favour of one body Sir Antony MacDonnell, and in favour of the other Dr. O'Donnell, and I think you can follow either with perfect safety.

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—We are endeavouring to find out evidence on which we may be able to form an opinion.

56203. Mr. O'Kelly.—Now, supposing you were driven to select the best purchasing and distributing authority, which of the two bodies would you select?—I would be in favour of one purchasing authority.

56204. Then which of the two would you prefer?—I think I have answered that question already.

56205. I do not think so; I want you to say either the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board?—Well, there is the fact that the Estates Commissioners purchase more cheaply in Galway than the Congested Districts Board, and for that reason landlords are in favour of the Board. You heard Mr. Armstrong's praise of the Board as a purchasing authority, but as the question affects the poor people in Ireland and this Commission is held in order to relieve congestion and put the people in an economic position—looking at it from that point of view, with these facts before me, and having regard to all I know, I would say the Estates Commissioners are the best purchasing authority at present

56206. We have it you would be in favour of the Estates Commissioners?—Yes.

56207. Then you were asked whether you would favour the educational development of the tenants and so forth?—The new holdings should be turned to the best possible account.

56208. I understand you to favour the Department of Agriculture?—I said I had no distinct objection to the Congested Districts Board doing the instructions, but that my view would be to have these four Departments one body.

56209. You say as between the two bodies you would entrust the work of technical and agricultural education to the Department of Agriculture?—If there is to be no other modification.

56210. First you desire the Estates Commissioners to have purchasing power; then the Department of Agriculture is to have improvement power. This would divide the functions of the Congested Districts Board, so that the sum total of your evidence would be the abolition of the Congested Districts Board altogether?—No; I have stated again and again to have one body with these various powers instead of a multiplication of departments or boards. Your whole course of examination seems to assume that the present state will continue to exist, and I have to give an answer on that assumption, whereas my opinion is that there should be unification and division of labour.

56211. You say you would apply compulsion to grass land held on the eleven months' system?—Yes, I started with that, and modified that view afterwards.

56212. You have no objection to apply compulsion to land held under the twelve months' system?—Not if necessary to supply economic holdings.

56213. You are aware, of course, that if all the land in the country were applied at present it would not be adequate?—I am not sure of that. It was on the assumption that it would that I spoke. If it was not sufficient, then compulsory powers should be extended. Even on the assumption that it would be sufficient, they should be extended.

56214. Mr. Sutherland.—You say that the power of compulsion is necessary in the case of grass lands?—I should say it might be.

56215. You desire to acquire grass lands to make new holdings?—Yes.

56216. Under what conditions are these grass lands held usually at present?—They are held on the eleven months' system, and given to graziers.

56217. What is about the average rent per acre at which that land is held throughout this province?—It is variable.

56218. Do you know any cases?—I know one farm on Mr. Day's estate that is let at £2 an Irish acre. It is an exceptionally good farm.

56219. Do you know any tenanted land of the same quality?—I don't know any land held by tenants at that price.

56220. What is the average judicial second term rent of the agricultural tenanted land beside that grass land?—Beside that land the land which the tenant possesses is notoriously inferior to that land, because for ever so many years the old custom was to put the tenants on the boggy portions.

56221. But, notwithstanding that it is, of course, the same quality, what is the rent?—I don't know the figures exactly, but I should not say it was more than £1 5*s*.

56222. Judicial rent?—No; it was not judicial rent. The landlord gave voluntary reductions. They accepted that. On that particular estate the landlord seems to have treated them very kindly.

56223. I want to ascertain the difference between the two rents?—I am told that the tenants' rent is about £1 an acre.

56224. You consent to the proposition that landlords should get such a sum of money as would give them their net income?—Yes.

56225. Suppose that the rent was £2 10*s*., would he get that?—Yes.

56226. You acquire that land with that burden for the purpose of selling it. Are you to charge these tenants £2 10*s*. per acre?—I should not do that if it was likely to impose a burden on them which would prevent them from thriving. What you are coming to is where the difference is to be made up between the landlord's net income and what the tenants can pay.

56227. Yes; who is to make up the income?—I should say the Imperial Treasury.

56228. You have given us a very large difference between the two rents?—As I explained, the land was ever so much inferior in quality. That has to be taken into consideration.

56229. Don't you see the huge chasm that has to be bridged?—There is no such chasm.

56230. Would you commit yourself to giving such

a sum as if invested would give them their net income, if you are committed to extract that from the tenants? I am very clear on two points—1st, the landlord ought to get his net income. I will stand by that. 2nd, that the tenant should be put on an economic basis. Bearing these two things in mind, if the bridge is to be built let the State do it.

56231. Have you formed any idea of what the difference would be?—I don't think the difference would be much at all.

56232. The difference between the two rents which you have given us is 100 per cent. Do you expect the State to supply that much?—No. But I don't expect the tenants will get the good grazing land at the same price as they have the other lands at now. They will have to pay very much more for this other land, which is, perhaps, twice as good in quality as what they have.

56233. Mr. KAVANAGH.—The £2 grazing rent is the gross income?—Yes.

56234. You have to deduct taxes, herding, and such like from that?—Quite so.

56235. Consequently it is not the net income?—Certainly not.

56236. Nobody suggests that the landlord should get his gross income?—No.

56237. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—How much would the reduction amount to?—I think, as a general rule, it is not put high enough. It would amount to about twenty or twenty-five per cent.

56238. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You alluded to the finances of the Act of 1903. Did you specify anything that has occurred to you for remedying the financial arrangements as to the issue of stock?—It should be put on a basis which would send land stock up to about £100. That would be about three per cent.

56239. And there would be less of a discount falling upon the country?—Yes. It is anomalous that, with Land Stock bearing 2¾ per cent., and Consols 2½ per cent., and the same security for both, the prices are almost equal. The difference in price should be in proportion to the difference in interest.

56240. Is it in Tuam that you suggest the woollen factory?—Yes.

56241. There would be a good population of girls to work in a woollen factory?—Yes.

56242. Have the people who have that idea in this neighbourhood applied to the Department to aid them in giving effect to the project?—No. The idea seemed to be that if you had a regular company under business management, without any external aid it could be made a paying concern. The feeling seemed to be not to have any aid such as was given in the Foxford case.

56243. Even if the class of aid given in the Foxford case were given you would not think it objectionable?—No; on the contrary, I think it desirable; but the feeling here is so strongly in favour of it that I think it would pay in the way I am saying.

56244. About the county schemes and the agricultural work administered by the County Committees, of course it would be a retrograde step to take that from under the Committees?—I should not be in favour of taking it from the Committees.

56245. They are popularly appointed?—Yes.

56246. Still, in the congested areas, for the relief of congestion, supplemental schemes would be required in addition to what the County Committees can finance?—Certainly.

56247. The body dealing with congestion then should find the money for that?—Decidedly.

56248. I suppose it should have a big voice in these supplemental schemes?—Certainly.

56249. Do you think it would pass the art of man to give the Congested Districts Board dealing with these supplemental schemes and the County Committee and the Department, through the County Committee, a voice in arranging these schemes?—I think it could be arranged.

56250. For the congested areas?—Yes.

56251. The schemes will be specially necessary for the poor areas?—Yes.

56252. You don't think, under the ordinary finances of the county it is possible to give the poor areas all the help they want?—Certainly I do not.

56253. Would not you think that the poor areas require three times as much public help as the other areas?—I have not figured it out, but it would require considerably more.

56254. In this rural district how many divisions are scheduled?—In Tuam Union altogether only four.

56255. I suppose there is very little room for the operations of the Congested Districts Board?—Very little room.

56256. That is to say under the scheduling rule to which the Board has had to submit?—Very little.

56257. You told the Commission that outside these areas there were poor districts in other divisions that required the same class of treatment?—Certainly.

56258. Therefore the statement that the Estates Commissioners have bought more largely than the Congested Districts Board would naturally impress people?—Yes. I say, however, that the Congested Districts Board does not seem to have so free a hand, or did not allow themselves to become the purchasers of estates near the congested areas, which would be most useful for their purposes.

56259. They were tied in that respect?—Yes.

56260. You said that in the County Galway, as far as you could recollect Mr. Finucane's evidence, there was a considerable difference between the price paid by the Board for untenanted land and the price paid by the Estates Commissioners?—Yes.

56261. Do you recollect from the evidence which we have had what the difference is between the price paid all over the country for untenanted land by the Board and the Commissioners?—No; I don't know that.

56262. Probably Mr. Stuart could tell us after a while?—I am thinking of Galway.

56263. All over the country we have it, but it is much less than you indicate for the County Galway. You yourself suggest what might possibly be the explanation of that, that the Board bought for the poorest people, for whom it was practically under compulsion to find land if it was to remedy congestion?—Yes, I meant that as an explanation.

56264. All the same, I think whatever the motive may be, your own observation leads you to prefer the Estates Commissioners as the purchasing authority?—I am looking at the facts that came before me in this neighbourhood. I confine myself to them.

56265. Under your observation the purchases of the Commissioners have been cheaper?—Yes. I knew the facts about the County Galway generally; and then there is the general feeling that landlords prefer the Congested Districts Board to buy.

56266. That gives rise to the supposition that the Commissioners are better?—Yes. Mr. Armstrong's evidence rather reminds me of O'Connell and the *Times*. When praised by the *Times* he asked himself what had he done wrong, and when one hears landlords praise the Board one asks what has the Board done wrong.

56267. Suppose the Estates Commissioners bought the land who would improve it? Would the purchasing authority be the improving body?—I think it might be.

56268. Let us put aside the Board and the Commissioners. Do you think it better that the purchasing authority should be the improving authority?—I would be inclined to think so. I have no very strong views on that point.

56269. I have very strong views. I think that the purchasing authority should be the improving authority?—Merely on the principle that I laid down already—have the one Board managing the whole thing.

56270. On that principle unless you make the Congested Districts Board the purchasing authority in Connaught, the Estates Commissioners would have to rearrange the properties situate in West Galway and in the poorest parts of the country?—Yes. That would be the necessary consequence.

56271. Have they done any of that class of work up to this?—I believe they have not; and I think the work of the Estates Commissioners, as it goes on at present, has a tendency to frustrate the object of the Congested Districts Board, for the simple reason that they are purchasing estates and giving those estates to the tenants and sons of tenants round about, and not using them for the relief of congestion. There are estates which by-and-bye should come into the work of the Congested Districts Board, and now they are getting out of their hands for ever.

56272. If the Congested Districts Board is not the purchasing authority for Connaught, it would be necessary for the Estates Commissioners to do the rearranging work in the relief of congestion?—Yes.

56273. By migrating these men?—Yes.

Sept. 26, 1907.

Very Rev Canon Macken

56274. Up to this they have not been doing that at all, but they have been doing something different?—Yes.

56275. They have been doing good work improving the holdings of people who are a little better off and giving some holdings to sons of tenants?—Yes.

56276. And relieving congestion which is often very acute on their own estates and on the margin?—Quite so.

56277. Do you see any objection to the Estates Commissioners being the purchasing authority out of Connaught and the Congested Districts Board the purchasing authority in Connaught?—Not a bit: that is having in mind we would have sufficient land in Connaught to relieve congestion in Connaught.

56278. If in those circumstances the Board operated outside of Connaught it should act through the Estates Commissioners?—Yes.

56279. That would prevent competition?—Yes.

56280. You could give this explanation quite as clearly in the Irish language as in English if we could receive it from you?—Yes, and as you have mentioned that point, I think that the migration of people for the relief of congestion would have the effect of spreading Irish.

56281. Do you think it would be a good thing if agricultural training began in National schools?—Yes, decidedly.

56282. CHAIRMAN.—I take it from your general evidence in your view the policy of purchase is a very desirable one to continue?—Yes.

56283. In your view the State should take every means to facilitate and encourage that policy?—Yes.

56284. Is it your view that while encouraging that policy the State should take steps to see that no individual or class of individuals suffers by the transaction?—Yes, I should say that on general principles whenever the community generally has to be improved it should not be done at the expense of any small section of the community or any individual.

56285. In other words, that the State has no right to use its power and influence to inflict hardships on any class of individuals?—Certainly. I hold that view.

56286. If it became necessary for the State in prosecuting a policy of purchase to endow the authority entrusted with that work with compulsory powers, it would be your view that the compulsory powers should not leave a man who is compelled to sell his land in any worse position that he was before?—Certainly.

56287. Mr. Sutherland asked some question about the rental. You told us, I think, of some poor land that was rented at £1 an acre? Yes.

56288. That was land which I take it people had in old days been compelled to occupy?—Yes.

56289. Some way off there was better land which was let to graziers or other people at £2 an acre?—Yes.

56290. Mr. Sutherland asked you a question to elicit your opinion as to what would be the result, if land of that character were sold, how it could be re-sold to tenants at a price which would give them any possibility of prospering, if land in the vicinity were let at £1 an acre; but, as a matter of fact, is it possible to compare the rental of the two sorts of land?—Quite impossible.

56291. The land varies so in character that it is quite impossible?—Quite impossible. There is ever so much difference.

56292. Is not it impossible to expect that land of a good quality can pass to a purchaser whoever he may be at the same price as land of a bad quality?—Certainly.

56293. Mr. Kavanagh pointed out that certain deductions had to be made from the land at £2 an acre to get the net income; but is there not a further deduction to be made in the case of the poor land which is tenanted, not by judicial tenants but by people who occupy positions similar to judicial tenants?—Yes.

56294. That land is roughly land at £1 an acre that is rented?—Yes.

56295. That land does more than produce the £1 an acre. It also produces what the actual tenant lives upon?—Yes.

56296. The cost of his living?—Quite so.

56297. So that has to be added in estimating what that land returns?—Yes.

56298. That has to be added to the amount of rent in estimating the produce?—Yes.

56299. Take the £2 land; there is a tenant on it also?—Yes.

56300. In that case you also have a tenant there?—It is grazing. It is on the eleven months' system, and we don't know how much profit the grazing tenant may be carrying from it. He is not depending on that exclusively.

56301. That is an additional reason why it is almost impossible to compare the two?—Quite so.

56302. I was very much interested in what you said about the agricultural college in Louvain University. I take it that in your opinion it would be a great advantage in many rural districts in Ireland if the priests were given, before they entered their mission, some kind of agricultural training?—Yes.

56303. Is it your opinion that in many of these out of the way districts there is practically nobody for the people to appeal to for advice except the priests?—It is.

56304. Agriculture is their chief source of living?—It is.

56305. Therefore if instruction in agriculture is necessary under present circumstances, it is very difficult for them to find any men of education and intelligence to turn to?—Very difficult at present.

56306. If the parish priest had in addition to his other education some knowledge of agricultural science that would supply the needs which are now lacking?—It would to a great extent.

56307. Do you think that a course of that kind should be added to the course at Maynooth?—That is a matter to which Dr. O'Donnell would have something to say in another capacity. It has worked admirably in Louvain. I don't see why it should not work well in this country. It is an additional course of two years after ordination before they go out to work in the country districts on the mission.

56308. I suppose that whether it was given before or after ordination would not matter?—No.

Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Would that be a form of pastoral theology?

56310. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Am I right in saying that judicial rent fixation commenced for the first time under the Act of 1881?—Yes.

56311. At that time the Act applied both to tillage land and pastoral land in the possession of present tenants?—Yes.

56312. During the operation of that Act from then until now, the rent on the tillage land and the pastoral land has been successively reduced?—Yes; not always.

56313. The case of pastoral land. The very example I have alluded to shows that it does not always happen. It was not reduced on that farm, but I know it is the general rule.

56314. Is that the general rule that reductions have been given on pastoral farms as well as on tillage farms?—Yes.

56315. Certain pastoral lands have been excluded from the rent fixing process by reason of the device of the eleven months' system?—Yes.

56316. Therefore you have pastoral lands of the same quality the rents of which have been reduced?—Yes.

56317. While pastoral lands of the same quality have remained with their rent unaltered?—Yes.

56318. These two valuations are different?—Quite so.

56319. Do you think ought the landlord to get a price fixed upon the net income of the pasture land which has been reduced?—That is difficult. If compulsion were adopted I think it would amount practically to a hardship not to give him his net income on the pasture land. On the other hand, I hold it is inequitable that the rent on the pasture land was not reduced, so that his net income should be the same from pasture land as from the other, and that it was inequitable that the difference should be made up by the State. I hold that even on that the landlord ought to get his net income.

56320. From the pasture lands?—Seeing that it is the law still. I think that law was inequitable and ought to have been altered long ago, but as the State is responsible for that it should make up the difference.

56321. But I suppose you will concede this point, that it is not possible to place on an agricultural tenant who would use that land not for pasture but for agriculture, an annuity calculated upon the net income of the land?—Certainly. I think that would not be fair.

56322. He would not be able to meet it?—Yes.

56323. And the difference ought to fall on the State?—Yes.

56324. In the shape of an additional bonus?—Yes.

56325. You expressed a preference for purchase by the Estates Commissioners?—I did, after great pressure.

56326. Don't you think it possible that land purchase everywhere might be effected by the Estates Commissioners, and that purchased estates may be made over to the Congested Districts Board for the purpose of subsequent improvement to which his lordship the Bishop refers?—Certainly. I think that that would be possible.

56327. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I understand you accept the doctrine that the owner of purchased property, by whatever agency it may be acquired, ought to get his net income?—Yes.

56328. If that was the case, and that principle were adopted, and assuming that both the Congested Districts Board and the Estates Commissioners were the purchasing power in the congested districts, as there is a fixed standard, does it matter a button from the point of view of price which of them buys?—I was having in mind the fact of compulsion; but there is another important element which enters here. It is this. If the landlord sticks to his land and does not sell, now that we have judicial rents to be fixed, I think it extremely probable, having regard to the importation of live stock, that rent will be lowered. That is an element which should be considered by the landlord. It ought to be an inducement to him to sell even though he would not get that net income from gilt-edged securities.

56329. You were rather in favour of the Estates Commissioners being the purchasing authority in congested districts. How does either of these questions, my point and your point, really affect the question of price if a fixed standard were established?—The object I had in my mind was that the lands should be acquired as cheaply as possible in order to relieve congestion, and I was not considering the land from the point of view of supplying the net income, because, certainly, I think it ought to be bought as cheaply as possible.

56330. But you say that if the land is required and the landlord does not sell voluntarily, there is to be compulsory powers?—Yes.

56331. And you agree to the doctrine that if compulsory powers are to be exercised the landlord should get his net income—Yes.

56332. If the landlord is asked to sell voluntarily, and either the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board offer a price that he says would not yield his net income, would not he say: "If you apply compulsion to me, I must get my net income"?—The landlord must understand that selling land now he would be in a better position than by and by when he got what he regarded as his net income on a reduced rental.

Rev. MARK EAGLETON examined.

56333. CHAIRMAN.—Kindly state what you wish to bring before the Commission?—As I have a practical knowledge of agriculture it is not necessary for me to go to Louvain or any of these colleges. I have set a practical example to my parishioners in this respect. For instance, by draining I have produced very good crops on what had been very cold land, lately, in the parish in which I am at present.

56334. You have had a lot of experience of small holders?—Yes, for the last thirty years.

56335. In your opinion are they more indebted to the shopkeepers now than they used to be?—They are indebted to them unquestionably, perhaps not as much as they used to be.

56336. Is that speaking generally of the congested areas?—Speaking generally they are indebted to them very much. Certainly I would not subscribe to the opinions of some that the shopkeepers as a rule are charging what is called gombeen prices. No doubt they charge for goods lent for a long time, as must be the case dealing with poor people, interest more than the bank interest, but I would not say it is gombeen interest. I know cases of landlords having shops. I would not like to be a tenant in that case, because I should pay my rent and leave all my crops to the landlord at whatever price he liked to name.

56337. Do you know any case in which the system of credit could be mitigated?—I think by a little thrift and industry, and living more on the substantial food that the people were accustomed to live on years ago, and not so much on the bad poor things that they are accustomed to get—bad teas, bad flour, and such stuffs.

56338. What is the great difference in the habits of the people as regards their food?—They drink tea very much, and very little milk. Some people have no milk at all.

56339. What did they drink in the old days?—They lived very much on oatmeal.

56340. What did they drink?—Milk whenever practicable. They did not drink tea

56341. Has the habit of drinking tea increased?—Yes, considerably.

56342. Has it replaced any other kind of beverage?—They used to make gruel.

56343. They did not drink that?—Yes; that was a substitute, to some extent, for meat and drink.

56344. You tell us there has been a change in diet. I want to know what that change has been?—It was very much from the fact of using their own bread, oaten bread, and they subsisted very much on potatoes. They did not drink as much tea as now.

56345. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It is very much tea and flour now?—Yes.

56346. They used to grow their own wheat and grind it?—Yes, very often.

56347. CHAIRMAN.—Is the wheat which they are now able to import cheaper than the wheat which they used to grow and grind?—The wheat is not grown so much now.

56348. Is that because the wheat which they can import is cheaper than the wheat they can grow?—The class of land they have to deal with now is not capable of producing a wheat crop.

56349. What is your view about the Congested Districts Board?—I have not much to do with them. There is only one congested area in my parish, the Belclare Division, and all they have done for me is to migrate five or six of my people to a neighbouring parish. But if they have, they have benefited their condition very much; and these people were migrated with the consent and advice of myself and my co-operator. We strongly advised them to go. They had some hesitation about leaving, although they were going to get more land, better land, better homes, and all that. Still they did not like to break up their old homes and old associations. Except they were going merely a short distance they hardly would have gone, even to better places; but they did go, and we advised them to go.

56350. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You think that would be the general attitude of the priests: that they would encourage them to go to better holdings?—Surely. Of course you might get one person an exception to the general body.

56351. CHAIRMAN.—Are those who have migrated succeeding all right?—Certainly. It could not be otherwise. They have got very fine holdings of land.

56352. Were the holdings which the migrants now occupy arranged for by the Board or by the Estates Commissioners?—By the Board.

56353. Is there any complaint about the annuity?—No; I don't think there is. I think in this case the takes are pretty cheap considering the houses and the quality of the land, but at the same time I have no hesitation in declaring, as far as I am individually concerned, because of the great knowledge I have of the working of the Estates Commissioners, that I am partial towards them. They have done wonderful work in my parish. The first estate purchased in all Ireland was purchased in my parish, the Bodkin Estate. That is not the one you were talking about a while ago, but the Bodkin Estate at Annaghhill. It was the first estate in Ireland bought under the Act of 1903, and the whole estate was bought, and, I believe, on terms that were satisfactory to both the tenants and the landlord, though the landlord expected a little more, and was pulled down a bit.

56354. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do I understand that in your parish the majority are now annuitants?—Yes.

56355. Your observation is that the fact of the

Sept. 26, 1907.

Rev. Mark Bagleton

tenants becoming owners leads to more industry, enterprise and desire for improvement?—Yes.

56356. Therefore, you advocate by all reasonable means pushing on matters for the relief of congestion so as to put the people who have no chance of anything now in a position of having better prospects in the future?—Certainly; and I have seen in another estate purchased in my parish the most extraordinary examples of industry that could be imagined. The Smith Estate was sold to the Estates Commissioners on most satisfactory terms. There were 1,700 acres, 1,200 of which were rich grass lands, farmed by the landlords, while the remainder were in the hands of the tenants. All the tenants with uneconomic holdings got pieces of land, and on the neighbouring estate, where they were very poor, the sons of tenants got them, and some were taken from other parishes and brought in; and roads were made on the estate and loans were given to the tenants, who had a great many walls to make, and the walls and fences rose up like magic. They got the land in May. They had the turf to cut, and the potatoes to mould, and so on, and in an incredibly short time they had the walls and fences made, and actually people from the adjoining property who got land went to work on the road to earn the 2s. a day or 4s. 6d. with their cart, and did their home work on their farms in the mornings and evenings. It was an example of industry the like of which I did not see for the last thirty years, and I feel strongly that in Ireland the bulk of the people will compete with any people in the world in the way of industry when they get a chance.

56357. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—All the work of improvement to which you call attention has been done under the auspices of the Estates Commissioners?—Yes.

56357A. I notice you desire to be most complimentary to the work which the Estates Commissioners have done?—Certainly; I could not be too complimentary.

56358. Have the Estates Commissioners in any of that work made improvements?—They have, in the way of making roads, and in the way of giving small loans for the purpose of building walls where there were a number of walls to be built, and also in some instances in which new holdings were created, grants of from £30 to £50 were made to do necessary works.

56359. The policy was to stimulate the people themselves to carry out improvements?—Quite so.

56360. By giving them small assistance?—Yes.

56361. Did you find in every case you can call to mind that the people responded?—Remarkably so.

56362. You have no adverse criticism to make on the policy which the Estates Commissioners pursue?—On the contrary, no words which I could use could express my admiration.

56363. You have no experience of the work of the Congested Districts Board?—Scarcely; but I heard a great deal.

56364. As you have no personal experience I won't ask you any questions?—I could give particulars as to sales effected under the Ashbourne Act. These sales in different places where I was averaged not more than from 13 to 17 and 18 years' purchase. On these two estates, which I consider were bought on very favourable terms, the average on the first term rental on the Bodkin Estate was something like 18 or 19 years' purchase, and on the Smith Estate, where there was one of the best landlords I ever saw, it was 20 years on the valuation; but on other estates the landlords are expecting too much entirely. There are even some in my parish to whom compulsion must be brought to apply, and some of the very richest landlords in the province will hold out to the very last, so that is the great difference between the prices paid under the Ashbourne Act and the prices paid under the Act of 1903, even by the Estates Commissioners.

56365. CHAIRMAN.—When you speak of the sales under the Ashbourne Act, am I not right in supposing that the landlords in these cases were paid in stock and not in cash?—Yes.

56366. Do you know at what price the stock stood?—I cannot say.

56367. Would not it make a great deal of difference if the stock stood above par.?—Of course it would.

56368. Therefore, it is hardly a true comparison to compare the number of years' purchase on a basis of that kind with the number of years' purchase on a totally different basis?—It is not perfectly fair, but the difference in the number of years' purchase seems extraordinary.

56369. Unless you know all the facts of the case, and what exactly the money was, it is very difficult to make a comparison?—I readily concede that. As to the net rents, I would be very glad to see the landlords get their net rents; but I must candidly say it would be too much to expect, because the grass lands are a depreciating quantity, and in my parish at present I know a farm of land that was paying over £800 rent some 25 years ago, and is now let for less than £400. I know another property in which the land was let at £2 15s. an acre 20 years ago, and last year it was let at £1 10s. Another farm was let 30 years ago at £150, and is now let at £45. So we have to take account of this depreciation, which is likely to be the case in future. There is no stability about what the rent of lands should be, and it is too much really for landlords to expect the net rent of grass farms when that net rent is by no means secure, and is likely to become greatly depreciated. If it can be given to them I would have no objection.

Rev. JAMES CURRAN examined.

Rev. James Curran

56370. CHAIRMAN.—You are a member of the County Committee of Agriculture?—Yes. One of the points which I wish to bring before the Commission is the necessity of having all districts scheduled, leaving out the valuation of grazing farms and demesnes. There are in the parish of Abbey, from which I come, over 300 families under £5 valuation, over 100 families of about £8 valuation, and fifty families over £10. In that parish there are over 12,000 acres of grass lands. The Congested Districts Board have bought two estates—the Cooloo and the Tighe estates. They have done a great deal of good work in distributing the lands on the Cooloo Estate and enlarging all the holdings on the Tighe Estate, except one holding of thirty acres. But near those are two very small estates with holdings of an average of £2 valuation, and it is a great hardship on the people on these estates to be shut out from the benefits of the Congested Districts Board because their district has not been scheduled. There is one village called Feagh, which contains fifty-two houses. Only one family has a valuation over £5. All the other families are under £5. To the west of these holdings is a farm of 700 acres farmed by a man living in the Province of Leinster, and to the east there is grazing land to the extent of 1,100 acres; and one of the inspectors of the Estates Commissioners who had been arranging for purchase there told me he did not see anything so congested this side of Spiddal. That shows the necessity of having districts scheduled, not taking into account the valuation of grazing farms or demesne lands. The same thing may be said of other places in the division. There are nine townlands in the electoral division of Abbey East. In seven of these townlands there are no people. In two of these the people are huddled together. These are not scheduled, because in the same electoral division there are some thousands of acres of grazing land. Forty-six of the tenants are under £5, and only one man is valued up to £10 in the whole electoral division. All the tenants are on two townlands. There are 4,000 acres of grass lands near them, and these were taken into account in making calculations for scheduling the districts.

56371. The presence of those 4,000 acres of grazing land prevented the district from being scheduled?—Yes; that is what I wish to impress on the Commission.

56372. So the remedy is near at hand if there were powers to take up the grazing lands?—Yes. Then two landlords in the place expressed their willingness to sell to the Congested Districts Board. One of them died, and his representative is not in a position to sell. I asked the Board to try to get the Court of Chancery to sell, and they told me that the landlord was not willing. The landlord was in the asylum. He was not able to answer the letter.

56373. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Is there any remedy?—I am sure the Court of Chancery would sell. In the whole parish there are over 12,000 acres of grazing lands. The Congested Districts Board has

been approached, and the Estates Commissioners have been approached, with regard to the purchase of these. I brought an inspector from the Department of Agriculture to see them. We have a few factories, and wanted some help both from the Congested Districts Board and the Department of Agriculture, and the answer in both cases was—No money.

56374. What factories are they?—We have a woollen factory on a small scale, corn mills and a saw mill.

56375. Is it in a congested area?—It is not in a scheduled congested area. We have also a small timber factory started lately. They cut timber and make egg boxes, gates, carts, fences and feeding troughs for cattle and palings.

56376. Is there a good supply of timber in the district?—Plenty of timber. The Congested Districts Board bought the Cooloo Estate and sold the timber. It cost 12*s.* 6*d.* a ton to bring it to Galway. If we wanted the timber back again it would cost another 12*s.* 6*d.*, which would be £1 5*s.* for the carriage. That is very costly. In a local factory many things could be done easily if they had not to go for the timber to a distance and pay so much for the carriage of it.

56377. Sir John Colomb.—Is the factory worked by the owner of the wood?—No; there are plenty of woods in the district.

56378. Held by several owners?—Held by the landlords.

56379. This factory that has been established is a saw mill?—Yes. That is nearly all.

56380. The mill owner buys the timber from the landlords?—The mill owner or the owner of the saw benches and steam engine buys some timber and works it himself, or the neighbours go to the wood, buy some timber, and bring it in to be cut. A thing of that kind is very useful in a locality.

56381. How long has it been established?—Half a year.

56382. Is it worked by water power?—No, by steam power. I wanted to get from the Department some of the initial capital to start it, but they did not give it.

56383. Is it doing well?—It is doing very well. We also have two corn factories which grind oats, and Indian corn.

56384. How long have they been established?—One eight years, and the other is in course of establishment.

56385. Is the existing corn mill doing well?—Doing splendidly.

56386. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—These factories have been recently established?—Yes.

56387. It required a great deal of courage and enterprise to get on in that way?—Yes, when we did not get any help.

56388. You are not scheduled, and could not get help from the Congested Districts Board?—Yes. That is what I want to urge on the Commission, the necessity of scheduling these districts. Every congested district in Connaught should be scheduled where, eliminating demesnes and grazing lands, the valuation of the people would entitle them to be scheduled. *Sept.* 26, 1907. Rev. James Curran.

56389. These projects are ones which the Congested Districts Board might help?—Certainly.

56390. Did you apply at all to the County Committee of Agriculture and Industries?—I did.

56391. Have they given any help?—No; they have no money for that purpose. The grants from the Agricultural Department are small, and cannot be availed of. I applied to the Committee, and they voted it, and then I went to the offices in Dublin, and they said they had no funds. Some of the landlords are applying both to the Estates Commissioners and the Congested Districts Board to sell their estates. I think in a district like that which I represent that when notice is sent by a landlord that he is going to sell the Estates Commissioners ought to send one inspector and the Congested Districts Board another, so that if there is water-power or timber or anything like that which would be useful for local industries, then the Congested Districts Board could take up that part of the work, and the Estates Commissioners could do the rest, and purchase the land, and the Department of Agriculture could teach, because it is absurd to teach some of the things that are without the conveniences. In poor districts the houses are bad; there is very bad sanitation, and the yards are bad. If you have a teacher teaching dairying work they cannot carry out her instructions, because they have not got a suitable dairy. If the Congested Districts Board worked in such a district they could give loans of £10 to build suitable dairies apart from the other buildings, repayable in nine or ten years, which would help the people very much in that way. As the district is not scheduled it has not a Parish Committee?—No. We formed it in order to get the grant from the Department. That is all we did. What I say of that poor district refers to several other places all over the union that should be scheduled.

56392. Sir John Colomb.—Whereabouts in the county are there industries established?—About six miles south from here.

56393. Then there has been a good deal of planting in the past by landlords there?—There was plenty of that, but they planted some of the people outside on the bogs, with a valuation of £1 10*s.* They have been selling the timber for years. When a landlord intends to sell his estate he starts cutting down the timber, and he makes as much as he can of it before he gives over the place. I have seen rye grass sown where there was a beautiful plantation some years ago.

56394. What became of the roots of the trees?—They put clay over them and then burned them.

Mr. W. H. Stuart re-examined.*

56395. Chairman.—I believe that you have had brought to your notice the evidence given to the Commission the other day with regard to the Comyns Estate, and that you have some information with regard to that?—Yes. The evidence given before you was not correct. The facts are—Prior to the Act of 1903 the Comyns Estate was offered to the Land Commission, and they sent an inspector who inspected each holding on the estate, and I think that the Land Commission, considering the inspector's report, came to the conclusion that this estate was not worth more than ten years' purchase. They therefore refused to buy the estate. After the Act of 1903 was passed it appears—I don't know whether it was the landlord or who—but they seemed to think that a way out of the difficulty would be for the tenants to give eighteen years' purchase, and accordingly the Estates Commissioners were asked to inspect the estate. I was sent down, and make a preliminary inspection of the estate. It was so bad that I asked the Estates Commissioners to come down themselves to see it. They came down. A number of the tenants stated that they never offered eighteen years' purchase. A number of them stated they were coerced into offering eighteen years' purchase. However, the result was that the Estates Commissioners refused to make an offer, and made no offer for the estate.

56396. Mr. O'Kelly.—Did you meet any of the tenants when you went down there?—I met nearly all the tenants.

56397. Did they tell you they were willing to buy for eighteen years' purchase?—The majority told us they were not. Mr. W. H. Stuart.

56398. Did they speak to you about the zones or anything of the kind?—I don't think they knew what the zones were.

56399. We were told they knew as much about them as the Estates Commissioners?—I don't think they knew what the zones were. In fact we had to have an interpreter.

56400. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—The interpreter would point in the direction of the advisability of learning Irish?—Especially if you go to that district. At Castlebar a witness stated that on the Claremorris Estate the Estates Commissioners had not expended a shilling on improvements. He must have known very little of what he was talking about. Up to the present the Estates Commissioners have laid out £2,713, and of that £2,705 was by way of free grant. There have been several little things of that kind which have not been contradicted, simply because there was nobody to contradict them. Even an official of the Congested Districts Board made a statement which is entirely wrong, and which, if he had taken the trouble to inquire, he could have found out was wrong.

56401. What was it?—At the very commencement it was stated that the Estates Commissioners never re-arranged holdings, never striped land, never migrated tenants, and sold bogs without ever striping them.

* For former examination, see Appendix to the Third Report of the Commission [Cd. 3414, 1907], p. 224.

Sept. 26, 1907.

Mr. W. H. Stuart.

56402. Whom was that stated by?—It was stated by Mr. Doran.

56403. Then you yourself gave evidence that these things were done afterwards?—Yes. Still the same thing goes on. Statements are made every other day. There is hardly a place where you have a bearing but statements are made that are not true.

56404. CHAIRMAN.—If these statements are made, and either one of the Estates Commissioners or an officer of the Estates Commissioners chooses to come before us to point out these things we should be happy to hear them?—I happened to be in the district to-day, and came here.

56405. As you are here I may take advantage of the fact to ask you some questions on points that have arisen. You are chief land inspector of the Estates Commissioners?—Yes, for Connaught.

56406. You have had full experience since the Estates Commissioners began the work under the Act of 1903?—Yes.

56407. With regard to the work done by the Estates Commissioners, and particularly the distribution of land, you are merely working according to instructions?—Yes.

56408. Therefore in asking you the questions which I do, I am assuming, as indeed I know, that any distribution that may have been made has nothing to do with you. You are not responsible for the policy; you are there merely to carry it out. But as you have had practical experience of the working of this I should like to ask you whether it is not your experience that people generally look to the Estates Commissioners to make a much greater distribution of the land in their possession among sons of tenants than would be the case with the Congested Districts Board?—Of course the law lays down that the Estates Commissioners can give holdings to sons of tenants. I don't think that that is the case with the Congested Districts Board. I don't know so much about the law regarding the Congested Districts Board as about our own.

56409. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—In the main you are right, but when outside the congested area untenanted land is bought, the sons of tenants under £5 on the margin may have holdings from the Congested Districts Board. That is the one exception?—The Estates Commissioners cannot give land to sons of tenants under £5 adjoining. They must be sons of tenants on the estate.

56410. But you can, under your present powers, give holdings to sons of tenants upon the estate?—Yes.

56411. Can you tell the Commission, from your experience in the distribution of estates bought by the Estates Commissioners, that there is a considerable demand for holdings to be given to the sons of tenants?—There is no doubt about that.

56412. Do you believe it possible that congestion can be relieved by migration to anything like an adequate extent if any large amount of the grass area is to be re-divided among the sons of tenants?—You won't have the land available, but at the same time my opinion is that you will not be able to carry out migration on the large scale on which we would all like to see it carried out unless some little notice is taken of sons of tenants. I don't say give it to every son of a tenant who applies, or every son who is able to take it. But there will be exceptional cases on every estate on which the son of a tenant should be provided with a holding, and in which, by providing for one or two sons of tenants, you will make it much easier for the migrants coming in.

56413. I have no doubt that is the case, but are you not of opinion that in estate distribution priority should be invariably given to congests rather than to sons of tenants?—I am in favour of supplying the heads of families first.

56414. Priority of consideration should be given to them?—Yes.

56415. Mr. O'KELLY.—What are the exceptional circumstances that would lead you to give to one or two sons of tenants on the property?—I cannot give an instance now, but there are often special circumstances in cases of the kind.

56416. You mean that by allaying the opposition you will find the work easier?—Certainly; but that would not influence me so much. You mean to give away a lot of land in order to get a few migrants. That is not our method of doing business. We have actually had a force of police to enforce our arrangement, and have brought our men and put them in.

56417. You would not like that all over the country?—We would prefer to do it to doing what is wrong. We did it in this county.

56418. The feeling that justified bringing in the police has disappeared?—There is not a word about the whole thing now. Everyone admits that we were perfectly right.

56419. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Take a concrete case as an example. Was there considerable congestion in the neighbourhood of the Clanmorris Estate?—There was not. It was on what they call the plains of Mayo.

56420. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—In the evidence in Castlebar I think the witness had probably before his mind the side of that estate that is nearest to Castlebar?—I don't know what operated in his mind. I only saw the report in the paper, and as I was here now I thought I would contradict it.

The Commission adjourned.

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH PUBLIC SITTING.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH, 1907,

AT 11.0 O'CLOCK, A.M.,

In the Courthouse, Loughrea.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (Chairman); The Right Hon. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL, G.C.S.I.; The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; Most Rev. Dr O'DONNELL; JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esq., M.P.; CONOR O'KELLY, Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Rev. J. P. CALLANAN examined.

Sept. 27, 1907.

Rev. J. P. Callanan.

56421. CHAIRMAN.—You are a parish priest?—Yes, of the united parishes of Killimore and Tierenascragh.

56422. Where do they lie?—They are about ten miles from Loughrea and about five miles from the Shannon, near Portumna.

56423. Will you state the evidence you wish to give?—Yes; I have been parish priest of these united parishes for over eight years, and I am familiar with the conditions of the small farmers in these parishes, and what is true of these parishes applies in great measure to the state of affairs in most other localities in East Galway. They have all, in common at all events, rich grazing lands side by side with poor uneconomic holdings; sensible practical farmers and their sons, reading the signs of the times, and dividing their fighting energies between the grasping landlord and greedy grazier. I have had in my own parishes and outside them some experience of the working of the Congested Districts Board, the Estates Commissioners, and the Agricultural Board, and I will give, for what it is worth, my opinion of each, and the relation they should hold one to another. Now, as regards the Congested Districts Board, I am quite aware that Board does excellent work in other parts of the country; my whole contention is that their entire procedure in this locality is a failure. In what I have to say, I am concerned only with what I have seen in this little diocese, and, if I express myself a bit strongly against the work of this Board, my opinion is entirely based on figures and on what can be seen by you, gentlemen, in a couple of hours of inspection.

56424. What are your objections to the work of the Congested Districts Board?—I may state them under three heads:—1st, The Congested Districts Board pay entirely too high a price for land; 2nd, As a consequence, they must set it at an annuity ruinous to the individual and the ratepayers; and 3rd, They hold land for years as monster grazing tracts, instead of dividing it amongst the people in a reasonable time. With regard to price, I will give you an instance in my own parish, and the prices I take from the Report of the Congested Districts Board for 1906. For lands valued at £646, they paid the enormous price of £22,945, which works out at 35½ years' purchase. Now adjoining these lands, separated only by the mearing, the Estates Commissioners paid the sufficiently high figure of 26½ years' purchase for a valuable farm. I suggest these figures speak for themselves. Both farms were purchased about the same time, and while the Estates Commissioners have for about three years divided their lands and settled tenants on them, the Congested Districts Board still hold the Kenny estate, now four years, and up to the present there is no sign of its being divided, with the result that it is no easy matter to restrain the natural indignation of the people. Further, I see from the same Report that the Congested Districts Board have down for "Improvements and other expenses" the extraordinary sum of £5,714, while to my own knowledge not £10 has been laid out on improvements of any kind. Against this, though they farm most of the lands themselves, set them on-acre at a high price, as well as take in graziers at a higher figure than is charged across the road, their receipts were only £5,163, or nearly £600 of a loss. Now who is to pay for this? And, if the Congested Districts Board, managing the land in this way, incur such a loss, it is to my mind proof positive that they paid an excessive price for it, and how can a family support itself and pay its outgoings when the Board is unable to realise the interest on the capital sum. I think it is a natural conclusion from all this that any farmer who knows anything of the difficulty of making ends meet out of the land will be very slow to take lands at 35½ years' purchase of the Poor Law Valuation. Of course, migratory labourers, or those accustomed to patches of bog, may accept it, as they have nothing to lose, but I for one cannot see how they will continue to meet their engagements, with the result that the already overburdened ratepayer will have to bear the loss. I might state just one case further. I would invite you, gentlemen, to visit two estates within four miles from Loughrea, and within three miles of one another, and see for yourselves. I mean the Blake Estate at Benmore, and the O'Farrell Estate at Doon, the former purchased by the Congested Districts Board at a price of three years' purchase over that offered by the tenants, and over the heads of the tenants as well; the other purchased by the Estates Commissioners. The former was purchased about four years ago, and recently divided as a result of pressure brought to bear by local agitation. The Doon Estate was purchased only nine months ago, and already the lands are divided and houses built, and tenants already migrated from a congested village in the neighbourhood to the great satisfaction of all concerned. If you visit these Estates, I have no doubt you will agree with me, and with the opinion of people most competent to judge, that the land in the O'Farrell Estate is 20 or 25 per cent. cheaper than the land in Benmore. The work is in every respect superior on the O'Farrell Estate, the holdings are better laid out, as the different classes of land are better distributed amongst the tenants. I have one case in Benmore before my mind, that of Pat Wade, where £23 is charged for a holding on which there are scarcely two acres, or at most three, and these only indifferently, suited for tillage. Further, as I am recounting the iniquities of the Congested Districts Board, they promised to open main drains and make a bog road; they began these necessary works, but for some reason or other they abandoned them, with the result that the lands are completely waterlogged. With regard to the prices charged to the annuitants in Benmore, some of them (say Thady Nevin) will have to pay from 35s. to 40s. an acre (including annuity, rates, etc.) for their holdings. I contend there is no land in that locality, and, for that matter, in any locality in this diocese, fit to pay that figure and allow the tenant to live with any approach to decency. As an instance of the prices charged and paid for houses, I may mention the case of Slateford. The Congested Districts Board acquired this land some three or four years ago. They built houses about two years ago. There were at that time applicants for the houses, but when they found that the annuity was so high they would not take them, with the result that these houses are still vacant and

Sept. 27, 1907.

Rev. J. P. Callanan.

the land is let to graziers. I think that is certainly strong proof that the Congested Districts Board are paying too high a rate for the lands they have to re-sell. In my opinion some measures should be taken, owing to dangers attending high annuities, to prevent amalgamation of holdings, or in due course you will have a Jewish class of landlords far worse than the landlords we have been trying to get rid of. I have practical reasons for this suggestion.

56425. Can you give us any instance of that?—I can. I know of one or two cases in my own parish in which I had to write to the Estates Commissioners to restrain a tenant from getting a loan through a mortgage and becoming so involved that in a short time his place would be found attached to another holding. I know of some men from a distance trying to get hold of farms by lending money on them. These farmers have all bought out, but if the money-lenders get a grip on their holdings then, in a short time, you will see these gentlemen becoming the owners, unless something is done to stop amalgamation. I believe the law does not provide for that, although it provides for other things.

56426. As regards the first instance, am I to understand that an adjoining purchaser advanced money to a neighbour?—Not actually adjoining. He is a man from Ballinasloe, eight or nine miles away. He is advancing money to tenants in this neighbourhood so that in a short time if these poor people are not able to pay he will become the owner of their freeholds.

56427. Is he a shopkeeper in Ballinasloe?—Well, I am not exactly sure whether he is a shopkeeper, but I know he lends money and gets the people of the country into his books in many ways.

56428. Does he keep a shop?—Well, he is a public man, an auctioneer. I can mention his name if you wish, although I do not think it necessary.

56429. Then when he has them in his debt and they are unable to pay he will foreclose on them?—I do not know how far the law would prevent him doing that, but my idea in writing to the Estates Commissioners was to restrain these people from borrowing money on the security of their land.

56430. But while a man is paying his annuities to the Government for his holding can he give that holding as security for money raised on it?—I know that people raise money on it, but I do not know how far the law allows it, and whether the lender or the borrower will be the sufferer by-and-by, I cannot say.

56431. Is the money advanced as a personal transaction, or is it advanced on the security of the holding?—As far as I know it is advanced on the security of the holding.

56432. Then in your opinion the lender has got a definite legal right on the holding for his money?—If it is legal he has the land for his money.

56433. Do you know of any case in which the lender foreclosed on the holding?—Not exactly, but I know that this man has got possession of farmers' holdings seven miles from Loughrea, and has cattle grazing on them.

56434. That is the money lender from Ballinasloe?—Yes; and I do not want him to come into this district lending money to the people and getting them into his grip if I can prevent it.

56435. Then already he has actually got possession of lands?—Yes, I do not know how they are held, but at any rate he is grazing on their lands in and around Cappaghtagtagh.

56436. Are the farmers still there?—Yes, some of them are.

56437. Are they acting as herds for him?—They are acting as caretakers. I do not know his claim on the land, but I know the general opinion of the country about the matter, but the people are perhaps not able to say many things about him because most of them are in his books as well. I wrote to the Estates Commissioners to see if anything could be done to restrain tenants from getting loans on their lands. I wish merely to draw attention to that.

56438. Mr. Bryce.—In what way do you suggest obtaining loans on the land could be stopped?—Well, I do not know what method would be best, but I think land should only be given to those who can be shown to be deserving of it. In dividing land I would not give it to every Tom, Dick and Harry, but only to deserving people. That is the first point.

56439. But suppose you give the land to deserving people and they also fall into the hands of the money lenders, what legal method do you propose to prevent that occurring?—Well, in the case of a man who is not able to meet his liabilities, I would prefer instead of seeing him borrowing money to see his place sold and a proper tenant got for the place rather than the holding to be amalgamated with some other. If one man got the whole side of a country into his hands he will be worse than ever the landlords were. I prefer to see the place sold.

56440. There is nothing to prevent him being sold out, but according to you it does not suit the lender to sell him out?—No; it does not, and by-and-by he will have a number of holdings.

56441. I quite see the difficulty, and I sympathise with your desire in the matter, but I am trying to find out your suggestion to stop this course of procedure?—To prevent amalgamation I would prefer, in the case of the tenant who was not able to meet his liabilities, to have his place sold and a proper tenant got for it.

56442. Then would you propose to stop the practice by preventing tenants from mortgaging their holdings?—That would be an excellent way of doing it of course.

56443. But that would not quite meet your view, because he would still be able to get credit?—I would limit his mortgage very much.

56444. You would limit his power of mortgage?—Sometimes, of course, when a man is starting upon a farm he requires money, and has to borrow it, but I would limit that mortgage to an amount barely necessary to start the farm. I would tie his hands in the matter of mortgaging his holding as far as I could. But it is not for me to say how far that could be done, but I think he should only be allowed to raise as much money on his holding as would enable him to start work.

56445. The difficulty of preventing his power of mortgage or sale is that you stop his credit altogether. He could not borrow anything then?—I would not stop his power of mortgaging altogether, but I would limit him as far as it would be agreeable to the suitable working of the holding. That limit could be very easily found out in most cases.

56446. Chairman.—Taking the holdings on which you say the Ballinasloe man has lent money, what are the annuities they carry?—Well, take one instance—the case of a man who had ten or twelve acres of poor land. When the Estates Commissioners were dividing the lands, which they did all over that parish with excellent advantage to the people there, they gave him six or seven acres of good land. But this man—there is a black sheep in every flock—was always unthrifty, and he did not make use of the advantages he got. The first thing he did was to say, "I have now an estate on which I can raise money." He did raise money, and went round the country sporting it instead of putting it into his holding. Then he went and got more money in Ballinasloe.

56447. Can you tell us the amount of the annuity he had to pay for the enlarged holding?—I suppose the annuity would be something like £13 odd.

56448. And apparently £130 would be the utmost extent of the money he could raise on his holding?—Yes, and that is a great deal.

56449. He could not raise much more than a quarter of the value of his holding?—That would cripple him a good deal. I do not know how the law stands. I merely refer to this in order to ask can nothing be done to keep people when they get a holding into their possession borrowing large sums on it which they will be unable to repay.

56450. You would prevent a man mortgaging his holding?—Not altogether. I would allow him to raise a sum of money to help him to start properly on the enlarged holding. Mortgaging is about the only means he has of getting that money.

56451. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—You would allow him to mortgage his holding for that purpose?—Yes, to a certain extent.

56452. The extent is at present ten years' purchase of the annuity, and that would not be half the landlord's interest in the holding before sale; consequently there would still remain the whole of the tenant's interest. Would you allow him more than half of the landlord's interest under mortgage?—Well, of course, if that would be considered sufficient to start him I would say all right. What I fear is that the

men would simply ruin themselves, and I suggest to the Commission if something could be done to improve that state of affairs it would be very much for the better.

56453. CHAIRMAN.—A man starting on an encharged holding can offer that holding as security for a loan which may be necessary in order to give him a good start. What would you say to a system whereby the Board of Works could advance him a reasonable sum at a cheap rate of interest, and have that added to his annuity, and not charged upon the holding?—I think that as long as a man can get the money from a money-lender he will not go through the necessary formalities required to borrow money from the Board of Works. He will get it in the most convenient way he can.

56454. If you allow him to mortgage his place he will, as you say, take the money in the easiest way?—And that is by a mortgage. I do not mind his having a mortgage, but I suggest that the amount borrowed under that mortgage should be limited to such an extent as would merely enable him to start life.

56455. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Do you think it would be the better way for the tenant to raise money as Lord Dudley has suggested, on his personal security?—Yes; because that would leave the holding intact.

56456. Mr. BRYCE.—But if, as the Chairman has suggested, the money was borrowed from the Board of Works, or some public authority, and added to the annuity, the security would not be so much personal as that of the holding?—Unless you get some people to start him and go bail for him, I do not see what can be done.

56457. There should be something of the nature of an agricultural bank?—Yes, something like that.

56458. Do you think there would be any advantage in simplifying the bankruptcy law so that a man would be able to get free from his creditors more easily than at present?—I do not like to go into that, because I do not understand it. I am merely stating facts.

56459. The object of your evidence is to show the evils that exist, and the dangers that are likely to exist, without formulating any method of dealing with them?—Yes.

56460. And I gather from you that, through law or in some other way, you would like to prevent a tenant mortgaging his holding in such a way that the gombeen man could not get hold of it?—Yes, that is my purpose.

56461. CHAIRMAN.—What is your next objection to the procedure of the Congested Districts Board?—My third objection, for I may call it so, to the procedure of the Congested Districts Board is their custom of buying land for enormous prices and then holding these as grazing ranches for years, instead of taking measures to divide them. We all know there is a hunger for land while people are emigrating in their thousands, though I fear if they know the prices they will have to pay they may not be in such a hurry. People may say that a couple of years' purchase one way or another does not matter much, but when we take into account the limited income on which a farmer has to live and rear a family, even a pound or two is a matter of some consequence. Now, I hold no brief for the Estates Commissioners, but, as I have stated, I judge the two bodies by their works. The Estates Commissioners have divided two estates in my parish to the general satisfaction of those concerned. The tenants grumbled, indeed, a little at the price, but remember that price was nine years' purchase of the valuation under what was paid the other side of the mearing by the Congested Districts Board. Besides, the Estates Commissioners gave some help to the poorer farmers to start, while it appears from Mr. Doran's evidence* that the amount paid to engineers, surveyors, clerks of works, etc., is charged by the Congested Districts Board to the cost of each estate. Altogether, I hold that the methods, the price, the general procedure of the Congested Districts Board is entirely unsuitable, at all events to this part of the country. It is an extraordinary thing, and certainly one for which the country will yet pay dearly, to have two rival boards buying up untenanted land, to the gain, of course, of the landlord. It is no wonder the landlords and agents of the country wish to see the operations of the Congested Districts Board extended. We cannot be surprised at the friendly feeling that exists among this class and the Board that pays a price far beyond the value of the land. I have not yet met a man who had land to sell who did not speak well of the Congested Districts Board, and their fame in this respect has even gone abroad. I have in my possession a letter from a landlord in Syria to whom tenants in my parish applied for sale of his untenanted land: "I have instructed my lawyers to negotiate with the Congested Districts Board. I was advised that this was the best Department to sell my property to." This was his reply. I care nothing about one Board or another; I look solely to the future of the country; I am, perhaps, more than usually interested, from the fact that the Congested Districts Board hold some 600 or 700 acres in my parish on the point of distribution; but I hold that the future of Ireland depends on securing land at its fair value, and on its proper distribution amongst the deserving people. I think the Congested Districts Board should go in for large tracts at reasonable prices, and migrate in colonies rather than in isolated families, but I would add that I should think there should be only one body purchasing land. The Congested Districts Board should look after the very congested areas of the West, where a certain amount of spoon-feeding is necessary, and the Estates Commissioners can allocate such lands as they require wherever necessary without interfering with the present excellent work they are engaged on; or they (the Congested Districts Board) should be confined to these poor districts, and as they wanted untenanted land for migrants they would apply to the Estates Commissioners for it.

56462. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You say you are against having two rival Boards buying untenanted land. Do you mean that these two bodies operating in the same district are really competing bodies?—I have some reason to believe that. It is equivalent to that. The special reason for my coming here at all, under the direction of my Bishop, is to refer to the enormous price paid on the Kenny Estate. This man, I have reason to believe, would not dispose of his property unless he got more than the value for it. He first tried to divide the lands, and set up divisions, charging fines on the tenants; but that fell through owing to public opinion. Then, I understand, he approached the Estates Commissioners, but, I believe, could not screw a big enough purchase price out of them. Finally he went to the Congested Districts Board, with the result that he got thirty-five years' purchase.

56463. My question is a general one. Do you consider that these two competing purchasing bodies enhance the price of land beyond its true standard?—I am afraid that is so.

56464. Would you expect the vendor or owner of land to sell his estate, whether it is large or small, if the income he is to derive from the money when invested in a safe security will be less than the income he derives from the land?—Well, there are two ways of looking at that. If you refer to net income of the landlord I say you have to distinguish. There is the question of security as against the question of price. You wish to get for the landlord his net income at 3½ per cent. security, but I say he has no right to that. The reason I say so is that land security is very shaky. If you mean net income as the seeming equivalent to the present security of land I would say he is entitled to that. If you give a landlord twenty or twenty-five years' purchase of his net income at 3½ per cent. at the present moment he could laugh at the whole country.

56465. What I mean by net income is his average income calculated over a number of preceding years. Do you agree with that?—Yes, I will agree to that principle.

56466. Do you consider in carrying out a great State policy for the benefit of the State that any class or any individual should suffer personal loss?—In the matter you refer to I do not think any person would be subjected to loss.

56467. What I asked you was, in contemplating a State policy for a public purpose and for the benefit of the general community, do you consider loss should be inflicted upon any class or individual?—I think in contemplating a State policy that the interests of the greater number should be looked to. The laws are based on that principle.

* See Appendix to the First Report of the Commission [Cd. 3267,1906], p. 101, q. 2431.

Sept. 27, 1907.

Rev. J. P. Callanan.

56468. You have not yet answered my question. In carrying out a State policy for the benefit of the greater number, do you think any class or individual should bear loss thereby, or do you think the State should bear it?—Well, of course the State is made to bear some of the loss, but I think if there are injuries upon one side I do not see why the State should be called upon to bear that. What I refer to is that the State has given a bonus to meet that loss, and if there are some people here and there who happen to suffer loss, then I think the State—which, after all, is the people—have done fairly well. I mention one fact in support of my argument. The Land Laws passed by the State have injured the landlords. For the past twenty or twenty-five years the rents of landlords have been lowered by 30 to 35 per cent. Their incomes have been legally reduced, and I suppose if they still suffer loss here and there in the matter of purchase, I do not see what can be done.

56469. Now, you have told us you hold that the future of Ireland depends on securing land at its fair value and on its proper distribution among the deserving people?—Yes.

56470. That, of course, is general, and I ask you do you limit the distribution of land to the deserving people who occupy uneconomic holdings?—No, I do not. There are others who have no holding at all and are perfectly deserving.

56471. This Commission has been appointed to deal with the whole problem of congestion, and part of that problem is to diminish the number of crowded people who occupy uneconomic holdings. Now I ask you, from their point of view, could that distribution apply to others than those on uneconomic holdings?—I think it could apply to others.

56472. May I ask how?—Well, I am giving evidence regarding districts in East Galway, and in these districts there are large grazing tracts, and along the borders of these there are uneconomic holdings. I think it would not tend to the peace of the country, but would be a great hardship, if whole colonies from a distance were brought there and settled at the expense of the congests of the district.

56473. Quite so; but I was not referring to particular localities. Of course you admit that if land is bought for the purpose of relieving congestion the persons on uneconomic holdings in the locality have the first claim on that land?—Yes.

56474. Then do you think the next class to be attended to are those on uneconomic holdings elsewhere?—I have already stated I would like to see this carried out by close inquiry in every case. There would be the case of the sons of tenants, men who are married, and I would make inquiry into their cases and see whether some means could not be found to start them in life.

56475. Then you would favour the sons of well-to-do tenants in the locality getting the land as against the deserving man on an uneconomic holding elsewhere simply because that deserving man lives at a distance from the land to which he would have to be migrated?—What I think is that there are a great many things to be considered in each individual case. I think it would be almost a hardship on men of the description you mention to bring them in amongst a dissatisfied body of tenants. If you have a number of men thirty or forty years of age in the locality looking out for and expecting a holding and you disappoint them, by bringing in men from Mayo, do you think it would make for the peace and comfort of those migrants in those circumstances.

56476. But look at the broad question?—On the broad question I would go in for those on uneconomic holdings, the heads of families.

56477. Then if you are going to relieve congestion you would provide for persons on uneconomic holdings, no matter whether they belonged to the district in which you had land available or came from other and more distant districts?—I say they have a claim, but that claim should be subject to the local circumstances in each case. That should be taken into account.

56478. Then who is to determine that if you depart from the general principle?—I think whoever is entrusted with the division and settlement of the land ought to be able to find out, taking all the circumstances into account, the proper persons to give it to.

56479. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—I would like to refer to the answer you gave Sir John Colomb regarding the reduction of landlords' rents. Do you think the law really injured the landlord or do you think his income was reduced by a legitimate reduction in rent?—It would be just on the same principle in the case of a sale if you are not going to give him his full present net income.

56480. Is it injury or reduction?—I would say it is a case of reduction.

56481. You know very well the class of land there is in this district. There is a good deal of good land?—Yes.

56482. Is much of it unoccupied?—I could not give you the figures for the whole of the district but I know that in Portumna Union there are over 21,000 acres of untenanted land. There are 302 tenants under £5 valuation; 323 under £10; and 421 under £20. After supplying these and deserving sons of tenants a goodly margin of land would be left for migration purposes. The population of the Union is only 9,054.

56483. That is exactly the class of answer that serves my purpose and is useful. You think it would be a great advantage if that land instead of being under grazing were let to occupiers of reasonably-sized holdings?—Certainly.

56484. You think the country would be the better of that?—Yes.

56485. And the towns would improve and be the better of that?—Yes, very much.

56486. Let us see how that would work out. In telling us how you would dispose of that land you very naturally said the men on small uneconomic holdings on the border should have the first claim on it?—Yes.

56487. I think you said that sons of tenants should then come in before those who came from a distance?—I would certainly have the circumstances of each case closely inquired into. That would be advisable for the peace of the district and for the people who migrated.

56488. Then I suppose anybody interested in relieving congestion in the far west of Galway should naturally look to this diocese for some land for that purpose?—Yes.

56489. You consider that the body relieving congestion should first provide for the congests in the locality?—Yes.

56490. After that you would provide for the sons of tenants?—Yes.

56491. What have the Estates Commissioners been doing in that direction? What sort of people have they been putting on holdings?—They have, as a rule, enlarged holdings. But they divided two farms of 200 acres each among existing holdings which were very uneconomic. In two cases they gave land to the sons of tenants, whose family got no increase of land, and in another case they gave land to an evicted tenant.

56492. Chairman.—What is the name of that estate?—Colonel Daly's.

56493. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Did the sons of tenants get many of these holdings?—Not to my knowledge. There were only two cases. The land was required to make the holdings there economic.

56494. Do you know any place here where they have got holdings?—Yes, but I do not know whether from the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board. The only work of which I have definite knowledge is that on the Doon Estate, where the Estates Commissioners migrated men from the adjacent village and put them on good land, and amalgamated the holdings thus vacated.

56495. From what you have told us of the character of land throughout the diocese of Clonfert one would naturally come to the conclusion that the aim of the body relieving congestion in Ireland should naturally be to look to land here for congests?—Yes; but there are evicted tenants from the Clanricarde Estate to be provided for. Many of the holdings from which they were evicted are small and uneconomic. I would put them back on holdings of good land.

56496. Would there be general consent to providing first for the evicted tenants?—I do not know about that, but I think there would be quite room enough for a good many if the land were purchased.

56497. You think, at all events, that the men on the margin have the first claim?—Yes.

56498. Have you any opinion as to the amount of land in this diocese that would be fairly available for the congested people of the west of Galway?—I could hardly say, but something like 10,000 acres.

56499. You called attention very properly to the

difference in prices paid by the Estates Commissioners and the Congested Districts Board for land in this locality?—Yes.

56500. Do you know that taking the whole of Ireland there is not so much difference?—I cannot say as to that. I know the Congested Districts Board are doing a work that is most praiseworthy, and for which they get full credit in the congested areas, but certainly there is a strong opinion against the Board in this district.

56501. The sons of tenants who want holdings will naturally prefer the operations of the Estates Commissioners to those of the Congested Districts Board?—Yes, everyone seems to prefer the Estates Commissioners on the ground that they are buying land cheaper.

56502. Now, supposing (and my figures are only imaginary) the Congested Districts Board had bought land all over Ireland at an average of 27 years' purchase of the valuation, and the Estates Commissioners at 26 years' purchase, and that the reason why the Congested Districts Board stood above the Estates Commissioners at all in the number of years' purchase was because of the high prices they had to pay for land in this locality, would not that lead to an interesting inquiry?—Yes, but I would be very slow to think the Board had to pay high prices here.

56503. Would you be surprised to hear that if you take the tenanted and untenanted land together the Congested Districts Board have bought land all over their area cheaper than the Estates Commissioners?—Yes, I would be interested to learn that.

56504. Now, if there were no Estates Commissioners buying land in this district, re-selling it to the people of the district, and giving it to the sons of tenants, have you any reason to believe that the Congested Districts Board could not have bought land here as cheaply as in any other part of the country?—I believe they could have bought as cheaply.

56505. About the case you mentioned; it is an extraordinary one?—Yes, I took it from the Board's own books.

56506. Can you tell me the dearest price the Estates Commissioners paid for land in Clonfert?—As far as I understand, they did not pay much more than 26 or 27 years.

56507. Do you know of any particular case in which they paid higher?—I do not, and I think the price they gave—26½ years—was too high.

56508. In any case, under present circumstances, the chances of the market has something to do with price?—Yes.

56509. Now, what I am upon is this. It looks as if, in the absence of purchases in this district by the Estates Commissioners, that the Congested Districts Board could have bought land here as cheaply as anywhere else in the country. Are you aware that the Estates Commissioners have bought much more land in Galway than anywhere else in the country?—I have reason to believe they have bought a great deal more.

56510. And isn't it very significant that the price of land has gone up in Galway?—Yes, you are working side by side. That is the reason I object to the rival boards.

56511. If you were responsible for the relief of congestion and saw all these West-Galway people nestling in crowds in poverty, would you not try, even at great sacrifice, to purchase land for them?—I would; but I would not in any particular locality pay such high figures for land.

56512. Now, even with the Estates Commissioners doing their excellent work, if the Congested Districts Board had compulsory powers, don't you think these prices would not have been paid?—I am sure of that.

56513. You think in that way the matter would be righted?—I think it would.

56514. You called attention to the cost of improvements on an estate of the Congested Districts Board?—Yes. From the Board's own book I notice that a sum of £5,714 is set down for improvements and other expenses, and I say that to my own knowledge not £10 has been laid out on improvements of any kind. I also said that the Board farm most of this land themselves, set it on con-acre at a high price, as well as take in graziers at a higher figure than was charged across the road, and yet their receipts were only £5,163, or nearly £600 of a loss. I merely ask how this loss is to be met.

56515. Would that expenditure be the estimated expenditure which had to be met?—I cannot say. It is down there as up to the end of 1906, and it is charged on the estate. That will run the price up to a very high figure on the tenants to be settled down there.

56516. How do you arrive at that?—By putting the figures together.

56517. But the Congested Districts Board, if it had the funds, can incur a loss up to any amount. They are not restricted in the amount they may lose?—I am very glad to hear that. I thought they could not go beyond 10 per cent.

56518. It is no wonder you should think that, because that is true of another body, but not as regards the Congested Districts Board. Now, as regards the Benmore Estate, are you aware that the Board was buying a very congested estate in Mayo from the owner of the Benmore Estate, and he would not sell the Mayo estate unless the Board also purchased this estate in Galway? Therefore in order to get hold of this very congested estate in Mayo the Board were forced into buying the Benmore Estate in Galway as well?—Then the Board was forced to buy it at a very high figure, and if there is money to be lost I would like the Board to lower the annuities on the poor people.

56519. I am afraid that while I said the Board was unrestricted as to the amount it could lose, I did not say that there was the money to expend?—Well, any money there is to be expended I would like to see go in the direction I have indicated. 35*s.* or 40*s.* an acre for land in Benmore is very high

56520. Now, don't you think if a man is started on a good holding he ought to have a reasonable hope of paying his annuity every year and doing fairly well?—I do.

56521. And if he gets a good holding at a fair annuity it will be a great advantage to him, and there is no reason for making further presents to him?—Yes, if he gets a good holding at a fair price. But £1 or £2 to such a man make an extraordinary difference to him. When you see him buying or selling at fairs you will see that £1 will make all the difference in the world.

56522. Wouldn't 10*s.* make a difference to him?—Yes.

56523. Then if you take the case of a man on a small holding and put him into a bigger and better one which will carry heavier instalments, won't he be inclined, for a couple of years at all events, to grumble at the way the rent has gone up?—If he is a reasonable man he will see both sides of the question, and of course he will know he will have to pay more for a larger quantity of land.

56524. In the case of migrants you would not think of putting much on the annuities for the houses they got?—I would not.

56525. You think the lowest could scarcely carry that?—Yes; at the present prices for land that would certainly fall weighty on the annuity.

56526. Is it the operations of the Estates Commissioners in this part of the country that have put land up to a high price?—It is the competition.

56527. CHAIRMAN.—You say that for improvements a sum of £5,700 has been set down by the Board, and yet, to your knowledge, not £10 has been laid out in improvements. What is that in respect of, and on how many estates?—It is in respect of permanent improvements on the one estate, the Kenny Estate.

56528. Do you mean to say that the report of the Board shows that £5,700 has been withdrawn from the Kenny Estate, yet you know not £10 has been expended?—Yes. It is marked down in their book, £5,714 for improvements and other expenses.

56529. And to your knowledge little or nothing has been spent on the estate?—Yes; whatever money they spent was on farming, saving hay, and things like that that any farmer has to do. They also attended to mearings.

56530. This is Dr. Kenny's estate?—Yes.

56531. In your opinion that money has been expended on administering the land?—My point is that this sum is marked down against the estate as having been spent on improvements and other expenses, and I do not see where these improvements have been made. But, as Mr. Doran stated in his evidence to

Sept. 27, 1907.

Rev. J. P. Callanan.

the Commission, the amounts paid to engineers, surveyors, clerks of works, etc., is charged by the Congested Districts Board to the cost of each estate. I presume that is what has been done in this case. But with that sum added to the already high price paid for purchase I do not see how the land is to be set to tenants at all.

56532. Mr. BRYCE.—Do you take it on the interest paid on the purchase money?—If you take it that way, then you have a dead loss of £600 for the three or four years the Board have this estate on their hands.

56533. CHAIRMAN.—I do not suppose this sum of £5,700 is to be added to the purchase money of the estate?—Then I should like to know what it is for.

56534. If you look further through the report you will see that the receipts of the estate amount to £5,000?—Yes, and that means a loss of £600.

56535. And that will come out of the income of the Board?—And that difference of expenses over receipts means a year's purchase of the estate.

56536. The Board has an income irrespective of what they derive from the estate, and I suppose the balance would come out of that. I asked the question who is to pay for it?—That is what I want to get at.

56537. The total sum is £600 for those years?—That is equivalent to a year's purchase of the estate. The valuation of the estate is £646, and the Board have been for the past three years incurring a loss of £600.

56538. Do you mean to say that land returning an income of £5,000 is only valued at £600?—Yes; that is the poor law valuation.

56539. You have told us you object to the methods and general procedure of the Board. What are the methods and procedure you object to?—One point is that the land is not properly distributed. I have mentioned one estate to which I invited your inspection. There a man, Pat Wade, was charged £23 for a holding on which there are not more than two or three acres in any way suited for tillage. It looks as if all the bad land was on that holding. I also fear, as regards the building of houses, that if this charge is to be added to the annuity it will be impossible for tenants to meet it. The Board go into a district and start to build houses for the tenants, employing men at 2*s.* and 2*s.* 6*d.* a day. That will have to be paid by the tenant. I met a boy of not more than thirteen or fourteen years of age driving a horse and cart for the Congested Districts Board. I asked him what pay he was receiving, and he said 2*s.* a day. I know a farmer would not give him that. I like to see people earning money, but if these expenses have to be met by the tenants it will be a serious matter for them. I would prefer, wherever it is possible, that the people should be brought to the land, and help to build the houses, rather than have the houses built for them at great expense if they have to pay up that expense in the annuity.

56540. But doesn't the Board do these things out of its own income?—I am basing my remarks on Mr. Doran's evidence, when he said that the cost of engineers, surveyors, clerk of works, etc., were charged by the Board to the cost of estates.

56541. Your objection to the work of the Congested Districts Board has merely arisen since you read Mr. Doran's evidence. It is based entirely on what you read of his evidence?—Yes, because I had thought that these expenses would come out of some other fund.

56542. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Would Mr. Doran's point be that those expenses are put down as expenses connected with the estate and are not considered general expenses of the Board?—I cannot say. I would like enlightenment on the point, I understood they were charged against the estate, and the tenants would have to repay them in their annuities.

56543. CHAIRMAN.—Is it not merely a matter of book-keeping and that the money spent in wages, etc., in connection with these estates is to facilitate the book-keeping of the Board, included in the cost of estates, but would not mean that it is charged on the annuities?—I do not know.

56544. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—All those charges are placed against an estate because it is necessary to show the purchase price of an estate, the total expenditure connected with it in the way of improving it and laying it out, but it does not follow that this will all be taken out of the annuities. That is how the Board's loss of 8, 10, 12, or 15 per cent. on an estate is worked out?—I am very glad to hear that is so.

56545. CHAIRMAN.—It does seem a serious thing if an impression of that sort is to go abroad unless we really know how the thing is done?—Well, when I read Mr. Doran's evidence I did not know what to conclude except that the tenants would be charged with these expenses.

56546. That may not have been what was in Mr. Doran's mind?—That is so, but I thought the expenses charged on the estate would be charged on the tenants' annuities.

56547. But there are estates belonging to the Estates Commissioners and the Congested Districts Board beside you and surely if you had any doubt in your mind the proper thing would have been to ask the inspector in charge of the estates what really does happen. However, we will pass from that. What is the procedure adopted by the Board that you object to?—In procedure I include their methods of purchase by giving a high price, and as is expected to take place people migrated into these tracts, to the exclusion and the dissatisfaction of the local people. I think the Board should look into the local areas first. I have already compared the procedure of the Estates Commissioners with that of the Congested Districts Board.

56548. That leads to another point. The Estates Commissioners buy land and acting tactfully they have distributed it to the satisfaction of the people?—Yes.

56549. But the Congested Districts Board in distributing land have first to recognise that they are charged with the relief of congestion?—Yes.

56550. Is that generally recognised by the people?—It is.

56551. Do you consider that the people have recognised that the Congested Districts Board are principally authorised to deal with the work of moving migrants, improving holdings, and so forth, in poor areas?—Yes, they have.

56552. Do they regard the Estates Commissioners as being invested with such great powers over congested areas as the Board?—The opinion is that when the Congested Districts Board buy land it is presumably for outsiders, and, therefore, the wants of the local people will not be looked after. But when the Estates Commissioners buy land the people know they will be looked after first. It is selfishness.

56553. Are they aware that the Estates Commissioners have the power under various clauses in the Act of 1903 to give land to sons of tenants?—Yes.

56554. And in their own mind, whether rightly or wrongly, they associate the Estates Commissioners more with the distribution of land in that direction than the Congested Districts Board?—Yes; that is quite so.

56555. Can you tell us anything more about the Benmore estate. Wasn't there some difficulty there with regard to bringing in outsiders?—So I believe, and I believe that difficulty is the reason why no other land in this locality has been divided by the Congested Districts Board. They bought other land eight miles from that and they have not divided it yet.

56556. As a matter of fact, was not the difficulty on the Benmore Estate with regard to the wish of the Board to bring in upon the grass lands men from congested areas in Mayo?—Yes, before the wants of the local people had been first attended to.

56557. That is the reason why there was dissatisfaction?—I believe it was, and when the local people are attended to there will be no difficulty in bringing in migrants—they will then be welcomed by the people.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Are you aware that the Board had no power under the Act, as it at present stands, to give any of the Benmore land to the sons of local people, and that it was more by straining the law to meet the necessities of the case that the Benmore Estate was dealt with. As a matter of fact the Benmore property was not bought originally for the purpose of migrating tenants to at all. It was bought because the Board could not get hold of the congested parts of an estate in County Mayo unless they also took the Benmore Estate. The Board was advised to take the other estate, and, speaking with personal knowledge, I may say that the Benmore Estate would have been divided among the local people much earlier if the people had only had patience. It is a very small case, and does not illustrate any principle. Comparing it with

ther estates bought here, it looks as if pressure made he Board do this. The people on the other estates ept quiet, and those estates are not yet divided.

56559. So far as I understood your point when you ere referring to the purchase of untenanted land, t was that the reduction of the landlord's income y reason of the operation of the Land Acts, was ot accompanied by any compensation, that the land- ord's income being reduced by the operation of the urchase of these untenanted lands should not be ccompanied by any compensation either. In other ords, that, inasmuch as the landlord suffered a iminution of income owing to the fair rent fixing rocedure so might he also suffer some diminution f income in regard to the purchase of untenanted and?—Yes.

56560. That is the important point you make?—Yes.

56561. I ask you to consider this aspect of the ase. In fixing fair rents you were dealing with ual ownership, land in which the tenant had an nterest, but in the case of untenanted land there s no such dual ownership. It is all in the hands of he landlord. In the one case it is possible to see ome justification for the landlord's reduction of ncome without compensation, but, in the other case, ould it not be legitimate to say if there is a reduc- ion in the landlord's income there should be compen- ation?—I would answer that in the landlord's avour. But the landlord who has an occupation nterest in a holding as well as that of ownership nust manage that land in one of two ways—he must et it to graziers or farm it himself. In County alway, not so very long ago, I saw quite a number f large graziers, very well off, and now there is not sign of one of them. They got broken down hrough farming. Now, if the landlord is to farm he land, with varying markets, he is liable to severe oss. If he lets it to graziers I am afraid that won't e very satisfactory, as the competition rent is now thing of the past.

56562. In other words, you say that the present r past income of a landlord for untenanted land is n unstable basis on which to calculate?—I would lace very little value on the occupation interest of landlord. He has to make up that value either by arming it himself or by letting it. I would not put year's purchase on his value.

56563. The annuities fixed on tenanted lands, hen sold, come up to a certain pitch. Now, do you hink the annuities on such lands should be some- hing more than the annuities on untenanted land? Yes, but not so much at all.

56564. You admit it should be something?—Yes, it hould be something.

56565. Have you ever thought what would be a fair elation between the annuity for tenanted land and he annuity for untenanted land?—Well, what is a an to do with untenanted land. I think he can ake very little out of it, and he is liable, putting ne thing against another, for loss as well as gain.

56566. If you did not proceed on the basis of value f tenanted, what other basis can you have for un- enanted land?—I would prefer to have it valued ndependently. The income from untenanted land is o standard when there are competitive rents in the uestion.

56567. What principle for independent valuing would you adopt?—I could hardly say; but I think it might be within the power of those interested to set up a valuing authority.

56568. Would you fix the value without reference to what fair rents would bring in if the land were let to tenants, or would you value it on the basis of fair rents under the rent-fixing Acts?—I think fair rents would hardly be fair, but might not be far out.

56568A. You would be disposed to think the value should be something lower than that?—Yes.

56569. Is there any principle by which you would fix an addition to the fair rent in order to find a basis for capitalisation?—I could hardly state that, but I think it ought to be within the power of those con- cerned to find that out. My point is that I put very little on the occupation interest of the landlord of untenanted land at present.

56570. You said you were in favour of allowing tenants to build their own houses rather than having those houses built for them?—Of course, that could not always be done. But if you bring people from a distance to lands, as far as possible, they should be brought to the place they will be asked to settle in, shown it, and told to get the best house they could at as low a cost as possible.

56571. Would you give me your reasons for that suggestion?—I have seen work carried out on those lines with great advantage to the tenant. In the first place the tenant has a greater interest in selecting the kind of house he wants. His own labour could be employed in building, and besides he would be a sort of clerk of works to see that the work was done properly. Another object would be to keep the cost of the house which will be put on the annuity as low as possible.

56572. In other words the building of the house will be a lesson in industry to him?—Yes.

56573. And he would be working in the direction which we all hope to reach?—Yes.

56574. Have you got any figures in your mind to show that a house built in that way could be built more cheaply than if the work was done by the Congested Districts Board?—I have not got the figures, but I have reason to believe they can be got. Some houses have been built in my parish in that way, and they have been built cheaper than if given out to a builder.

56575. Can you tell us which house would be the more likely to please a tenant—the one built for him by the Congested Districts Board, or the one which he would himself help to build?—My experience is that he will be better satisfied with the house he would himself help to build. It would be carried out more or less according to his own ideas, and he would not make any changes in it. But if the house is built for him he will make changes.

56576. Do you notice in the case of a man helping to build his own house that as the work progresses he may make alterations in rooms and little modifications?—Yes, I have reason to believe that is so.

56577. As a matter of fact, in the Wade case, the Congested Districts Board allowed him to build his own house?—They built houses for others, but they did not build a house for him.

56578. In all cases of sons of tenants the Congested Districts Board would not build the houses?—They build them in some cases. I am not quite sure of Wade's case, but there was a complaint made to me to the effect that they refused him.

56579. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—As I understand your evidence you wish to inform the Commission that in your view the Congested Districts Board is somewhat extravagant?—Yes.

56580. And the only instance you give in support of that statement is that of the boy getting 2*s.* a day for carting?—I merely mentioned that. I know cases where they are getting 2*s.* 6*d.* and 3*s.*

56581. I would prefer to take the case of the boy you referred to. I presume the Congested Districts Board really employed the father, and not the boy?—No; the horse and cart belonged to the Congested Districts Board, and this boy was employed to work it.

56582. Mr. BRYCE.—When dealing with grazing lands you expressed the opinion that the landlords should not get their net income from grazing lands because you thought they did not look like being very good security in the future?—Yes.

56583. How long have you been in this district?—It is sixteen years since I was ordained, and I have been eight years in the locality with regard to which I am giving my evidence.

56584. Then you have had considerable experience. Now, during that time have you noticed that lower rents are being obtained for grazing lands, or is the rent being kept up?—The rents for smaller grazing tracts have been kept up because of the greater competition, but in the case of the larger grazing tracts I believe they have gone down.

56585. Can you give cases?—I could give cases in which the rents have been kept up where there is a number of small competitors.

56586. But if you cannot show that the rents have actually fallen there does not seem to be very much ground for your anticipation that they will fall in the future?—I can show you one case, the Ballydonelan Estate, in which they have gone down by 7*s.* or 8*s.* at all events. That land at one time stood at 27*s.* and 28*s.* an acre. Afterwards it fell to £1 and less per acre. That land was distributed to the tenants by a scheme of Mr. Mahon's, and was sold to them at the extraordinary prices of from 25*s.* to 37*s.* 6*d.* an acre.

Sept. 27, 1907

Rev. J. P. Callanan.

56587. Now, with regard to the question raised by Sir Antony MacDonnell a few moments ago; if you were to break up these grazing lands and distribute them among tenants those tenants would be immediately placed in the position of being able to sell their interest at a considerable number of years' purchase?—Yes, if the landlord would divide and distribute it.

56588. No matter who would distribute it. Suppose there is a large tract of land, and a tenant is put into one of the new holdings, he will at once be able to sell his interest for a considerable number of years' purchase?—I do not know how far the law would restrain him in that regard.

56589. But he has acquired a tenant's interest?—Well, he is required to be there and work the holding and pay his annuity. If he does not pay his annuity then he is cleared out. I cannot answer the question as to what he would get, if anything considerable, by selling it to his neighbour. But I dare say if it was good land he would get something.

56590. His interest, after being established on the place, would be rather more than the landlord's interest?—It would.

56591. That really corroborates your answer to Sir Antony MacDonnell that it would be fair to charge him something more than the landlord's interest on his annuity?—Yes.

56592. You complain of the methods of the Congested Districts Board in holding a great deal of land for a long time, and not at once distributing it?—Yes.

56593. Of course you understand the reason?—They say the lands are not vested in them, but then why farm them themselves.

56594. But they must do something with the lands. They have acquired the interest in them, but they are not vested in the Board. There is one particular case in which the Board bought lands in 1903 and these lands were only vested in them in 1907. During that intervening period the Board must do something with the lands, and get what they can out of them. They cannot incur a dead loss for those years until they are able to get them into their possession, and distribute?—Yes; but the Estates Commissioners do not wait like that. They set to work at once, and deal with the land in the same way as if it was vested in them.

56595. But that may be accidental. It may happen that the vesting in one estate follows on the bargain much more rapidly than in the case of another estate where there may be difficulties of title?—But these things puzzle the layman. The Estates Commissioners buy land, and in a couple of months they have houses built and tenants settled on the lands before they are vested in the Commissioners. That is not done by the Congested Districts Board.

56596. Don't you think it may be dangerous to draw conclusions from individual cases?—I have given my opinion for what it is worth upon what I have seen by both bodies dealing with land in this locality.

56597. I think you will find, if you go into all the details, an explanation for all you complain of. And there is this further difficulty in the case of the Congested Districts Board, that they have to consider their plan of operations, and they may have to buy estates, and do, as a matter of fact, because they have to acquire at the same time certain other estates which may be useful for the purpose of enlarging holdings. They may sometimes buy untenanted land at a distance from the congested estate they have in view for the purpose of providing for the enlargement of holdings on that other estate. In such circumstances they may not be able to act with quite so much rapidity as the Estates Commissioners, who have not to consider the question of tenants at a distance. The Estates Commissioners have got a more limited and an easier problem than the Congested Districts Board, and therefore it is necessary to make allowance for the Congested Districts Board being slower in individual cases?—They may be somewhat slower, but it is no easy matter for me and other priests to try and restrain the people from these lands—in other words, from driving.

56598. I merely wished to point out that it might not be fair or proper to judge by individual cases. Another point I wish to refer to is this. In your precis of evidence you say—"The Congested Districts Board, on the Benmore Estate, built houses, some of which, I understand, medical opinion required to have improved for some migrants and sons of tenants, and refused to build for John Wade, and the only reason he can assign is that he was secretary of the United Irish League, and took a prominent part in hurrying up the division of lands. It is hardly conceivable the Board should stoop to such petty vindictiveness." Now, do you agree with the conclusion that that was done out of vindictiveness?—I do not believe that; I hardly believe they would do that.

56599. Is there any foundation for that suggestion?—Well, he was a very prominent man.

56600. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You never believed that the Congested Districts Board would be guided by that?—I would be very sorry to think it, and of course I do not think it; but I thought when they were settling other cases for the sake of peace they might have settled this man's case also.

56601. There may be good reasons for the Board's action?—Yes, and as a matter of fact I did not refer to that in my evidence to-day at all.

56602. Was the general feeling of the district represented to the Board?—I cannot say that.

56603. Was it represented to any of the officials?—I cannot say that. I inspected the place for myself and I got this information from two or three people.

56606. Mr. KAVANAGH.—You say some measures should be taken to prevent amalgamation of holdings?—Yes.

56607. CHAIRMAN.—What areas outside scheduled districts do you think require to be dealt with as congested?—My experience is that alongside every grazing tract there is a congested area which must be dealt with before a single outsider is brought there. A Galway man or a Galway family should not be sacrificed to make room for a Mayo man. It is poor administration to borrow from Peter to pay Paul—to relieve congestion in Mayo at the cost of making it permanent in Galway. On the borders of the Kenny estate in my parish, for instance, there are about twenty families with an average of about £6 valuation, some as low as £1 or £2, while there are ten or twelve men with no land, but with means derived from dealing in cattle and grazing, as well as from their hard earnings, for they did work hard in the hope of some day acquiring a holding in the locality and remain at home. It is worthy of remarking here that since the Congested Districts Board acquired that estate one of their tenants emigrated from necessity, and when I was in New York last year I found that boy and girl saving money with a view to returning when a division came. I fear it is not in human nature to stand by and see outsiders brought in without making a protest that won't tend to the peace of the district. I say the Congested Districts Board had no business in there at all, but, as they are there, let them see to the wants of the heads of families and make inquiries into means and suitability of other applicants in the locality. I may add that the diocese of Clonfert would meet the congestion in the diocese and in a good part of the county, as well as afford holdings for the evicted tenants. My parish lies between the Clanricarde and Pollock estates. Let the Estates Commissioners purchase the latter and a few adjoining estates, and the Clanricarde sore could easily be healed. In both these cases, as well as in the cases of Ashtown, Clonbrock, Colonel Nolan, and others, compulsion may be necessary, and, where necessary, should be applied. It was only the other day Lord Ashtown summoned all his tenants to his hall door, but only to trifle with and threaten them, absolutely refusing to sell. What can be done with a man like him without compulsion?

56608. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—When was that?—On the first week of this month.

56609. CHAIRMAN.—You are now dealing with the landlords in your district?—Yes; I think that landlords and their net incomes are handled too gingerly, no notice being taken of the fact that, if exorbitant rents before agitation were taken into account there is very little consideration due to these gentlemen. I may mention that in the Portumna Union there are 21,731 acres of untenanted land; 302 tenants under £5 valuation; 323 under £10, and 421 under £20. After supplying these and deserving sons of tenants, a goodly margin would be left for migration purposes. The population of the Union in 1841 was 30,836; it decreased year after year, until in 1901 it was only 9,054. The Pollock clearances, as well as the Clanricarde account for much of this, but I may state that

many of the Pollock, as well as the Clanricardes, are still waiting a chance to get back to the place of their birth. As far as my experience goes, this Commission, like so many others, will fail in its object, unless as a result, compulsory powers to acquire untenanted land are obtained, for most landlords you will have to deal with will either hold on to the land, or, if they sell, will hold out for the last shilling, indifferent alike to the future of the poor people, or even to the country they pretend to love. As the ratepayers have almost a direct interest in every sale that takes place, care should be taken that no direct bargains be made between landlords and tenants, at least without inspection, as the tenants are in most cases struggling and ready to avail of any immediate relief. And this is especially necessary where there is a division of grass lands directly by the landlord. Witness the Ballylonelan Estate. In this evidence I have gone into very little detail with regard to grass lands in the diocese generally, as I am aware you will get any information required on this head from others, either here or in Ballinasloe. One word, in conclusion, about the Agricultural Board. When you consider the objects of the Congested Districts Board and the States Commissioners, it should be plain that the work of the Agricultural Board should follow, not precede that of the former bodies. In the words of the Archbishop of Tuam; "Give them first the meat to cook." Give the people the land first, and then show them how best to treat it. And, where there is question of migration, especially from mountainous and inferior land to the rich tracts in contemplation, the work of the Agricultural Board may be not only useful, but essential, to any chance of progress. I may state that the people, in many instances, from the beginning viewed the efforts of the Agricultural Board with considerable suspicion, and the unpopularity of the late Vice-President did not tend to remove it. We hope for better things.

56610. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You express a strong opinion regarding Galway for the Galway men, and say they should not be sacrified for Mayo men?—Yes, subject to the conditions I have already stated.

56611. Connemara men are Galway men?—Yes.

56612. And on the principle of Galway for the Galway men you would be quite willing to see Galway men from Connemara settled on the lands at Loughrea?—Yes, subject to the condition that the people at home were not left congested and unattended to.

56613. But Connemara men are Galway men?—I do not want to insist on that county restriction so much. What I do insist on is before you bring migrants into a district you should have all the local congests dealt with.

56614. Now, if land is bought in Loughrea district, and the congestion in the neighbourhood is all relieved, and a balance of land still remains, don't you think the question of the people who are to have it is one of the people who are most congested and stand most in need of it?—Yes, certainly.

56614A. Then to whom would you give this land, a congest in Galway with a £10 valuation or a congest in Mayo with a £5 valuation?—I think I would give it to the man with the £5 valuation. I would give him as much land as would give him a fairly economic holding, but I would not give him all the land he wanted.

56615. After you had provided for the heads of families who were congested, what class would be your next consideration?—I have stated there should be close inquiry in each case. The circumstances differ in different cases, and you cannot apply a hard and fast rule to all cases. In some cases you may have a man with a son, or perhaps two, who are married and living in the same house with him, and their case must be considered.

56616. Are you aware that there is not enough land in the congested counties in the West of Ireland to put an end to congestion?—I believe there is not, but I suggest that if the Board went in for buying large tracts of land in Westmeath and Roscommon and migrated colonies to them it would be more advisable than migrating a few families, which will never solve the problem.

56617. Now, if all the congests in Loughrea had been provided with land, what do you think would be the reception of congests from Mayo or Connemara if brought to Loughrea?—I believe they would get a very hearty reception.

56618. You would not say they would have a warm reception?—No, not warm. Warm in Loughrea has a different meaning.

56619. Do you think there would be any disposition on the part of sons of tenants to resent these men coming into the district?—I presume that all along the line careful inquiry would be made into the claims of sons of tenants. I would not give the land to the eldest sons of tenants, or the majority who applied for it, but I would have strict inquiries made into every case.

56620. The first duty that the State imposes on the Congested Districts Board is to put an end to congestion, and I put it to you that utilising some of the lands for the sons of tenants while congestion still exists is not putting an end to congestion?—Yes, but to relieve congestion will be of very little use if you disturb the whole country by doing so.

56621. What do you mean by disturbing the whole country?—You will see what I mean if you take a locality where there is a body of young men who have been looking forward to getting this land, and seeing their friends going to America because they could not get it. Then you bring in a number of tenants from other districts and give them the land. I do not think there would be peace. I think there should be the fullest inquiries in each case.

56622. You would be content to yield to these men although by doing so you would be making permanent congestion in the most congested parts of the country?—No, I would not; but I think there should be strict inquiries made into the claims of the sons of tenants. I would not give land to a man who was not able to start life on it.

56623. You also said the ratepayers should be consulted in cases of sales, as they will be the ultimate security?—Yes.

56624. What form should that consultation take. Do you think the County Council should be called in?—I think the County Council should have a good deal to say to it. That is the body interested in the rates of the county, and they should have something to say to these matters.

56625. Mr. O'KELLY.—You have not considered the form in which that consultation it to take place?—No, I have not.

56626. But you think the County Councils should be consulted because they are, in a sense, responsible for the bargains made?—Yes.

56627. CHAIRMAN.—I wish to draw your attention to this. You say that inquiries into each case would modify down the number of applicants for grass holdings. In other words you mean that no man should be given land unless he had a certain amount of capital?—Yes; in the interests of the ratepayers and the public, I would like to see him having some capital to give him some chance of success.

56628. Have you considered the case of the man from the western seaboard who has no capital, and will probably have to be helped by the State, by loans or otherwise. Now, if you are going to help those men by loans, would not the men in the locality also ask for loans?—I understand from Dr. O'Donnell, and I believe it is a fact, that the Estates Commissioners buy land and allocate it for the purpose of relieving congestion in the West. Then the Congested Districts Board comes in with a certain amount of capital by which they can help these people in their new holdings. I would not bind them to help the ordinary sons of tenants. But if you take people from the congested areas and place them on these lands, then you will have to spend something in the way of spoon-feeding them and help them along for a little. There is no doubt that the tenants will require some little help. I would draw a distinction. Tenants who come from a congested area should be differently treated to young men claiming land.

56629. Then you would approve of giving grants or loans to people coming from the western seaboard, but you would not approve of similar treatment to the sons of tenants in the locality?—I suggest that the Congested Districts Board should take charge of these people, they being out from the congested areas, and look after them, but I do not suggest that they should take such notice of the sons of tenants.

56630. Would you approve of the Estates Commissioners having at their disposal public money for this purpose?—I think it would be very useful if it was given with discretion. I think it would strengthen

Sept. 27, 1907.

Rev J. P. Callanan.

the security. If you give a man ten acres and he has only a few sheep, then if you give him a little money to buy lambs to stock the place better you strengthen that security.

56631. Then in the cases of sons of tenants getting land, and migrants also getting land you say that the Congested Districts Board should give aid to the congests, and the Estates Commissioners give a small grant in aid to the farmers' sons?—I do not suggest that the work should be carried on on the same lines at all, but I do say that the Congested Districts Board should take charge of the people they bring in.

56632. What I want to know is, if the State acquires land and the Congested Districts Board brings in congests, those congests should, in your opinion, be helped by the Board by a grant. Now, should the Estates Commissioners, in the same way, help the sons of tenants?—I would hardly say that.

Mr. Peter J. Kelly examined.

Mr. Peter J. Kelly.

56633. CHAIRMAN.—You are a member of Loughrea Rural District Council and also a member of the County Council?—Yes.

56634. What evidence do you wish to give?—Well, I do not want to go into statistics, but to give a general outline of the information I have concerning this part of the country in general. As regards the social and economic state of Loughrea Rural District Council, I would say that roughly there are from 10,000 to 12,000 acres of untenanted land in the rural district. It is obvious if these large tracts of grazing land were in the hands of the Estates Commissioners for distribution a great social and economic change for the better would follow. One great blot, in my opinion, and I am certain of this, is that in the work of the Estates Commissioners they have to give too much money for untenanted land.

56635. Do you say that of the Estates Commissioners?—Yes. There is a land hunger in the West of Ireland and the people in their desire to get land have not given much thought to the price they have paid and are paying. This, in my mind, is a very serious state of things, and will, I believe, give the Government trouble they never anticipated. If the grazing tracts were to pass under the hands of the Estates Commissioners within reasonable time, it will, I believe, be through the medium of compulsion. Men like Lords Clanricarde, Ashtown, and Clonbrock will not give in easily. There were thousands of acres of land in that Union which might be used for re-afforestation. This, of course, would be purely the work of the State. It is hardly necessary to dwell on the amount of employment this work would give and the great advantage it would be to the country in the course of time. If there is one thing more than another that is urgently needed in this Union it is a good system of drainage. The rivers overflow, and running down from the mountains they, of course, flood the low-lying lands. This great current having no exit except by curves, overflows on the farms and destroys the crops.

56636. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Drainage in a country like this would be pretty difficult?—Oh, no; no difficulty whatever.

56637. Is there a sufficient fall?—Quite sufficient.

56638. The land suffers very much from want of proper drainage?—Very much indeed, because there was no drainage ever carried out in this part of the country.

56639. And I suppose the crops suffer?—Yes, the crops are sometimes swept away. Even potatoes, cocks of hay, and turf are carried away by the floods.

56640. And a scheme of drainage would remedy that state of affairs?—Yes, by direct drainage and not by curves, into the sea on one side and into the Shannon on the other.

56641. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You want to see these large tracts in the hands of the Estates Commissioners?—Of course.

56642. Should the Estates Commissioners drain all these large tracts?—I am not going to say by what authority, but I say by the State.

56643. But they should be drained?—Of course they should.

56644. And should they be drained before they are handed over to the tenants?—Some of it is in the hands of tenants already, and their crops have been swept away.

56645. But what tracts do you say should be in the hands of the tenants?—That is the untenanted land.

56646. But I understood you to say that a great deal of that land requires draining?—No, not that land. The untenanted lands on grazing farms do not require drainage. The unfortunate people at one time by the tyranny of the landlords were swept away from these beautiful lands to the mountain sides and the bogs. It is, therefore, for these tenants that the most drainage is required.

56647. Mr. BRYCE.—Would you consider it fair if the tenants had a comprehensive system of drainage carried out that they should pay something for that?—Well, that is a consideration for hereafter.

56648. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You mean do the work first and then find out about the payment?—I want the work to be done for the benefit of the country and the community at large. As regards the untenanted lands, I may say that there are on the mountain ranges in this rural district something like 1,200 holdings under £10 valuation, and I would wish that these holdings should be taken up by the Estates Commissioners, reclaimed and enlarged. Some of these men or their sons could be transplanted on the untenanted lands, and thus relieve congestion.

56649. CHAIRMAN.—But how can you relieve congestion by giving holdings to the sons of tenants?—I am only going upon the speech of Mr. Wyndham in the House of Commons when he was getting through this Bill. He said he was not for disturbing the old men, but he would take the young men and plant them on untenanted land. The old men would be left on the uneconomic holdings, and then as these old men died out their holdings would be thrown into other holdings to make them economic. Unfortunately, what Mr. Wyndham said in the House of Commons was never put into practice. It is like the statement of the present Chief Secretary when he said he would do away with Lord Clanricarde; but there is no sign of that yet.

56650. Mr. KELLY.—You are well acquainted with local opinion?—Yes.

56651. What would you say to a scheme whereby all the congests in Loughrea district should be first dealt with, and then the congests from Connemara brought in?—Well, if you knew the state of things on the mountain sides here you would not speak of Connemara at all. When you go to Connemara, deal with Connemara people, but when you come to Loughrea deal with congestion in Loughrea and the surrounding district. There are twelve electoral divisions here that to my mind should be scheduled as congested. In Connemara you have 1,200 men eking out an existence on the mountain sides, and the land is so steep you could not get a horse to work it.

56652. Now, if land is acquired in this Union, and by its distribution you turn uneconomic holdings into economic, and relieve congestion, and still have a surplus. For that surplus land there will, in all probability, be competition between the sons of tenants on the one hand and congests from a distance, say from Connemara, which would you favour?—I would certainly favour the congested men in Loughrea.

56653. Yes; but I suggest that all their holdings have been made economic, and they are provided for. There is a surplus remaining. Would you give it to migrants from Connemara or the sons of tenants?—Certainly I would give it to the sons of tenants, because they are so well adapted to work the land in this part of the country that that would be a gain to the State.

56654. CHAIRMAN.—Do you know Connemara?—I do know it fairly well.

CHAIRMAN.—Because I am anxious to know if you would express that view there.

56655. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—What would happen to Connemara men if they were brought down here, to the exclusion of the sons of tenants?—Well, that would be a matter for after consideration.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—On the principle that the subsequent proceedings would interest them more.

Mr. John Mullen examined.

Mr. John Mullen.

56656. Chairman.—You are a member of Portumna Rural District Council?—Yes. I have not much to say in addition to what Father Callanan has said, except that there are a few divisions in Portumna Union I would like to see scheduled as congested. They are the divisions of Abbeyville, Coose, and Drummin, in these divisions there are, in Abbeyville 23 tenants each valued under £5; in Coose, 45 tenants, each valued under £5, and in Drummin, 35 tenants, each valued under £5.

56657. You wish to see these divisions scheduled as congested?—Yes.

56658. Is that all you want to say?—Yes, that is all.

Mr. Frank M. Shawe-Taylor examined.

Mr. Frank M. Shawe-Taylor.

56659. Chairman.—You have been nominated by the Irish Landowners' Convention?—Yes. Having lived and farmed for nearly 20 years continuously in County Galway, and having farmed grazing lands of all classes largely there, both for myself and other people, and buying a large number of stock on commission yearly in the West of Ireland for customers in all parts of the country, I should like to give some evidence before the Royal Commission on Congestion, as to the effect which, in my opinion, the indiscriminate dividing up of the grass lands in the West would have on the country, and on the cattle trade in particular. There is a lot of deep, heavy land, in the County Galway, which is only suitable for grazing, and which is very valuable for that purpose. This land is eminently unsuitable for sub-division and tillage, and if this were attempted the result would be, in my opinion, not only ruin to the occupier, but also to the land. There is also in parts of Counties Galway and Clare a lot of rocky, "craggy" land, which is very valuable for winterage grazing, but which, of course, is not suitable for sub-division or tillage. In my opinion, it would be most injudicious to touch either of the above classes of lands for the purpose of the relief of congestion. On the other hand, there is plenty of dry, light, medium-class land in the West of Ireland now used for grazing purposes, which could be equally well used if sub-divided and tilled, and there is plenty of similar land, but of a heathery nature, which is now used for grazing, and worth very little for that purpose, which would be of far greater value, and be all the better for being sub-divided and tilled; but the tillage of such land would have to be well done, which would require skill as well as capital. I have no doubt but that ample and suitable untenanted land of the above description could be acquired without compulsion, if a fair price was given for it. I think it is impossible to lay down any hard and fast rule as to what amount of land should be given in connection with these new holdings, as so much depends on the circumstances of each case, and on the means and the family of the man going into occupation. As regards lands already sold and sub-divided, I would suggest that the Estates Commissioners should have returns furnished periodically to them, as to how they are being used, *i.e.*, how much is under tillage, how much under meadow (con-acre and otherwise), how much sub-let for grazing purposes. This, I think, would furnish instructive reading, and show that many of these new holdings are not being profitably used for the good of the land or the country in general. As regards the introduction of strangers from a distance being acceptable to the neighbouring occupiers, it all depends on the locality, and in many cases now the idea seems to be that all grass lands bought in a neighbourhood are to be divided amongst people living in that neighbourhood, regardless of the fact as to whether they already are in the occupation of economic holdings or not. If strangers from the congested districts are brought from a distance to occupy new holdings they would not, in my opinion, have sufficient agricultural knowledge, as a rule, to work their holdings properly and profitably, as many of them doubtless have never used any implement of husbandry except a spade, and know nothing of horse work. It would, therefore, in my opinion, be necessary to provide more or less instruction by competent persons, and also financial aid, to start these people at any rate, in their new conditions of life. Now, as to the effect which the breaking up of grass lands indiscriminately, or to any great extent, would be likely to have on the cattle trade, I would like to make a few remarks. The present system is for the small farmers to keep one or more cows, and breed and rear their own calves. The dealers also bring up large numbers of calves and yearlings from the South of Ireland to the West, and these are sold in the local fairs and markets to the small farmers, who keep them till they are about two year olds, when they are sold to the local graziers, who keep them till they are three year olds, and who then sell them to the Leinstermen to fatten, or to the shipper for exportation to England and Scotland, the land in the West not being good enough for that purpose. Now, if the local graziers are to be done away with, and all or most of the untenanted grass land divided, what will be the result? The more grass lands that are sold and divided, the more young cattle will be bred and reared in the country. But if the graziers are not in the markets, who is going to buy these store stock? The small farmer will be absolutely dependent on the "shipper" to buy these stock and export them to England and Scotland, as the case may be. Now anybody in the trade knows that an exporter will not touch a young store beast except he is in first-class condition, and, in my opinion, not one man out of a hundred will be able to produce his stock in this condition for sale, for it means that the whole of the present system of farming in the West must be changed. It means that the occupiers will practically have to fatten all the store stock they rear, in order to have them saleable, and, in my opinion, this would be an impossibility, for a large amount of land would have to be put under cultivation, which is not feasible, owing to lack of labour, and, in most cases, shortness of capital required to import labour. Under present conditions the small farmers have (1) the Connaught grazier, (2) the Leinster grazier, who buys young store cattle in forward condition, in the early spring, for the "pollying" trade, (3) the shipper, to depend on for the disposal of their stock; but if these conditions are altered they will be absolutely and entirely dependent on the shipper, and anyone in the trade knows what this means, viz., that when there is plenty of keep in England and Scotland the trade will be good, but when it is the reverse the trade collapses altogether, and this, in my opinion, would make store cattle in Ireland almost unsaleable, except at ruinous prices, and that the slump in prices would be such as was unseen or unheard of before. The cry now all over the country is, "Down with the graziers," but I fully agree with the statement made, that they are to a great extent the backbone of the West, and I think it will be a sorry day for the occupiers of old holdings or new if the graziers are to become a thing of the past. Let me give an illustration of the result of the graziers being done away with. One of my employers has lost five grass farms since the Act of 1903 passed, as they have been sold and divided. He does not grumble at this, for of course he can invest his money in many other ways; no more do I, though, of course, I am at a pecuniary loss thereby. But what is the effect of his change? It means that I now buy 500 fewer store cattle in all the local fairs round for this man than I did formerly; and what are now bought by the occupiers of these lands are merely nominal. This is one solitary individual case; but if this goes on all over the country, as undoubtedly it is doing, it is bound, in my opinion, to depreciate the value of store cattle, sooner or later, to an enormous extent, and to completely disorganise the cattle trade of Ireland, with the most disastrous effect on the general prosperity of the whole country. As regards the revival of tillage to any large extent, I believe it would not only be unprofitable, but impossible. I am the judicial tenant of a farm, the land of which is very suitable for tillage, and I have been improving my land considerably for a good many years past by a system of tillage, but I don't find it a profitable undertaking, the labour being scarce and dear, and particularly as my landlord has got my rent raised over ten per cent. for the second statutory

Sept. 27, 1907.

Mr. Frank M. Shawe-Taylor.

term—the result, I suppose, of being an improving tenant. So much so that my intention is practically to give up tillage on my farm. As regards stemming the tide of emigration by the dividing up of the grass lands, I think that this is more imaginary than real, for there is no doubt but that the present tendency is for the younger members of the family to go off and "do" for themselves. They are not content to stop at home, as formerly was the case, and give their labour on the work of the farm, and get little or nothing in return except their keep; so that if new holdings are created all over the country the eldest son of the occupier will remain at home and work on the holding which he is to come in for on the death of his father, but I don't think the younger children will do so, as they prefer striking out in "fresh fields and pastures new," and working for themselves. Unfortunately, farming is practically the only industry in Ireland, and there are too many of all sorts and conditions of men at it, and consequently it is overdone. I think that if decayed and declining industries were revived and fostered, and encouraged in every way, and new industries started, it would do as much, if not more, for the relief of the congested areas, and for the general welfare of the country, than the dividing up indiscriminately of all the grass lands of the West of Ireland. However, as already stated, I believe that there is a considerable quantity of land suitable for that purpose, and that it would be for the good of the country if such lands were divided, and that the right class of men, with some means and help, could be got to occupy them. I can speak with some authority in connection with these matters from the point of view of (1) a land agent, (2) a tenant farmer, (3) an owner in fee, farming my own land, (4) a tenant of lands purchased under the Ashbourne Act, and on which an annuity is now payable; (5) a grazier, and (6) a buyer of store stock on commission in the local fairs in the West of Ireland, besides managing grazing farms for other people.

56660. Could you tell me any more about this instance of the 500 cattle that you were buying?—Since this man's five grass farms were sold I buy 500 fewer store cattle for him at the local fairs.

56661. How about the men who bought this land, among whom the land has been divided, don't they buy store cattle?—No. A man gets twenty or thirty acres of a holding. He tills part of it; he grazes part of it; he has meadow on part of it, sheep on part of it; he has a brood mare, a yearling, or a year and a half old, and he has a colt or his foal. He does not buy store cattle. If he buys anything it is yearlings. They don't buy old cattle.

56662. What used you to buy?—Two-year-olds.

56663. Those two-year-olds were not supplied by the men in the West?—Every one of them.

56664. Is it usual to keep cattle to two years old in the West?—They keep them all until they are two years old. All the farmers who have any means keep them until this age, and then local graziers buy them and keep them for a year.

56665. Is there a man between you and the actual breeder?—In some cases there may be. In many cases there is not. In many cases they are bought directly from the man who breeds the cattle. If he is at all a strong farmer he keeps his cattle until they are two years old, because then he has the best market.

56666. You buy two-year-olds and sell them in about twelve months to the Meath men?—I sell them to the Leinster men, or, if sufficiently advanced, to the shipper.

56667. What is to prevent these people among whom the land is divided doing exactly what they did before?—They cannot buy the numbers. One of these men of twenty or thirty acres would probably have two or three cows.

56668. If he thinks it would pay him better he may, instead of keeping cows, buy two or three-year-olds, as your friend did?—They all keep from one cow upwards. If the system was changed each of these men would have from one to four cows, and they would want to keep these cows until they are two years old and sell them. A man with three cows on thirty acres of land would have to keep them until they are two years old, and then he has his brood mare and his foal until 1½ years old, and he will also keep sheep.

56669. Why should he do all these things? You are assuming that he keeps all these things?—He does do it.

56670. He may have in some cases. You assume it to be an invariable thing that when the land which has previously supported two-year-old cattle is broken up you are going to introduce sheep, foals, and all these other things which have not been kept before. Obviously he cannot have mares, foals, and the same number of cattle as before. It does not require a farmer to understand that; but why is it absolutely necessary that he should do that. What is to prevent a man who gets thirty or forty acres of an original holding of 200 acres doing in a small way exactly what the previous holder did on the 200 acres? It is not the system of the country. The system of the country is to buy yearlings and feed them to two years old. The man who sells at two years old makes the best profit. If a man did as you suggest he would have to keep them until three years old, and then sell them at local fairs.

56671. That is what you used to do?—No. I bought at local fairs at two years old and then kept until three years old. If he did the same he would have to sell the three-year-olds at local fairs.

56672. Why should not they do what you did?—I sold them in lots of twenty, thirty, or forty, to the Leinster men, at large fairs like Loughrea and Ballinasloe.

56673. Why should not they sell in lots of five or ten?—There is no sale for three-year-old cattle at local fairs in small lots. You are assuming they would do that, but they have not done it.

56674. The Ballinasloe dealer wants to buy a certain number of three-year-old cattle. I can understand that it suits him better to buy a lot of forty from you, but if you don't exist he is forced to go around to three or four people who between them are able to supply the number of cattle which you before were able to supply. What is to prevent them?—It may be more inconvenient?—There is nothing to prevent them, but it won't be done. It has not been done. It is more profitable for the small farmer to sell two-year-olds, for which there is competition between the local grazier, the Leinster grazier, and the shipper, than to keep them until they are three years old.

56675. Is not there a little confusion? You say that the local breeder has been in the habit of selling cattle as two-year-olds?—Yes.

56676. Then they are kept until they are three years old by men like you and sold in lots of thirty or forty at Ballinasloe Fair to the men who take them on to Leinster. What I want to know is why the men who are occupying the land which you originally occupied should not carry out a process exactly similar to that which you have described to us, and why should they not buy cattle from the local breeder at two years old and keep them on on their land until they are ready to sell as three years old to the Ballinasloe men?—There is nothing in the wide world to prevent them, but you must remember what stock he has got. What I want to bring forward is the depreciation in the price of store cattle, which will seriously affect small farmers. What I say is that the demand for these store cattle will depreciate, because there will be no grazier to buy them, for these large tracts of grazing land will be bought on a small scale. I buy 500 cattle for these farms. On your theory the man in occupation of those farms should do exactly as I do. Assuming that they did so, how many cattle could they graze on that farm if it were all divided up and they have got all this other stock?

56677. You are putting this stock on. I want you to forget it?—I cannot forget it.

56678. Why should he have this stock?—Because it is the most profitable stock to have.

56679. Would not you have sheep?—Yes.

56680. If there is room for you there is room for him?—I admit there is plenty of room for everybody, but the land fed 500 cattle before, and I bought all the local fairs from local farmers. The amount on that land now is purely nominal.

56681. I am not a farmer, but it does appear to me that the position which you have in your mind might be exactly reversed. Is not it possible that where you have four men acting the part of small graziers that the competition among them for these store cattle might be even keener than when the 200 acres is in the hands of one man?—I don't agree with you at all.

56682. Mr. Bryce.—You say already this process

f distribution of grass lands has gone on to a considerable extent. You have lost control of land that ed 500 cattle. According to you, this is going to roduce a fall in the price of store cattle?—Yes; in urse of time.

56683. Ought not that fall already be beginning to how?—The price of store cattle has not gone down p to the present.

56684. If a considerable part of the land has lready passed out of this method of treatment we ould have it beginning to show?—It has begun to ow lately. I have been in some fairs during the ast three weeks, and I think it has begun to show; at it did not begin to show last spring, when the rincipal trade of the country is done. In my pinion it is bound to come sooner or later.

56685. Three weeks is rather too short a time to ound an argument on?—It is my opinion that the ndiscriminate dividing up of these grass lands is ound to affect and depreciate to an enormous extent he value of store cattle in the country. They are ependent on one buyer, if they do that; that is the hipper. If you do that, and bring in the shippers, hen God help you.

56686. You are aware that in certain parts of the ountry, in Donegal for instance, and in Mayo, at resent a very large proportion of the trade is done irectly with the shippers?—I am not aware.

56687. We have evidence to that effect, and it appeared that the prices given by the shippers were just s good as those given by the graziers?—If they can roduce the cattle in sufficiently good condition—what say is that that is impossible—but if they could produce the cattle in first-class condition they could sell o the shipper provided you have good trade in England.

56688. On the other hand they have compensation to ome extent in the fact that a certain number of these eople by tillage will be able to carry their cattle further on, by having green crops to feed them on?—f you want to produce cattle in first-class store ondition you will have to till more.

56689. You have said that tillage does not pay. Suppose you had gone in for stall feeding cattle might not the tillage there have paid you?—I have done stall eeding.

56690. Did not that pay you?—No.

56691. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You say: "The present system is for the small farmers to keep one r more cows and breed and rear their own calves. The ealers also bring up large numbers of calves from the outh of Ireland to the West, and these are sold in he local fairs and markets to the small farmers, who eep them until they are about two years old." The ystem if changed would produce no change in the conomy of the country up to that point. It would e still the small farmers who would keep cattle up o two years old?—Yes.

56692. Then come in the grazier who keeps the cattle r a year and sells them to the Leinster man or exorts them?—Yes.

56693. Would not the elimination of the grazier still llow two competitors to remain—the Leinster man nd the shipper?—No. The Leinster man only buys oung store cattle at one period of the year.

56694. He buys from the grazier?—No.

56695. That is what you say here?—He buys from he grazier and also from the small man, because there s what they call the pollying trade. This refers to young store cattle in forward condition that are ought in February, March, and the beginning of April by the Leinster graziers for the purpose of the ollying trade. They are brought up to Leinster and lishorned and fed for the summer, and sold in the utumn to the Scotch and English feeders.

56696. At what age?—They would be two and a half ears old in September. They dishorn them in the ounty Meath. That trade only lasts for a couple of onths. They would not buy at the end of April or May for the pollying trade as they cannot dishorn hem in the hot weather. You have only got a few months in the year for the small farmer having attle in forward condition; and there are going to e two markets for them, the Leinster market and the hipping market. The Leinster market must be in February, March, or the very beginning of April. Otherwise the Leinster men are out of it altogether.

56697. Why should not that take place under the new dispensation?—There is no reason in the world why it should not take place.

56698. If the grazier is eliminated would not there still remain the two markets, that of the Leinster men and that of the shipper?—Another side to that is that a great deal of the grass land of Meath is not suitable for this pollying trade. There is a lot of that land which is only suitable for three-year-old beasts to feed on. Men with that land won't go into that trade and compete for these young cattle for pollying purposes.

56699. If the grazier disappeared it would follow that the small farmer would keep on his beasts for a year longer or the Leinster man would buy a year earlier?—I don't quite follow that.

56700. The grazier now keeps them from two years old to three. We want to see whether that year could be bridged over if the grazier were eliminated. It could be bridged by the small farmer keeping the cattle until they were three years old, or by the Leinster men buying the cattle a year earlier, at two years old. Some of the Leinster men buy two-year-old cattle for the pollying trade, but for the rest of the trade the cattle are kept until three years old. Would not you consider it possible that the small farmers by stall feeding and so on could keep their cattle until they are three years old and sell them to the Leinster men?—It is possible, but not profitable. How many small farmers in the West of Ireland are going to stall feed? They would have to build office outhouses and all the rest of it to feed their cattle.

56701. Stall feeding has been done elsewhere by small farmers?—It may have been done on a small scale, but if on a general scale it will disorganise the trade.

56702. You tell us that no change will be made up to the point when the cattle will be two months old. Two fates are then before them. Some of them may be bought by the Leinster men for the pollying trade; others are sold to local graziers to be kept until they are three?—That is the cattle that are not in condition.

56703. With regard to the pollying trade the elimination of the local trade won't affect that?—No.

56704. The local grazier has nothing to do with them whatsoever?—No.

56705. Even if you eliminate the local grazier, there will still be nothing to prevent the small man bringing the cattle up to two years old to such condition that the man who does this pollying trade in Meath and Kildare will go on buying them and selling them to the Scotchman at two and a half?—Yes.

56706. Therefore all we have to consider is the part the local graziers play?—Yes.

56707. That is why I say I do not see why the small man should not be able to keep his small number of cattle for that year just as well as the bigger man now keeps his bigger number?—It is impossible. He has not the capital to do it. If a man on a new holding has a place for three cattle, do you think he is going into the market to buy three three-year-olds? He will buy three yearlings and will sell them to the grazier after keeping them for a year.

56708. That is another point. It is entirely a question as to whether the small man will have capital to enable him to do what the big man did?—I don't think he will have capital in the first place. It won't be so profitable in the second.

56709. It would be more profitable to buy two-year-olds if he had the capital, with a market for them at the end of the year?—I have seen these farms divided, and they are stocked principally with yearlings.

56710. What is the difference in price between a two-year-old and a three-year-old?—There may be £3, or probably £4.

56711. Is £4 or £9 or £10 going to make the whole difference in a man's management of his farm? Even if it did, could not that be met by loans to these men who have their holdings?—There is nothing to prevent them buying two-year-olds, but they won't, because it is not for their benefit to do so.

56712. If there is a market for three-year-olds, and the example of the graziers is before their eyes, why should they be so foolish as to buy yearlings when they know there will be a great deal of difficulty in selling them as two-year-olds, and when they know that if they buy two-year-olds they can sell them as three-year-olds to the Meath grazier?—The market for three-year-olds to small farmers is a very imaginary one. Go into any local fair 10 or 15 or 20 miles south of this, where the Meath men don't come, if the cattle were kept until three years old there would be a very bad demand there. The Leinster men won't go to a local fair to buy 5, 6, or 10 beasts.

Sept. 27, 1907.

Mr. Frank M. Shawe-Taylor.

56713. That is simply because the custom is not to keep the beasts until they are three, and therefore it is not worth their while to go down for a few cattle; but if it became the habit of a large number of people to buy two-year-olds and keep them until three, there would be a demand for them?—That may be, but I don't think the small farmer will ever be able to keep cattle from two to three years old. I don't think it would be profitable for him to attempt to do it.

56714. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you refer to small farmers in Galway, or generally all over Ireland?—In the County Galway.

56715. Have you any knowledge of Kerry, Clare, West Cork, and these districts?—I have been in Kerry and Clare. I know Clare pretty well. I live on the borders of Clare.

56716. I understood you to say that the small farmers here can keep their cattle until they are two years old?—Yes.

56717. Can the small farmers in Kerry, Clare, and West Cork?—They can do it in Clare. They have the best two-year-old cattle in Ireland in Clare.

56718. Have you any experience of fairs in other parts of the country, such as Kerry and West Cork?—No.

56719. I presume that the whole question is—what is the meaning of a small farmer in relation to the power of keeping cattle?—Yes.

56720. If the small farmer in Kerry and West Cork cannot keep the cattle until they are two years old, the position there is different from that of the small farmer here?—Yes.

56721. It would be a difference in your illustration of the general cattle trade if the large bulk of the small holders of Ireland cannot keep their cattle until they are two years old?—I cannot really grasp the meaning of the question. They keep them now until they are two years old.

56722. In your district?—In the County Galway. I don't say in Connemara.

56723. That question arises in this way, that we have a great deal of evidence that small farmers cannot keep their cattle until they are two years old. That applies to a district dissimilar in that sense from Galway?—Yes.

56724. With regard to Lord Dudley's question as to what effect the striping of land would have on the quantity of stock kept, the assumption is that if the small farmer is given a new farm of suitable size on a piece of grass land, he will by intensive agriculture be able to keep his stock from the time he produces them until he finishes them. I ask you this as a practical question. Take a farmer starting with three cows. After the first year he will have three calves?—Yes.

56725. The second year he will have three more?—Yes.

56726. The third year three more?—Yes.

56727. And the fourth year three more?—Yes.

56728. That will be the first lot when they are three-year-olds?—Yes.

56729. So that a farmer, in order to carry out that policy, must have a capacity to carry fifteen beasts; is not that so?—Yes.

56730. You have drawn attention to the necessity for eliminating certain classes of land from land that would be taken up for the purpose of settlement and agriculture. I presume you would exclude from that land the rocky land, because you cannot work a plough?—Yes.

56731. And I presume you would also exclude the land that is by nature and condition more suitable for grass than for tillage?—Yes.

56732. Therefore what you mean by greater discrimination is you must begin at all events with the land which is neither rocky nor is best adapted for grazing?—Yes.

56733. And the balance is what you would consider available for the immediate purposes of migration and settlement?—Yes.

56734. You advocate continuous supervision in cases where land has been settled?—I think if you bring migrants to land and give them twenty-five acres it will be absolutely essential.

56735. And you think that facilities should be afforded them, by means of instruction and example to make the best use of their land?—Certainly.

56736. Do you also bracket with that necessity of supervision the retaining of powers with regard to the maintenance of improvements executed on the land by the public purse?—Yes.

56737. You say that dealers also bring up large numbers of calves and yearlings from the South of Ireland to the West, and these are sold at the local fairs to small farmers: you mean cattle under two years old?—Yes. There are thousands of calves and yearlings brought up from the South of Ireland and sold in the West.

56738. You regard the grazier, on the whole, as a steadying influence on the cattle market?—I regard him as an absolute necessity for the sale of store cattle in the West of Ireland. I think it will cause an enormous depreciation if he is done away with. I am speaking against myself, because I am a tenant farmer myself; but I think that in five years we shall be able to buy cattle pounds cheaper than now.

56739. You mean that the effect will not be so much against the large farmers as against the small farmers, who are compelled, in order to live, to sell their cattle young?—Yes, as two-year-olds.

56740. It is in the interest of the small holders of Ireland, who are compelled to sell their cattle young, that you form the conclusion you do?—I think so.

56741. CHAIRMAN.—Is it in order to insure a continuous supply of cattle for the Western seaboard that you are so anxious that the population of the seaboard should remain where it is?—Well, yes.

56742. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You say you have land and improved that, and that on the hearing of your second term rent application your rent was increased?—Yes, by ten per cent.

56743. That is because the principle of the revision of rents is to value the land as it is?—Yes.

56744. If you had not improved your land, but had let it go back, it would be more likely you would have had a reduction?—Certainly; I would have got a good reduction.

56745. Therefore the question of statutory rents is not so much a question of the actual inherent capacity of the soil as it is of the way in which the soil has been treated?—Quite so. The worse the farmer the bigger the reduction he gets.

56746. Therefore, in basing the price of land upon second statutory term rents is not loss caused to an owner in cases where the tenant, by neglect, has reduced the value of the land?—Yes.

56747. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—In fixing the rent in that case were you not allowed for your improvements?—Yes. I made the best case I could, and did everything that was possible. Still the fact remains that my rent was increased by ten per cent. There was a fox cover on the farm which my landlord objected to. He said I ought to till it. There was not sufficient land on the cover to bury a snipe.

56748. Mr. O'KELLY.—Who is your landlord?—Mr. Martin Ward.

56749. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—From what you have said to Sir John Colomb and Sir Antony MacDonnell it would appear that tenant farmers, in view of the fixation of rent have rather an inducement to allow the land to get depreciated?—I think so.

56750. With that before the tenant farmers of Ireland, what is to occur when it comes to the fixation of a third term rent?—I don't know what will happen. I think I will let my land go back and try to get a good reduction.

56751. Do you think in the third term rent there will be a considerable reduction?—I would not like to prophesy.

56752. Do you think that third term rents will be notably under second term rents?—I suppose they will be. Second term rents have been under first, and it follows, I suppose, that third term rents will be under second.

56753. Do you think it would be a good business for landlords, with that ahead, to get rid of their lands by sale and purchase as quickly as possible?—I do.

56754. Those were very productive cows that Sir John introduced to your notice. At any rate, I suppose under the new system of small farmers there would be very little danger of the number of cattle going down?—I think it would not go down.

56755. According to your suggestion neither the first class nor the craggy lands would be tilled, but the intermediate land would be tilled?—Yes.

56756. Let us take that intermediate land when it is tilled. Why should not the tillers of it be instructed in intensive agriculture so that they may

ar and feed and fatten their stock on the small ldings?—You have got to get the land tilled first. ou are assuming that you are going to get enough land tilled, but the state of the labour market ill, I think, make this an absolute impossibility on large scale.

56757. Did you yourself try cultivation on a large ale?—Not very large.

56758. You did not succeed?—It did not pay.

56759. Take a small man of thirty acres. Why ould not it pay him?—I don't think it would. I on't think he could keep cattle and stall feed them. le would have to build out-offices and buy corn and eal. It would pay him far better to try to get out his cattle at two years old.

56760. Has it come under your observation that the all feeding in Scotland, according to Mr. Suther- nd, is mainly done by small farmers?—I am not ware of the fact.

56761. If stall feeding is done in Scotland by the nall farmer, why should it not be done in Ireland nder an improved system of agriculture?—If you ave got a beast produced in Connemara, who is ing down there to buy him?

56762. I think that wherever there is a good beas is bought?—Only that a few local graziers happen be there those people in Connemara would have no le for their beasts.

56763. If it was known that there was good beef, ould not persons come there to buy for butchers in ublin?—I don't think so. They can get plenty of ef in Dublin.

56764. Do you agree that under an intensive sys- m of cultivation, with green crops produced in ro- tion under a system of mixed agriculture, a farmer ight rear his own stock and fatten and finish?—It possible.

56765. It is done in Scotland and other places?— ou have got to change the system of the country fore you can accomplish it here.

56766. Don't you think that in many ways it would well to change the system of the country?—In some ses, but not all.

56767. We have disposed of the middle class land which it is possible by an improved system of griculture to grow its own stock and feed and fatten We have then the first class land and the craggy nd. Is not the first class land still available to ke the young stock?—Yes, provided the heavy land not touched.

56768. Did I understand you to say that certain nd now took 500 beasts less than it used to?—No, t I have lost the buying of 500 store cattle from e small farmers of the country. This is a solitary dividual result, but if it goes on indiscriminately over the country, what will be the result?

56769. If those farms in the hands of the new yers take as many cattle as they used to have on m there would be no difference?—They would do many cattle if the same conditions prevailed, but you build houses on thirty acres of land the same nditions will not prevail.

56770. Don't you think in the first years of the tlement of a man either by the Estates Commis- ners or the Congested Districts Board he will have at difficulty?—Yes.

56771. He cannot till the first year as afterwards? That may be.

56772. Even if an intensive system of agriculture ue in it would not be possible to have it in work- g order for the first couple of years?—Absolutely possible, in my opinion, for what it is worth.

56773. Mr. O'Kelly.—Did you read Mr. Doran's dence on that point?—I read some of his evidence.

56774. Did you see where he said you could fatten re cattle if you divided the country?—I did not that, but I don't agree with it as a practical mer.

56775. Mr. Doran is a practical farmer of great ex- rience?—I should not agree with him.

56776. He says if you have a farm of 100 acres and de it into four farms of twenty-five acres each it uld carry at least as many cattle as before, if not re, because the farms would be improved a great deal d tilled, and the weeds which they now produce in eat quantity would be no longer there?—Yes. here are a great many weeds on the tenants' lands well as on the landlord's land.

56777. In any case would you consider the condi- ons of the country satisfactory where you have a very prosperous cattle trade and a great deal of poverty among the small people? The condition of the cattle trade does not furnish the best index to the general condition of the country?—No; but my point is that if you do away with the local grazier or middleman these people will suffer.

56778. On that point experts disagree?—That is my opinion. I only give it for what it is worth.

56779. Mr. Bryce.—What is being done with these lands, the distribution of which has taken away the purchase of 500 head of cattle?—I have not gone on the land, inspected what is being done, but I drive by and see what is going on.

56780. How many cattle are those lands carrying now as compared with what they carried before distribution?—I could not possibly say the exact number, but a great deal of it is under conacre meadow, and a great deal of it is sublet. As regards number of cattle I should be afraid to say what number.

56781. Probably it carries quite as many as it did before?—I think about 100 instead of 500, and they have got sheep, and some of it is under tillage.

56782. Mr. O'Kelly.—It is carrying more people?—Of course it is.

56783. Mr. Bryce.—You say you think it is very desirable for the Estates Commissioners to have returns furnished to them as to how the subdivided lands are being used, as to conacre, and so forth, and how much is sublet for grazing purposes, as you think these returns would show that many of these holdings are not being profitably used for the good of the land or the country in general. What exactly do you mean by that?—I don't think it a profitable thing for the land of the country to be in conacre, to have a large amount in conacre meadow, or to have a large amount sub-let. I do not think it is for the economic good of the country. The lands are not being artificially manured, and you see an enormous quantity of hay in the country. What is to become of it? There is no one to buy it as far as I can see. I have been offered hay at £1 a ton. It does not pay to grow hay at £1 a ton.

56784. Sir John Colomb.—As against what price in former years?—It varies a good deal. Some years there is a very good crop of meadow and some years there is not.

56785. On the whole, is your evidence that the transfer of land leads to a fall in the price of hay, by more hay being saved?—Yes.

56786. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—Was the letting into meadow of the farm to which you refer as having been divided due to the people not being prepared for tillage, or is it the rule that the land is allowed to become meadow and sublet?—A great many of them are.

56787. Then would you be in favour of a system under which the people placed on these farms be put under an obligation to cultivate so much of these farms at a particular period—to have, say, five out of twenty acres tilled in three or four years?—Everybody has an idea of the revival of tillage. I don't think it will ever come to pass. We have been told that if they revive tillage these small farmers will be able to carry cattle until they are fat, but I don't think they will ever be able to do that.

56788. We had some complaint of the amount of hay being produced, and it turned out that it was owing to particular circumstances of a temporary nature?—It may be convenient for a man to meadow or conacre for one year, but I don't think it is for the good of the country to have that going on.

56789. Mr. Bryce.—Is it your experience that grazing land has been allowed to depreciate and become of less value for the want of proper manuring?—I don't think so. Some graziers are more careful on the land and get thistles and ferns cut, and the landlord probably manures the meadows and that sort of thing, but I would not say in my experience that they have been depreciating.

56790. You think, taking the price of cattle into consideration, that on the whole grazing lands are as valuable now as they were twenty years ago; I am not talking about market value, but productive value?—I was only beginning twenty years ago, but certainly I would say they are for the last ten years.

56791. You would say that there is no sensible depreciation in that period?—No.

56792. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—You had to do with the Branagh farm of 500 acres?—Yes.

Sept. 27, 1907.

Mr. Frank M. Shawe-Taylor.

56793. That was divided last year among the tenants?—Yes.

56794. Are they managing their holdings properly?—I cannot say whether they are. I only passed by three or four times. That is not the farm I was referring to in the observations I made. I cannot say as to all, but I know that some of them have it sub-let, but that may be for the convenience of the occupier.

56795. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Were not these cattle ranches all cultivated at one time?—I believe some of them were.

56796. What was the cattle trade system at that time?—I could not say before my time.

56797. It might revert back to the system that existed many years ago?—It might.

56798. All the grazing land could not be cut up at one time. You understand that it would be a gradual process?—Yes. There are signs of tillage on many of these grazing farms. There are signs of wheat having been grown there.

56799. Don't you think the milling trade would revive if the grass lands were used in part to grow more corn?—I quite agree that the grass lands that are suitable should be sub-divided and tilled, but it would be against the economic good of the country to have the heavy rich land, which is only good for grazing, touched at all.

56800. Mr. BRYCE.—You think those intermediate lands of which you spoke would be more profitable economically if they were broken up?—Many lands would.

56801. Mr. O'KELLY.—I suppose the lands of Meath would fall under that category?—Yes.

56802. Tillage there would scarcely be profitable?—I don't think so. I suppose there is land in Meath that is suitable for being tilled, but speaking generally I should say not; but I have never farmed any land in Meath.

56803. You have not seen the experiments carried out by the late Mr. M'Cann in the County Meath?—No.

56804. Some of the richest and heaviest land has been turned into tillage?—No.

56805. You think it will take some time for small farmers to get knowledge sufficient to equip them for the successful work of agriculture?—If you bring them in from congested areas.

56806. What period in your view would the teaching cover?—I would not make any defined rule.

56807. Take a man with a 25 or 30 acre holding?—The first difficulty, in my opinion, is the handling of a plough. That man probably never handled a plough in his life.

56808. What period would that cover in your view?—I think that circumstances would alter cases. One man probably in two or three years would understand a certain amount. Another man might want supervision for twice that number of years. Some of them don't know anything about horses, and never used a horse in their life.

Mr. EDWARD SHAW TENER examined.

Mr. Edward Shaw Tener.

56809. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You wish to make a statement as to some evidence that has been given?—Yes. Mr. Henry Murphy, Solicitor, of Galway, gave evidence as to the condition of the townland of Carrowbrowne on the Clanricarde Estate, near Galway, in which he said the tenants had to pay £1 per year for their turf; and he also said it was a great hardship on the tenants that there was no roadway into the bog, as the turf had to be carried a long distance by the tenants on their backs, and that it frequently happened if the weather were wet the turf had to be left on the bank for a while. He also stated that in 1892 the landlord levied a shilling tax on the banks until the roadway was made, which was never finished, and that the tax is still levied. I give a flat contradiction to every statement there. It was not true that the tenants were charged £1 each. On the contrary there is only one man on the entire estate who is charged 14s. All the rest are charged from 5s. to 10s. It is not true that any such levy as a shilling per tenant was made to make a road; nothing of the kind; nor that there was not sufficient road into the bog. On the contrary, there is a yearly sum paid by the landlord to keep that road in proper order. I pay that on its being certified to me that it is made properly, and I am astonished that a gentleman of Mr. Henry Murphy's standing as a solicitor should make any of these statements without first communicating with me. If he wished to know the exact facts I would have given him figures.

56810. CHAIRMAN.—How did this idea rise about the shilling levy?—I don't know. I never heard of it until I saw it in the paper.

56811. When the road was made did the tenants contribute anything?—No, I think not. I have been maintaining it for twenty years.

56812. It was made before you were agent?—Yes.

56813. Since you have been agent you are not aware of any payment made by the tenants towards the road?—None whatever.

56814. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—It is charged against the estate?—Yes; paid yearly.

56815. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Where is the turbary?—In the townland of Carrowbrowne.

56816. Is it on the tenants' holdings or separate?—Separate.

56817. Had they ever that turbary free?—I don't know; not in my time.

56818. Are the holdings rather small on that townland?—They are.

56819. Mr. Murphy told us that they were quite uneconomic. What would you propose to do to make these holdings economic?—These tenants are permitted to sell the surplus turf they take, and some of them sell £3 worth of turf, and some £5, and some £7 worth of turf in the year, though their rents may be only from £7 to £8.

56820. But you would contemplate enlargement of their holdings as a useful thing?—Certainly.

56821. How could that be done?—It could not be done on that estate.

56822. Is there no land on the Clanricarde estate that could be used for the enlargement of holdings?—No land on that estate.

56823. On other parts there would be land?—Other parts would be 15 or 20 miles away.

56824. Would not it be a good thing to give them untenanted portions on other parts of the estate?—There is no untenanted land.

56825. No land in your hands?—No land whatever on the estate that is untenanted. The only untenanted land is the home farm.

56826. Would it be quite convenient to say how the home farm is used?—One-fifth portion of it is tilled, and meadowed yearly in conjunction with the residence and the other four parts are temporarily let at present.

56827. The owner I understand is not residential?—No.

56828. Then he does not require much home farm?—But he might be.

56829. When he is not would not these poor people be able to make a better use of it?—There are people in occupation of it who are nearer to it, and it is a small piece of land after all.

56830. Should you say that the condition generally on the Clanricarde estate is that there is not enough grass land to enlarge uneconomic holdings?—There is not. There is no 11 months' holding.

56831. What the Commission would like to know is as to the possibility of a sale of this estate to a body such as the Congested Districts Board or the Estates Commissioners with a view to the enlargement of the holdings somewhere of men who have small holdings?—It would be beyond my province to enter into that question. I am simply an agent.

56832. You are not in a position?—I am not in a position to say anything about the sale of the estate.

56833. But there have been communications on the subject addressed to Lord Clanricarde?—I daresay there have.

56834. What was the nature of the replies?—I don't know. They were not addressed to me.

56835. Have you any knowledge that there were communications addressed?—I have known communications sent to him.

56836. Was there a reply?—I don't know. I cannot say.

56837. When one is deriving a large income from a district ought he not to acknowledge a communication of that sort?—I have no opinion to offer.

56838. It is generally held that people who have large estates have something of the character of trustees towards the public?—In this case the estate is the lowest rented in the county. The tenants have a great many privileges, as to turbary, wherever turbary exists, and other privileges as well. They are given large quantities of timber for their farms and for roofs of houses. I don't think they have anything to complain of with regard to the landlord, so far as rent and occupation go.

56839. Suppose that that is so, and I take it to be as you say because I have no local knowledge, what do you think should be done in the way of procuring enlarged holdings for the small tenants on the estate?—If they could get some extensions outside the estate. There is no available land outside the estate except in small patches.

56840. Are you aware that it is exceedingly difficult to do anything for small men unless the estate on which they live is sold?—That is because of the ill-will of the people on adjoining estates, or their want of patriotism in not welcoming these poor people and giving them a share in their goods.

56841. No doubt in order to bring in men you require some good-will where they are brought. Apart from that, unless an estate is sold is not it difficult to change men off it at all? Would not the farm be left derelict?—I think not. There are two small farms on the Clanricarde estate situate some 10 miles from Loughrea and they have been recently transferred to the Benmore estate you heard of to-day. The rent of one of these men was £3 5*s*., and an adjoining tenant paid him £70 for the tenant right. He was transferred with another to Benmore. I believe they are doing nicely.

56842. That transaction is so far good?—Yes.

56843. Although the tenant who was left behind and got the enlargement paid a very big price?—Yes; showing he was satisfied with the rent of his holding.

56844. Does not that show what can be done if that were extended on a large scale?—I should like to see it decidedly.

56845. The only way in which it can be done on a large scale is by purchasing the estate on which these men are?—I don't think that is necessary. This very case is an example which shows that it is not necessary. When these two men have been transferred why could not others be transferred?

56846. Does it follow because those men were in the neighbourhood that others could be provided with plots?—This was not in the neighbourhood. This was twenty miles away.

56847. Does it follow because it was done in two instances it can be done all round?—It is said the exception proves the rule, but here there were two exceptions.

56848. I quite appreciate them, but they seem to lead to this conclusion, that some such remedy should be adopted all round as would lead to a similar benefit for others?—I should most certainly like to see small holdings enlarged, and there are some parts on the Clanricarde Estate that we do intend to use to enlarge adjoining holdings.

56849. Mr. O'Kelly.—Charging fines for enlargement? Certainly not. You have no right to make that suggestion.

56850. Mine is merely a question. I have heard of such cases before, and I merely wanted to know whether in enlarging those holdings fines were to be charged. I did not suggest that you were to charge them. I suppose you will agree that congestion is a great evil?—No doubt.

56851. In common with all in the country you would like to see it brought to an end?—I should.

56852. The fact that you are a land agent affords you a special opportunity for assisting toward that end?—I should be glad if that were so.

56853. I suggest to you that there is some grazing land upon Lord Clanricarde's property?—Where is it.

56854. You say you have no untenanted land. Have you any land on the eleven months system on Lord Clanricarde's property?—No.

56855. Or any on the twelve months system?—No.

56856. What is the character of the tenancy at Tullahill? An eleven months tenancy?—No.

56857. A present tenancy?—Yes.

56858. Am I right in suggesting that the person who grazes Tullahill is a Mr. Levinge from Athlone?—Yes.

56859. Living a considerable distance from this place, he is regarded as a non-residential grazier?—Yes.

56860. When did Mr. Levinge get his tenancy?—About ten years ago. I cannot tell you the exact date.

56861. Would it be a year before the contemplated introduction of the Land Bill of 1902?—I had no thought of it. I have no recollection of considering any Act of Parliament at the time, but as you mention that farm it is unsuitable to break up. It could not be cultivated, but half of it is excellent grass land and the other half is needed for meadow to supply the other land in winter. It is a very small farm. If it were otherwise, I would be delighted to have it divided, and I have divided a larger tract of land close to Loughrea, which was surrendered three years ago, into eight portions.

56862. Are there any other tenants on the Clanricarde property holding on the same tenure as Mr. Levinge from year to year?—Some hundreds. Nearly all the tenants who are non-judicial tenants are tenants from year to year.

56863. Of that class you have some hundreds?—Yes. That is to say, that class applies to all the tenants who have not entered the Land Court. Of course, they could do so to-morrow.

56864. You have some hundreds who hold on the same terms as Mr. Levinge?—Yes, from year to year.

56865. If the Clanricarde Estate were sold in the morning to either the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board, either of these bodies would have the right to determine that tenancy by giving compensation?—Certainly, they would not have any such power. These are tenanted lands. The tenant, although he may not be a judicial tenant, has a perfect right to go into the Land Court.

56866. Do I understand you to say that a tenancy created after the Act of 1881, and known as a future tenancy, cannot for the purchase of an estate be determined by the Congested Districts Board?—When you speak of present tenants, I don't believe that the Congested Districts Board or the Estates Commissioners either would have any power to terminate the tenure of a present tenant.

56867. You don't believe it?—I am positive of it.

56868. Is that belief based on actual knowledge of the facts?—It is tenanted land, and they could not deal with it.

Mr. Stewart.—Anybody can determine a future tenancy on six months' notice. Either the Board or the landlord can do it on six months' notice with a maximum of four years compensation.

56869. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—As regard the Congested Districts Board, having come into possession of an estate, they can terminate the tenancy?—Yes; that is a different matter altogether. I thought Mr. Stewart meant that future tenancies could be determined without a sale.

56869A. Chairman.—Is not this the state of the case: if the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board purchase an estate they can terminate the tenancy of future or present tenants upon that estate by giving them six months' notice, and a maximum of three or four years' compensation paid for disturbance, with compensation for improvements?—As regards future tenants, they certainly could, because they come into the possession of the land, but I don't think they can deal that way with present tenants.

Mr. Stewart.—The Estates Commissioners cannot, but the Congested Districts Board can.

56870. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—In case the tenant were not satisfied with the compensation, he has an appeal to the County Court?—Yes, he has.

56871. Mr. O'Kelly.—In common with everyone, you deplore congestion?—No doubt.

56872. On it being pointed out to you that the only way by which on your property congestion could be brought to an end would be by the sale of the Clanricarde Estate, would you be disposed to facilitate its sale?—I have nothing to do with the sale. I am simply a land agent, and I keep within my own province.

56873. The land agent of Lord Dillon had some influence with his master?—I would like to do anything I possibly could to facilitate the well-being of the tenants.

Sept. 27, 1907

Mr. Edward Shaw Tener.

56874. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I may take it that this is a correct description of your functions: to administer the estate according to the law and the instructions you get from your employer?—Precisely.

56875. Your power does not extend beyond that?—No.

56876. I understand that with the exception of the Clanricarde Estate demesne and a small home farm all the lands are in the hands of occupiers?—Yes.

56877. There are hundreds of tenants who are from year to year, but everyone of this particular class could go into the Court?—Yes.

56878. Is the fact that they do not go into court in any way attributable to another fact—that the reductions given to those who have gone into Court are not such as to encourage the others to go in?—I will give you an instance. Last year on portion of the estate, which comprises 67 tenants, five tenants went into the Land Court, and the rents were raised by the Sub-Commissioners one-third, and the remaining 60 odd tenants have not gone into the Land Court until this week, when four or five appeared before the Commissioners at Portumna. It remains to be seen what the Commissioners will do with them. I imagine that they will be treated in the same way.

56879. At any rate, the fact remains that the number that has gone into Court is very small?—I should say that two-thirds of the tenants have judicial rents, and the remaining one-third have not, and they don't seem to be inclined to go for them, though an occasional notice is served.

56880. But the fact remains that in the case of five tenants who went into court, their rents instead of being lowered were raised?—Yes.

56881. Is that a common occurrence on contiguous adjoining estates?—No.

56882. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Were they first or second term rents?—First term rents.

56883. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Are the men who have now gone into court men who seek first or second term rents?—First term rents.

56884. Have any men applied for second term rents?—Yes. The last person who applied some months ago had his first term rent confirmed by the Sub-Commission.

56885. Therefore he got nothing?—He got no reduction.

56886. No landlord can terminate a present tenancy but the Congested Districts Board can do it for the relief of congestion?—Yes.

56887. That is a special enactment to give the Board powers which landlords do not possess for the benefit of the settlement of an estate?—It can only be done on the sale of an estate.

56888. Mr. BRYCE.—You say that two-thirds of your tenants are judicial. About how many would that mean?—About 800, but that would include the towns; about 400 have had rents fixed.

56889. Speaking generally, did the court give a reduction or confirm the rent or increase it?—In a great number the old rents were confirmed. In other cases there were varying reductions. Under the present system of the Land Commission it is no wonder that they do vary; because one set of Commissioners come down and value three or four farms; six months afterwards other Commissioners come down and value farms adjoining. It is impossible that the valuations can be uniform.

56890. In fact there is no principle?—There is no principle.

56891. Were there many increases besides those you mentioned?—Not increased, but I might say that the average reduction did not exceed 12½ per cent. I don't think that is the case on most Galway estates or other estates.

The Right Hon. VISCOUNT GOUGH examined.

The Right Hon. Viscount Gough.

56892. CHAIRMAN.—Kindly state any points that you wish to bring before the Commission?—I should like to call the attention of the Commission to the question not of the migration of tenants, which was spoken of two or three days ago, but to that of reintegration, which is commonly called striping. The Coburg Government has been taken up very much with this lately. Finding that the old law of 1863 had become out of date, they, on the 1st of June passed a new law. This has been put in force, or is about to be put in force in Coburg. The disadvantages of disintegration are as follows:—Loss of space along each boundary; the opportunity for law suits, the waste of time; the labour for men and animals journeying from one field to another, especially in bad weather or during harvest; the carts cannot be filled properly going from one field to another, and cannot be utilised properly; the paths are bad; manure cannot be freely conveyed to inner places, or produce drawn out; and water cannot be drained out. An interesting example of the advantages of reintegration is furnished by a place called Ralberingotten, in Nassau, where they have divided and reintegrated a parish so that each owner has exactly the same land that he had before, and the whole parish gained no less than 200 acres formerly wasted in paths. That 200 acres was £240 per annum, which capitalised at 4 per cent. made a capital of about £6,000 for this one parish. The cost of doing it is £1 per acre. Another advantage is the clearer boundaries and the lessening of the opportunity for bickering with consequent improvement to general industry and public morals; and after this is done the small holders are usually placed nearest the village, alongside one another as far as possible. It has been found that after reintegration there arises a new spirit of industry; there is more pleasure in labour, and the good results of increased industry promote prosperity. This is all in Coburg, but it would no doubt be the case at home also when you remove that cause of friction from the soil, and each owner tries to improve his position and becomes more industrious and economical. As he becomes more prosperous the rates and taxes are relatively less, and there is less outlay on public administration. With the affection of each one for his own plot comes love of country, and with heightened prosperity comes improved morality. A third advantage is the saving of manure, seed, and horse work in travelling the subdivided holdings. That is to say, when a man is travelling the different small parcels from one to another the manure falls from the cart and is lost. By reintegration seed is saved, and horse labour economised. The saving of time in going direct to a plot instead of having to go around by paths comes to a great deal in the year. A man complained to me a few days ago that he lost a great deal of time in going from one holding to another. A fifth advantage is that the shape of the farm gives advantages in cultivation. By reintegration each farm is made as far as possible four-cornered and is accessible from the road. Before the reintegration the old three-course system was forced upon the cultivators, and after it they had to employ more modern systems. The sixth advantage is bettermen of cultivation.

56893. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You mean that the result was improved cultivation?—Yes; that they started with backward cultivation and the result was an improvement.

56894. They were not really backward when they started, but the result was that they improved it very much, relatively?—Yes.

56895. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Are they peasant proprietors?—Yes, speaking generally; but the law is applicable in either case. It is impossible to use farming machinery properly where you have these subdivided holdings. Ploughing is difficult with the constant turning of corners. The last news that I received a few days ago since the new law has been made is rather interesting. By the treaty between Coburg and Prussia of the 22nd April, 1907, the payment by Coburg to Prussia for the work done is £2 10*s.* for each hectare. A hectare is 2·471 acres, or we may say 2½ acres, which means £1 an acre to be paid in advance by Coburg into the Prussian treasury. Coburg has invited Prussia, as we might invite Prussia, to come over here and settle this for us, Prussia has had a technical administration in Berlin for a great many years. The smaller countries of Germany have one after the other made treaties borrowing the Prussian officials for the purpose because these small countries had no officials of their own. Under this new Act which has been passed, by which lands can be dealt with compulsorily three things come together: if one-third of the whole

parish be owned by the applicants, also in addition to that, if the applicants pay more than one third of the land tax, and if the local government approve of it; because a certain supervision has to be exercised by the Government in compulsory cases. It would not do for a minority to do it without Government supervision.

56896. Do I understand that if one-third of the holders in valuation with Government sanction combine compulsion applies to the whole parish?—Exactly so. In order to be dealt with you must have one-third of the value of the land, and in addition one-third of the number of the people concerned.

56897. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—That is the precedent for putting compulsion in operation by the Government?—Exactly; but the Government have to consider whether in each particular case it is advantageous to the place and to the country in general. They could not do it without that. It might interest the Commission to know how the ground is valued for this purpose. They choose a moment when the harvest is finished, somewhere about September or October, when the harvest of one year has been removed and that of another has not yet been planted. Then the whole parish is placed in the hands of the extremely expert officials, and they mark the ground all over with little stakes, in each of which is fixed a paper containing the value of the ground. The way they arrive at the value of the ground is they state what that ground—it may be only a few yards in some cases—has actually produced. The amount is multiplied by 25 to arrive at the capital value.

56898. CHAIRMAN.—Why is it 25?—I don't know. That is the figure taken. Twenty-five times the actual value represents the capital value. It must be done in that way, with little stakes and labels stating the actual value of the produce of the land, whether it be a rood or an acre, or whatever it is, and they are not allowed to take 25 years' purchase of the letting value, or anything of that sort.

56899. It is 25 years' purchase of the capacity of the soil?—Yes. They are not allowed to take the other thing unless it cannot be done in any other way. If such a case arose, they must take 25 years' purchase of the letting value. While the valuation is proceeding trees can only be cut with the permission of the officials, and work is suspended.

56900. How does the calculation of 25 times the produce of a year compare with the produce which the landlord receives?—It practically does not signify at all. It may be 50 per cent. or it may be 100 per cent. Twenty-five times the produce of the whole parish is put together as it were in one block, and it is only needed in order to insure that each single individual should get back the same amount as he gives up.

56901. Why do they take the arbitrary figure 25 times the value?—Suppose you had two farms in the parish, one this size and one that (*indicates with papers*), and you estimate that this farm produces £1 a year and this other farm produces £2 a year. Both are the same size. What they are valued for is put down in the book, and the re-division gives back to each man exactly what his share was already.

56902. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It may not be the same spot?—Yes, it may be in a different spot.

56903. CHAIRMAN.—It is a sort of way of arriving at the calculation which Mr. Stewart and others have to make in re-striping holdings?—It is much the same thing.

56904. It leaves out the question of price to the landlords?—Entirely. I am not speaking of present conditions so much in Ireland, except so far as it may be useful to have attention called to the admirable work in Coburg.

56905. One must endeavour to see how far that is adaptable to the conditions in this country?—As this law has been recently passed in Coburg and is in operation, I think it would be well worth the while of the Royal Commission to send out a competent expert to see it being done on some farm. It would not fail to be very useful if he went there and saw a parish being valued and re-divided by the Government.

56906. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Does that procedure suppose that all the land about is striped?—It is provided that the Government shall have the right of bringing in a little bit belonging to an adjoining parish, where the geographical features render it advisable.

56907. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—What about approximately is the area of the parish?—I am obliged to say parish. The word is untranslatable. It is "flur." It means the section of cultivated land coming together. It is something between a townland and a parish. As far as Ireland is concerned, I had my attention called particularly to the Act of 1885. It is the only Act in which the matter is alluded to. Section 11 says: Where land to be sold under this Act is sold by tenants in common, or rundale or intermixed plots, it shall be lawful for the Land Commission, upon the application of either landlord or tenant, or if it shall seem necessary to the said Land Commission to make orders for the partition, exchange, or division of such land, and the provisions of the 79th and 92nd Sections inclusive of the Land Estates Court Act shall apply. That is the Act of 1885. The Estates Commissioners and the Congested Districts Board no doubt do attempt it, but the present moment seems to me to be a particularly advantageous one to bring this matter up. The law is in operation in Coburg, and can be seen actually in operation within the next few months. There are, no doubt, a great many cases in Ireland where the matter can be particularly conveniently done at this moment by giving each of the people a little advantage from an adjoining piece of land which he had not got.

56908. Have you any knowledge of either the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board applying that rule?—I ask the Royal Commission to excuse me venturing anything on my own place, because things are in progress to some extent.

56909. You are negociating; then I certainly shall not ask you any more?—I thank the Royal Commission for hearing me, but I hope it will do some little good to raise this matter which has been found to do such an enormous amount of good in Coburg, Saxony, and Prussia, and practically in all the divisions of Germany.

56910. We have evidence as to the German system in some places, and it appears from that that the standard, roughly speaking, of what the Government consider the minimum of planting at the present moment is an area that can keep a horse. Is there any such limit as that in the arrangement which you have described?—No. This system goes very strictly on the principle that every single man must have exactly the same value at the end of it that he had in the beginning. I believe that about 4s. 6d. or 5s. worth is allowed as a great exception to that rule.

56911. Take a man with a wholly uneconomic holding. Under this arrangement does he get more than he had before?—No, strictly not. It is for re-arranging the holdings of the people, and in that way greatly improving their position.

56912. CHAIRMAN.—It is exactly the same thing as is done here in re-striping holdings from rundale, only it is done more in detail?—Yes. Some days ago, Sir John Colomb asked a witness whether a judicial holding could be re-striped in cases where there was a landlord. It can be done certainly after consultation with, and getting the approval of, two or three small farmers; but it is necessary then to go to the Land Commission and get their approval. By the time that approval has been obtained one or other of the farmers has drawn back, or something else has happened, so that it is practically impossible for a landowner, however anxious, to re-divide the holdings in a townland.

56913. Mr. O'KELLY.—Suppose that one of those farmers in Coburg wished to dispose of his interest, is he free to do so?—Entirely.

56914. Does the Government exercise any right of pre-emption?—No; not in connection with the law for the reintegration of holdings. There are other laws in existence, which affect these holdings. They are very old and very complicated.

56915. There is no special land tax of any kind? The Government has no authority over small holders? Take the case of Prussia. In Prussia pre-emption is exercised by the Government when an individual wishes to dispose of his holding?—Speaking generally, it is not so.

56916. Is that so in any part of the German Empire?—I imagine it would be found to be the case in some places, especially under some very old laws. The whole of what is now taking place in Ireland took

Sept. 27, 1907.

The Right Hon. The Viscount Gough.

place in the different States of Germany, from the beginning of the last century, through such men as Stein and Hardenberg. In 1850 it was all arranged in Saxony with very much the laws that we are making now.

56917. I suppose you can attribute the general contentment of the people in those States to what you have made reference to in the fact that they own their holdings absolutely?—I would not like to lay too much weight on that, because the people are very happy even when that is not so.

56918. Then it is a consideration?—I dare say it is. I should think so.

56919. You would like to see the same condition of things prevail in Ireland in so far as it might be reasonable?—Yes.

56920. There is game in these German States?—Yes.

56921. The people, I presume, have the absolute right to shoot or sell the game?—There are rather old laws that were in force for most of Europe. In order to have the right of shooting game a certain tenure was required, or a certain amount.

56922. Take the freeholds?—A certain amount of the freehold tenure. These old laws were all over Europe. Up to about 1750 a man was obliged to have £100 a year in order to be able to shoot.

56923. Take the ordinary freeholder with, I don't care how many, hectares, has he absolute control over game on his property?—Not unless he has got a sufficiently large holding.

56924. Then he is not master of his own holding?—Yes; he is. It would be a very long and difficult matter to explain the numerous side circumstances which have to be taken into consideration, but in order to be able to shoot game you must possess a certain amount of land as far as the particular parish concerned.

56925. Take a man who does not answer that description, who has got a small holding; has he the right of shooting game on his property?—That is managed, in a way that is talked of in Ireland, very successfully. The local government is very much developed.

56926. Has the local government control of it?—It has control over it, in so far as a certain area is incorporated together, and a great deal of money is obtained for it by letting the whole area to various persons.

56927. Who benefits by the money that accrues?—I believe it goes almost entirely to the poor law. The poor law is very nicely arranged. There are all sorts of things like shooting licences and other local licences, even the licence to keep nightingales in a cage go to the benefit of the local poor rate.

56928. In any case you rather admit the principle of unfettered ownership which places one upon his holding as absolute master of everything upon it?—It is not a question that can be answered at once. Up to the Act of 1870 my family may have been said to have been unfettered owners. They are so no longer. Here is a copy of a book published by the Government last year describing this system to which I have referred (*produces book*). I have distributed copies to the members of the Gort District Council. I don't know that much profit has arisen from that yet.

Mr. Archibald Moeran examined.

Mr. Archibald Moeran.

56929. Chairman.—You represent the Irish Forestry Society?—Yes. I was asked by the Irish Forestry Society to state what I knew of the conditions of forestry in the areas which the Congested Districts Board had to deal with, not purely locally, but as far as my knowledge went of the West of Ireland. Perhaps I ought to give my qualifications for speaking on the subject of forestry, I am a member of the Irish Forestry Society and provincial honorary secretary for Connaught, I am a member of the Scottish Arboricultural Society, and honorary editor of the quarterly journal of Forestry. I have studied forestry abroad, in France, Germany, and in United States, and Canada, and I have practised as a forestry expert in Ireland for about 12 years, having given advice to owners of a great many estates as to the treatment of their woods, the value of timber for sale, and such purposes. I have a very large knowledge of the whole centre and West of Ireland, and for about a year I was employed by the Department of Agriculture in making a forestry survey of the South and West of Ireland with reference to the statistics that they wished to gather preliminary to taking some action in the matter. I think I ought also say something about the question of the importance of reafforesting. For the past fifty years views have frequently been expressed as to the urgency of the question being taken up by the Government, and pointing out the extreme desirability of safeguarding our supplies of timber, and also the relation of forestry to the rural problems among the agricultural classes. Within the last few years these views have become so strong as to impress the Irish Government. I think the advances in the interest in forestry have been very marked within the last few years. I think it is admitted now to be a matter of urgent importance to the United Kingdom. In Ireland the conditions afford a wider scope, and make it more urgent for the State to come in to advance forestry; and I think that the area with which the Congested Districts Board have to deal affords the widest scope and the most urgent need for the operations of forestry. I think that brings it home to the Congested Districts Board as a matter which they ought to consider.

56930. I suppose you will tell us presently in your view how the Congested Districts Board would set about dealing with the question?—Quite so. I think forestry has been advocated by several witnesses here before you, and it would have been by a great many more but that the subject is understood thoroughly by very few, and a great many men would be afraid to speak on the subject lest they should be asked technical questions. A great many of the areas with which the Congested Districts Board have to deal are peopled by a migratory class of inhabitants who have to go abroad to other countries or to England and Scotland in summer time to earn wages sufficient to pay the rent or shop debts. They live practically a life of idleness in the winter months; and if forestry operations were carried on during these months it would afford very useful employment for these people. This is a matter that might engage the serious consideration of the Board. All the work could be done in the winter, and by providing these people with employment during these months it would keep them physically and mentally fit during these months, instead of allowing them to live in idleness, and too often in drink and gambling.

56931. Do you know Achill Island?—I have just been on it, but I hardly know it as I know parts of Connemara.

56932. Do you know the shoulder of Erris?—I have never been on it.

56933. What part have you in your mind where planting would be advantageous to these migratory labourers?—Connemara, for instance.

56934. In Connemara they don't migrate?—They come down South.

56935. They don't go to England?—No, but they go to this part of the country.

56936. You think that Connemara would be advantageous for planting?—A great part of it. I don't suggest that the Congested Districts Board should go in extensively for afforesting. It is a very expensive thing, and a great deal cannot be spent on it, but considering the advantages that would accrue if planting could be achieved on an increased scale on a great many of the estates in the area with which the Board will have to deal, they ought, I think, do all they can to encourage it.

56937. These mountain slopes where forestry operations can be carried out are at present under grazing?—Some of them are. I suppose you could say that all of them are under grazing, but the actual value of them for grazing is almost nominal. Where there are grazing rights they must be compensated, but sufficient areas could be got quite easily without taking areas on which there were any grazing rights.

56938. Where are those areas to be found?—There was a deputation to Mr. Bryce by the Irish Forestry Society, and he asked that question. We sent round circulars and got returns of, I think, 45,000 acres in reply.

56939. Have you got that return with you?—No.

56940. Can you send it in?—Yes.

56941. We have here a return handed in by the Irish Forestry Society?—I think that is the return.

56942. This is a return of 45,000 acres suitable for planting, on which there is no grazing?—On which there are rights of grazing by the owner, which they are prepared to sell.

56943. Suppose there are small holdings close to that grazing tract and the Board bought that estate, surely it would create great dissatisfaction among the small holders if the Board were to withhold that land to plant it?—I think that would not be found to be so. The right of grazing is recognised by adjoining people to be a very small thing as appears from the rent of a penny or a shilling an acre. These other people never had any grazing rights, and it is very hard to take from a man what he never had, and the realisation of the fact that there would be an immense amount of money spent on employment in the neighbourhood would be a very strong inducement to get people to welcome anything of that sort in the neighbourhood.

56944. Mr. Bryce.—Is this 45,000 acres you speak of in Connemara?—No; all over Ireland.

56945. That amounts to very little?—Yes, but that was in reply to a circular sent out on a week's notice to a very few people from whom we thought we could get information.

56946. Take the case of Connemara. There are some very large estates, such as the Berridge estate, there. If those were in the hands of the Congested Districts Board or some public body it would become a question what would be the best thing to do with the mountain slopes. There would be an immediate demand for the relief of congestion by distributing that land among poor tenants along the sea coast to the south. The question for the Board would be, would it be more profitable to distribute that land as grazing land among the poor people or have it under forest so as to give work which would be more profitable?—I don't think that affects my argument, as admittedly the rent of that land under grazing is nominal. In many cases you cannot put more than threepence an acre on it.

56947. Do you know the strip of mountain to the south of Ballynahinch, from Recess to Clifden?—I do. I think there are some patches of grass land through it. I don't include that in the poor mountain slopes.

56948. You mean mountain of the character of the Twelve Bens?—Yes.

56949. Would the Twelve Bens grow timber to advantage?—I am sure they would, on the eastern and north sides.

56950. Chairman.—In a return which has been handed in by the Irish Forestry Society there is not a single acre in Connemara?—I did not mention Connemara. That is not a complete return. It represents only an infinitesimal amount of what could be got.

56951. There are 1,600 acres belonging to Lord Clanricarde in Galway. Where is that?—It lies between Woodford and the borders of Clare. It is largely under scrub and timber at present.

56952. What happens to that land now?—There are no tenants on it.

56953. Are there any people grazing upon it?—There is no division, or at least a very small division between it and the outside mountain, which is grazed, but it is poor heather mountain. Cattle stray across from about three miles.

56954. Do you mean to say that if the Board got possession of that mountain the people would be content to see the mountain planted?—I think they would be very glad to see it planted. I think I can speak with absolute conviction as to that, if it were explained to them that a considerable amount of money was to be earned by them and nobody else.

56955. What labour would be given in afforesting such land-draining, planting, and fencing?—The forestry operations should be carried out in rotation, and not done all at once. It should be done in sections by rotation. A certain amount should be planted each year.

56956. That would be so arranged that the planting on one part might come into operation before the last part would be planted at all?—Yes.

56957. Do you think you would be able to show the people that it would be better to have the land planted in that way than to have the pasturage distributed among them?—There is absolutely no question of the benefit to the people by having the labour in their midst. They have no means of earning wages in the winter at present. That is the great complaint. The rental value of the area to be planted would be say only £5 per annum, and the amount to be spent on it would be perhaps a couple of thousand pounds per annum.

56958. From the point of view of the State or the authority going to spend the money on these operations, are there any statistics available showing what the returns would be?—It is extremely difficult, as everybody who has tried to do so has found, to get accurate statistics of the returns. It is a perfectly fair argument to use continental returns where the conditions are similar. Continental returns show that under conditions similar to those existing here, very large returns are to be made. Land which produces a shilling a year here can be made to produce £3 and even £6. The climate in this country is admitted to be the best in Europe for the purpose.

56959. Mr. Bryce.—Take the case of the sandy lands in Pomerania?—I have never been there. I have read about them.

56960. Do you know what the return is on that land, which is poor sand. The Landes district in the South of France is a very sandy district, but I don't think we have much land of that particular character. We have thin gravelly land on the top of rocks, but I don't think it is worse than that land in Pomerania, which is poor sand?—Our climate is superior to anything in Europe.

56961. Not to the climate of the Landes?—Very much superior for the growth of timber. It is the envy of Europe—equable and humid—and an ideal place for the growth of most of the timber that is used in commerce.

56962. Sir John Colomb.—In your opinion what is the minimum block of land to lay out in timber with the view of reaping the full profit? Is it 1,000 acres?—It is very hard to say that exactly, but I think that there is a great deal of misconception about that. It is generally supposed that it is essential to have a large block. As a matter of fact I believe that the highest profits can be realised sometimes from small blocks in certain circumstances.

56963. If you go in for a series of small blocks does not that mean increased cost of planting by reason of the enormous extent of fencing?—No, because the small blocks that I would suggest would be planted on waste corners of existing farms, perhaps an acre or two or three acres, which are ideal sites, absolutely sheltered already, and fenced with steep banks or something of that sort already to keep cattle out. There would be absolutely no expense except to put in the trees.

56964. Do you not admit that in planting an upland area the cost of a large area of 1,000 acres is very much less than the cost of planting several areas to make up the 1,000 acres?—Quite so, but that has been used as a very strong argument against all individual planting, whereas, as a matter of fact, on an area such as I speak of, it is perfectly common on a hill farm that a river, glen, or something of that sort gives an opportunity of planting infinitely cheaper than when it is done on a larger area.

56965. We will say you can get land at a nominal price. The next expense is fencing?—Yes.

56966. You will admit that the fencing must be thoroughly done and that it costs a great deal of money?—It is the cheapest to do it well.

56967. Then there are probably surface drains to be made?—Yes.

56968. Then as to the purchase and putting in of the trees. That is the initial expenditure. How do you make out that for ten or twelve years there will be continuous expenditure on that plot which will give employment?—I am presuming that the whole planting of the area is not done in one year, and that there is more planting to be done in the next year.

56969. Then your expenditure is constant expenditure upon the beginning of the work, that is, upon setting up the forest?—Yes.

56970. How long would you give the Commission, as your estimate of the time from planting, before the work would be reproductive?—I suppose about 25 years.

56971. Then do I understand that you must take up sufficient land to plant 25 portions in order to keep the work continuous?—That would be so.

56972. The first 25 years the work would be done block by block?—Of course, there would be a certain

Sept. 27, 1907.

Mr. Archibald Moeran.

amount of work in thinning before 25 years, but not profitable work.

56973. Surely on that basis there is involved a very large block of planting all close together?—That is so. It depends on the size of the plot the amount of labour that will go to discount.

56974. For the first five or six years there would be a considerable outgoing in keeping grass from the young trees?—Yes.

56975. You must also expend money on fencing and protect it?—There should be a resident forester.

56976. You admit you must take up enough to occupy the neighbourhood for 25 years. To begin with then you must face a greatly increased outlay on maintenance during the 25 or 26 years?—Yes.

56977. That is what the Commission is to contemplate when you talk about forests?—Yes.

56978. Have you ever seen Knockboy?—Yes.

56979. What is your opinion of the cause of the failure there?—I won't say. It is a most unfortunate failure.

56980. Mr. KAVANAGH.—The land was not suitable?—Very unsuitable; one of the most unsuitable sites in Ireland, but still trees can be made to grow with care and skill.

56981. As a matter of fact, they are alive, but only stunted?—A few of them may be. You might walk over hundreds of acres and not know that they had been planted.

56982. Where can they grow?—In little patches here and there, but you can walk over hundreds of acres and could not find the trees that have been planted among the heather fifteen years ago.

56983. CHAIRMAN.—It is quite impossible for a Commission like this to recommend particular areas for planting. We have not got time nor opportunity to inquire into those matters; but would it meet your view, suppose we suggest that where the Congested Districts Board buy an estate of the character you have been describing, and before any distribution of land was made, there should be a careful inquiry made by the forestry expert, and if it is found that certain lands would be more likely to be profitable under trees than under grazing, then the land should be handed over by the Board to some central Department or Agricultural Department; would that meet your view?—The view the Congested Districts Board should take up would be to treat the matter as the American Forestry Service did. The first thing they set themselves to do was to study the facts, and ascertain what would be the probable profits. They made a series of experiments to do away with existing prejudices, and so on. By gradually training their staff they taught the whole country to realise the profits of forestry. That, on a smaller scale, is what the Congested Districts Board ought to do.

56984. That assumes that the Congested Districts Board would have a Forestry Department?—Yes, or one man if you like, as long as that man knows the work, and can spend a certain amount of money.

56985. Would you suggest that afforesting of the congested areas should be done by the Board, and that of Ireland generally by the Department? Would it not be more convenient to have the whole thing in one Department?—Of course, that would be so; but then the Congested Districts Board have to deal with congestion, and the problems in the congested areas; and this seems to me to be one of the first of them.

56986. Would not that suggest that we had better form a Forestry Department that would be concerned with forestry all over Ireland?—I certainly think so.

56987. And then when the Congested Districts Board got an estate, it could transfer the area most suitable for planting to that Department?—There is no such Department.

56988. Have not the Agricultural Department someone responsible for forestry?—They have a forestry school, but only a few acres, and nothing like what you refer to.

56989. Would you imagine it would be worth while to set up a forestry department before you have got the land?—Holding the land is the first necessity. So far as the land passes into the hands of occupiers it would be hard to acquire afterwards. They should acquire land wherever possible now, and hold it over until they are ready.

56990. That is always difficult in Ireland?—Certainly; but I do not advocate plunging into extensive forestry operations, because questions would have to be settled beforehand, as to which we are now labouring in uncertainty. The first question that arises in the work is what tree is to be planted. Heretofore larch has been the most profitable, but in England larch fails because of the larch canker, and it would be flying in the face of Providence to go in for it on a large scale, simply because we do not suffer yet. Scotch firs are indigenous to the country.

56991. What you recommend is that the Board, when they get an estate, should have experiments made, under the direction of an expert, to learn what trees should be planted in certain areas?—The Board should take an active interest in forestry, and study to increase the area of planting put down by private individuals in the district. It has been frequently said that most of these private individuals, being persons of leisure and intelligence, ought to know their business, but if the Board find that teaching these men planting will largely increase planting and conduce to the benefit of the community at large, it is their business to teach these gentlemen, even though they are men of education and means. It is a very big question to go into, but I have thought it out in great detail, and there are many means, small in themselves, by which people could be encouraged to plant.

56992. We cannot go into these things now, but if you care to embody those views in any memorandum sent in, we shall be glad to include it in your evidence?—I shall be quite satisfied with calling the attention of the Commission to the importance of forestry.

56993. I think everybody admits the importance of the question. The difficulty is how to make it pay?—I don't see any insuperable difficulty at all in that.

56994. If you embody your suggestions in the form of a memorandum and send them in we shall be very happy to consider them and embody them in your evidence?—Very well, I will send in something of that sort.

Mr. WILLIAM NEILAN examined.

Mr. William Neilan.

56995. CHAIRMAN.—Where do you reside?—At Rathglass, Woodlawn. I want to tell you about an area of 8,000 acres of grass lands, beside which are 50 congested families, among whom it would be most beneficial to have this grass land divided.

56996. To whom does it belong?—To Lord Ashtown, Mr. Trench, and Mr. Smith.

56997. Are you a tenant on any of these estates?—I was an evicted tenant. I got a holding at Rathglass. They are most anxious to get the land. There is a lot of waste lands there

56998. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Is the holding you got near the other land?—Yes. The old holding is about a mile and a half away.

56999. CHAIRMAN.—When did you get the new holding?—In 1904, from the Estates Commissioners.

57000. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Are you pleased with it?—I am pretty well pleased with it, but there is a dispute. I have not the right of game on it. It should be mine.

57001. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—What is the size of your holding?—36 English acres.

57002. How much game is there on it?—I could not say, but all rights were reserved from me.

57003. CHAIRMAN.—What particular game is there on it that you want to shoot?—Rabbits.

57004. Are you aware that rabbits are not game?—Yes.

57005. What else is there besides rabbits?—The timber that is on my holding is claimed from me.

57006. What do you intend to do with the game?—Prevent trespass on my crops.

57007. Does anyone come to shoot them?—I saw no one come to shoot them.

57008. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—What have you here?—Pheasants.

57009. The new holding is better than the one you had before?—Yes, but I have not as much land.

57010. Are you a tenant or a tenant purchaser on the new holding?—A tenant purchaser.

57011. What is the annuity?—£17 17s.

57012. What was the rent of the old holding?—£9.

57013. This is a more considerable holding?—Yes.

57014. Have you turbary?—I have.

57015. You think you ought to have the game rights also?—Yes.

57016. What about your neighbours? Have they the game rights?—No. All the game is kept from them on that estate.

57017. It is very likely that the Estates Commissioners could not acquire the property except on those terms?—I could not tell you that. We understood we were to get the game rights, timber and everything, but after we got in, in 1905, the vendor sold it to another man, a grazier, who is claiming it on us.

57018. Sir John Colomb.—What would be the value of what you would shoot in a year on your farm if you had the game rights?—If I reared pheasants I would shoot £5 or £6 worth.

57019. If you reared pheasants they would go on other people's land. You could not teach them not to go on other people's lands?—I only want to prevent trespass on my plots.

57020. Chairman.—Did this other man purchase the house and lands under the Act of 1903?—Yes, I think so. The grazier is claiming those from us. The vendor is claiming nothing.

The Commission adjourned.

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH PUBLIC SITTING.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1907,

AT 11.0 O'CLOCK, A.M.,

At the Courthouse, Ballinasloe.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (Chairman); The Right Hon Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL, G.C.S.I.; The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esq., M.P.; CONOR O'KELLY, Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.; ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esq.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Sept. 30, 1907.

Rev. JOSEPH ALFRED PELLY examined.

Rev. Joseph Alfred Pelly.

57021. CHAIRMAN.—You are nominated by the Bishop of Clonfert, I think?—Yes, my lord.

57022. You are parish priest of what parish?—I am curate at Ballinasloe.

57023. In what parish in Ballinasloe?—It is called the parish of Kilclooney.

57024. Tell us what you wish to say?—I am taking it for granted that the Commissioners have already been supplied, or are getting supplied, with statistics showing the value of the untenanted lands in the unions comprised in the diocese, that is to say in the unions of Portumna, Loughrea and Ballinasloe. From these statistics it is apparent that nearly all the grass land in this district, and all the best land, is held by graziers, and that the portions held by the tenants are cramped in quantity and poor in quality. To show the condition of things I thought it best to particularise, and I take one particular parish, Kilquaine, as typical of the rest of the diocese of Clonfert.

57025. Where is Kilquaine?—It is situated about eleven miles from Ballinasloe and a little more than half way to Portumna, near the town of Eyrecourt in the union of Portumna.

57026. That is south-west from here?—Yes. In the parish of Kilquaine—it is a half parish—there are only 80 families. It contains 6,859 acres, of which 2,773 acres are let to graziers under the eleven months' system. Resident large farmers, ten or eleven in number, hold an additional 1,000 acres. Those 3,700 acres embrace every acre of even fair quality in the parish, the seventy small agricultural holdings being of the worst description of land. The landlords are Mr. Allan Pollock, Mr. Algernon Persse, the representatives of C. W. Ruthven, Colonel J. P. Nolan, and the representatives of Capt. P. Cowan. No sales, except with the last-mentioned, have been effected in this parish. The Pollock Estate consists of about 13,000 acres. It was purchased after the Famine year by the late Mr. Allan Pollock, a Glasgow shipbuilder. It was part of the best lands in East Galway, and, notwithstanding the ravages of the Famine, the tenants managed to hold their own in this place and were in comparatively comfortable circumstances at the time of the sale of this estate in 1854. No sooner did Mr. Pollock acquire the ownership of the land than he inaugurated the most sweeping and heartless campaign of eviction that ever swept a countryside bare. With the exception of one small village in the parish of Clontuckert, where leases existed, and which defied his power, on all these thirteen thousand acres not one solitary tenant was allowed to remain, and they were all turned out without one penny compensation.

57027. Against their will?—Against their will. In this village of Ballymana that held under leases Mr. Pollock made an effort to get possession, and even offered them eighteen years' purchase for their tenant interest in the holdings, but they refused. What became of all these people? Well, about two years ago I was passing by and I saw an old man standing in the midst of one of these ranches, and he told me that he was a returned American, and that he came to see the place where he was born. There was not a stone to show it. His people were evicted fifty years before by Pollock. He escaped to America with the money, he told me, he earned by the knocking down of his father's home and his neighbour's homes, and helping to build with the materials the wall that surrounds the ranches now.

57028. I don't quite follow that?—He escaped to America from the starvation that surrounded them after the family were turned out, with the money that he earned from Pollock in knocking down his father's house and a neighbour's house, and helping to build the wall that surrounds the big farm now.

57029. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Did they not get free passage to America?—Not a solitary farthing did they ever get. And that was fifty years ago. Now, I have here, my lord, the rental and maps and names of tenants and valuation on two of Pollock's farms in Kilquaine at the time it was sold in the Incumbered Estates Court; that is in 1854.

57030. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The Incumbered Estates Court?—The Incumbered Estates Court in 1854. This shows, my lord, that there existed on those two farms fifty-three families in comfort where there is not a single one now but two herds, and the farms are rented to two graziers.

57031. CHAIRMAN.—What is the general size of those holdings?—The quantity of land in one is 15 acres, in another 20 acres; then 9 acres, 33 acres, 28 acres, 10 acres, 15 acres 3 roods, 7 acres, and so on. The result of that wholesale eviction was that the town of Eyrecourt, which at one time was one of the most prosperous towns in East Galway, is now in a ruinous state. It had its markets and its professional men—its lawyers and doctors, a mill and a brewery, and a few thousands of a population. It is now a mass of ruins, with a few hundreds of people who are on the brink of beggary. There was a large village at Laurencetown that has been completely wiped out. The town of Banagher, which is in the immediate neighbourhood of the property, has gone down very much. Ballinasloe, too, has felt to the full the effect of the blight that fell upon a whole side of this country when Pollock cleared it out. The owners, at the time, of this part of Kilquaine that I am speaking of here were the Eyres, of Eyrecourt, and part of the St. Georges, of Tyrone. The Union with England ruined them as it ruined their tenants. After the fall of the Irish Parliament society changed over to London. The Irish families that went over, with their extravagance or their pride, went the pace with the rich English people, so that they mortgaged their estates and squeezed their tenants to pay the mortgages; and when the famine came, and nothing more could be squeezed out of the tenants they themselves were ruined. Out of their ruin arose the Incumbered Estates Court, and out of the Incumbered Estates Court arose these speculators, such as Pollock, who did so much to ruin the country; and speculators worse than Pollock; speculators who bought with borrowed capital, and only used the tenants on the lands they bought as an asset for bringing a bigger dividend, by putting on increased rents. And these

speculators, too, were the means of introducing us to the grazier.

57032. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—This means that before the Incumbered Estates Court, and before the introduction of cattle ranches there was no grazing in Ireland?—I am only speaking of this particular district in Galway. My father was an agent, who collected £30,000 a year in this place, and was agent over part of these lands.

57033. In the lands to which you refer, on the Pollock Estate, you say that before those general evictions there were no graziers?—I see by this map that there was a small grass farm held there, but it could not be considered a grazing farm. What I mean by grazing farms are those eleven months' takes, where immense tracts of land have been taken for that purpose.

57034. CHAIRMAN.—What is the extent of the land on which you told us that in 1854 there were 53 families?—Well, there are 1,600 acres in the Pollock property in the parish of Kilquaine, but the 1,600 acres—it is rather more than 1,600 acres—would embrace more than those two farms. Those two farms, I would say, contained together about 800 acres.

57035. And upon these two farms containing 800 acres there were 53 families?—I could not make out the exact rental or acreage of them, but I fancy they were about 800 acres.

57036. And upon these 800 acres there were 53 families?—There were 53 families. I could make out the number of them, but I could not make out the acreage from the note that is given in this, but I will hand it in to the Commission. (*Document handed in.*) Mr. Pollock, when he took up all this place, commenced what we hear much about at the present time (Lord Ashtown is talking a lot about it), high scientific farming under Scotch management. The result was that the managers were prosperous themselves, and the estate went into the courts and has a receiver on it. Even with their appliances the Scotch managers failed to make it pay. Of course, my lord, extravagance would run away with the best property, and I have it from one particular manager that only for what they keep in tillage grazing would not pay.

57037. You say a manager said this?—I will mention the name if you like. When they were there for a time with the Pollocks they went elsewhere and took up big farms for themselves.

57038. Your point is this: that after the clearances these farms were amalgamated into a large grazing tract and managers were put in by the owners?—Yes.

57039. And that it was not successful?—And it was not successful.

57040. And that those managers became rich men and left their employers and set up for themselves?—Yes, that is so.

57041. Did they set up for themselves in this country?—Not in this neighbourhood. One of them, named Algie, did, and he failed afterwards. And there were several others, Mr. Shaw and others of them, that in my own memory became rich men; but the estate went down.

57042. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Did they set up in grazing farms or in mixed farms?—Some of them did in the County Meath. Those farms at Kilquaine are held by four graziers in four divisions. In my own memory there has been a succession of graziers in each of those farms. They have, one after another, disappeared, to make room for others.

57043. Do you suggest that they disappeared because of anything?—Because they got smashed with the competitive rents. I say that, and I intend to prove it by-and-bye.

57044. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You say that Pollock was a Scotchman, was not he?—He was a Scotch shipbuilder.

57045. You say that he cleared the estate and set up advanced farming on the two farms?—Yes.

57046. Was that mixed farming?—Yes; he intended it at the time to be mixed farming, but he dropped it, and confined the mixed farming to what was immediately about Lismany.

57047. Are we to understand your opinion to be that the thing failed by reason of a wrong system of farming, or by reason of this, that although it may have succeeded and been profitable the managers left the employer?—Well, that would be a very strong statement to make.

57048. At all events, are we to understand that in your view it was an advanced system of farming, and that the smash was due to the effect of a diversion of the profits from mixed farming to other pockets than the landlord's?—I am giving you two facts: that this farm was inaugurated and that the managers left wealthy, and the additional fact that the estate failed.

57049. Then, we are not to understand that the failure was attributable to the mixed farming?—No; on the contrary, I advocate mixed farming.

57050. It is a very important point?—It is a fact.

57051. I understood that you were going to develop that, and that you had something more to say on that point. Is that so?—On the breaking up of the farms I have more to say. There was no application for sale made to Mr. Pollock in that case that I know of, because there were no tenants whatever to make application to sell; but recently the Estates Commissioners have been on the land. That was a fortnight ago. The Evicted Tenants Bill gave them some little power, and they came here to take up, I understand, 1,600 acres for the purpose of restoring the evicted tenants of the Clanricarde Estate. And if you allow me to make a remark, I know it was canvassed very much and it caused a good deal of dissatisfaction. I was administrator at the time to the Most Rev. Dr. Healy, Archbishop of Tuam, then Coadjutor-Bishop in Portumna. I was during the whole of the Clanricarde business with Dr. Healy, and now in the case of the tenants that were put out, the Estates Commissioners have come here to take up this land. To my mind, I do not know who may be blamed for it, but I know that lots of the evicted tenants would prefer being restored to their old holdings. Three with what I consider good holdings, six made bankrupt, seven at a village in the Woodford direction, five or six in the other direction, are quite willing, and have expressed their willingness, to accept farms; and if that is so the tenants would prefer to go back to their old holdings in most cases.

57052. I do not think we have to do with that, and I should not dwell on that if I were you?—Then, I pass to the next property, the Ruthven property. This was a case of land acquired in the Incumbered Estates Court. It consists of 15 agricultural holdings, the highest valuation being £28 5*s.*, and ranging down to £6, and one large grass farm of 240 acres held by a grazier. The estate is mortgaged to the Life Association of Scotland, in whose agents, A. O'Connor and Son, 11, Hume-street, Dublin, is vested all management.

57053. Mr. BRYCE.—Have there been clearances on that estate?—As on the other estates in this parish, the good land was all cleared, the tenants occupying only what was not worth clearing, undrained, cold bottoms, or sandy hills, with little soil. None of the land is capable of growing meadow, and the cost of hay is another rent on their farms. The tenants some years ago applied to Mr. Golding, solicitor to the Insurance Company, to have the estate sold. The agent refused absolutely to entertain the question of sale. I have the letter here if you care for it. Here we have exemplified another of the many evil agencies that have brought about the impoverishment of the Irish tenants—corporations that advanced money to the full value of what the lands were worth in years of prosperity, that will make no allowance in bad years, and that every year, good and bad, take everything that comes from the soil and give nothing back to it. The gombeen man is bad enough and the gombeen-shopkeeper is worse, but the gombeen foreign corporation is the worst of all, because the other two give some little money to the country, but these give nothing at all. The grass land on this property has, like all others, seen a succession of graziers whom I can mention. It is now held by a grazier who has three or four thousands acres of land in this part of Galway.

57054. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You are still concerned with the Pollock property?—No, the Ruthven property.

57054A. Mr. BRYCE.—Where is that?—Eleven miles from Ballinasloe, in the direction of Portumna.

57055. Towards Woodford?—No, near Killimore.

57056. CHAIRMAN.—Does it belong to Mr. Ruthven?—No, the landlord died in London.

Sept. 30, 1907.

Rev. Joseph Alfred Pelly.

57057. Was his name Bermingham Ruthven?—Yes.

57058. He is dead?—I saw his death a few days ago in the paper.

57059. And the property is in the hands of some insurance company?—In the hands of an insurance company.

57060. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Was that property bought in the Incumbered Estates Court?—Yes, that is what I understand.

57061. It is another instance of Incumbered Estates Court purchase?—Yes.

57062. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You say there was a succession of graziers?—Yes.

57063. What became of them?—They have disappeared.

57064. One failing after another?—Oh, yes.

57065. To what do you attribute their failing?—To competitive rents and the hunger for land.

57066. CHAIRMAN.—Can you tell us how many of them there were, in how many years, and so on, and what rent they paid—can you give us some details?—Yes, I can. In this place of Pollock's that we have been speaking of, we have had the Lestranges and we had Hardy.

57067. All on the same land?—Yes, the Lestranges, and the Hardys, and the Ryans; and now it is held by Cooke and by Mr. Mitchell; and by a grazier shopkeeper, Mrs. Connolly.

57068. Now, what period elapsed between the time when Mr. Lestrange went there and the time when Mr. Cooke came in?—As far as my memory goes, I think the Hardys were actually first, the Ryans second, the Lestranges after, and the Cookes next; and that would cover forty years of my memory. I was born in the immediate neighbourhood.

57069. Did these people vary very much in the size of their takes?—No; I think that they remained practically the same. These are all walled in on Pollock's land.

57070. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Can you say whether there was a rise of rent with each successive holder—whether the rents were raised?—Like all the grazing lands, it is only let from year to year, and if a man offered a bigger rent the landlord would very likely take him.

57071. How long would you say each of these men held the land?—Well, I could not say accurately as regards the years. There may have been some more graziers that I do not remember presently.

57072. Did each of these hold the land for, say, 7 or 8 years?—They held the lands till they were able to hold them no longer.

57073. Take Lestrange. Did he hold it for seven years?—He held it from year to year on the eleven months' system, but I do not know how long.

57074. Was the same rent fixed in each successive year?—No one knows what rent they paid.

57075. Mr. BRYCE.—Have the rents been keeping up, or are they going down?—The rents varied. For instance, about 1872, the very good years sent the graziers mad. All they wanted was the land, and they paid what price the landlord liked. I know one particular case. I know a man to give 52*s.* 6*d.* an acre for land that was bought for £5 an acre in the Incumbered Estates Court.

57076. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You talk about the eleven months system. At that time was there an eleven months system?—No, there was not.

57077. Not previous to 1870?—No.

57078. When you are dealing with the period anterior to 1870 you do not mean to imply that there was an eleven months system then?—No, I am talking of the yearly system. The eleven months system is much the same thing. The eleven months system was got up for the purpose, I suppose, of evading the Act of 1870 and subsequent Acts.

57079. Mr. BRYCE.—Since 1872 the rents of these grazing lands have fallen off, I suppose, very much?—I do not know by how much.

57080. Are the rents of these grazing lands keeping up?—Oh, not at all. In late times owing to the agitation they must have gone down, because a man gets very unpopular by keeping grazing land

57081. CHAIRMAN.—How long has the agitation been going on in this part of Ireland?—Since 1879.

57082. Against the graziers?—Oh, no; but, of course, the people were always against the grass land; but the real movement against the graziers was since the starting of the United Irish League. That would be about 1890.

57083. 1900?—Yes, 1900; about that period.

57084. When was the last year that it could be said that normal conditions were existing with regard to the letting of these lands—conditions which were not affected in any way by local agitation?—Well, I think it never came to an acute crisis till the Wyndham Act. There was no real interference with the graziers until it was recognised that the Act would be futile unless the grass lands were split up.

57085. Would it be fair to take ten years before 1903 as the time when only economic considerations governed the letting of these lands?—That would be fair.

57086. Now with regard to those ten years, say, from 1893 to 1903, would you say the tendency of grazing rents was to go up or down?—I fancy they were going down. I don't know the variations of the rents. The Persse Estate is the next. There are nine agricultural holdings on this estate, and I may mention to your lordship's Commission that the Wyndham Act is ineffective in all this district.

57087. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you mean ineffective as regards the transfer of land?—Yes.

57088. CHAIRMAN.—Where is that estate?—At Spring Grove, about 15 miles from Ballinasloe. There are nine agricultural holdings on this estate, with valuations ranging from £51 7*s.* to £7 15*s.*, and in addition a grass farm of 250 acres, grazed by the owner, Mr. Algernon Persse, who resides at Ardrahan, a distance of over thirty miles from Spring Grove. I found out that this farm also was cleared in the bad times. The tenants on this property are not quite so badly off as their neighbours in the other parts of the parish, but as on all other properties the landlord was asked through the parish priest by the tenants to sell, and his answer was that he was willing to sell the tenants' holdings, but the grass lands he would never part with because he required them for himself. I have that letter here. And the last property, and the worst in the parish to which I have referred, is the Nolan property, the estate of Colonel J. P. Nolan. That was bought, I believe, in the Incumbered Estates Court. The Brownes of Mount Hazel were the owners, I think, previously. At the time of the passing of the Wyndham Act it was owned by Colonel Walter Nolan. It consists of 27 tenancies, the highest valuation being £10, and the majority only a few pounds; and in addition there is a large grass farm adjoining the small holdings, containing about 450 statute acres, off which the tenants were cleared 50 or 60 years ago. Some of the evicted were allowed to settle in the bog, and there they have remained ever since in poverty, at times bordering on starvation. They are 12 and 15 miles from Ballinasloe and Loughrea, and their only resource besides the pittance they wring from a worn-out bog is the sale of turf. I have seen them since I was a child, and I know no more pitiable sight than that which was constantly before me, men and boys and girls starting from Loughrea in the early hours of the morning with half-starved donkeys carrying little loads of turf for which they received a few shillings, and returning late at night from their weary journey in all weathers in order that they might be able to live. That is no exaggeration, my lord.

57089. Mr. BRYCE.—Is it on the mountain north of Woodford?—No; this property that I am speaking of now is almost directly between this and Killimore.

57090. Near Kiltormer?—It is a mile from Kiltormer—a mile and a half.

57091. To the south of Kiltormer?—To the south of Kiltormer. On the passing of the Land Act, the owner, Colonel Walter Nolan, and the agent, the late Sebastian Nolan, consented to sell, and as an earnest of their intention took up the grass lands from the grazier then in occupation. A price was offered for the property by the Estates Commissioners, which the agent did not see his way to accept. At this stage of the proceedings both the owner, Colonel Walter Nolan, and the agent, Mr. Sebastian Nolan, died, and the property fell into the possession of

Col. John Philip Nolan. Col. John Philip Nolan was approached by both the parish priests, and reminded of his brother's promise to divide the grass land. He denied that his late brother ever had any design of breaking up the grass land, although we have the letter of Mr. Sebastian Nolan, saying it was his brother's design to break them up and divide them. He denounced the offer that was made by the Estates Commissioners as confiscation, worse than that of Cromwell. Those were his words. He, however, offered to sell the tenanted land to the tenants, but would not sell, and refused to sell, the untenanted land unless he got a price that would bring him the net income he had from the land under competitive rents in the best of years.

57092. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Did he state that in his letter in those terms; is that your construction of his meaning, or did he state that in specific terms?—He stated that he would not sell unless he got his net income.

57093. Have you got that letter?—I have not it here.

57094. But you can get it?—I have not either of Colonel Nolan's letters.

57095. But you can get them?—I can get them.

57096. CHAIRMAN.—When you say that he wanted his net income based on the competitive rent of the best year, was that one year or several years?—The best of years.

57097. One year only?—I give you the statement I have taken from the parish priest. I give you the wording, and I think the wording, as I have stated it, is correct.

57098. Do you mean to say that he would take 1872 or 1873, the year when the graziers went mad, as the basis of his calculation?—That is the reading that his letter would imply.

57099. You do not think he meant over a series of years?—Well, it is possible. I noticed a succession of graziers in that farm, and they are all gone—Ryan, Cowen, Mitchell, Hardy, and, lately, Mr. Byrne. They have all ceased, except Mr. Byrne, to be seen at our fairs or markets, and they have ceased to be graziers.

57100. This disappearance of the graziers do you attribute to the fact of high rents?—They ruined themselves by competitive rents. In the good years the grazier could afford to pay his rent if he got a few shillings profit on each acre, because his acres were numbered by the hundred. In the good years he paid that rent, but when the fall in the price of stock came, and the profits were turned into losses, he then went bankrupt; and that is what I have seen. Colonel Nolan offered to sell the holdings to the tenants at a price that would bring him his net income. His net income from the tenants, I suppose, he would have the Commissioners estimate on the rental he would produce. It would be a false basis on which to estimate the price. His net income he would represent as synonymous with his rental.

57101. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You mean that, after deducting the necessary outgoings for the estate, the balance would be net income?—Yes.

57102. Mr. BRYCE.—I do not think that is quite what you mean. You mean that he wanted his gross income?—No; so many years' purchase of the rental.

57103. That would be the gross income?—On the rental.

57104. That would be the gross income?—Well, the net rental and the net income as shown by actual receipts are two different things. I have stated that he tried to sell at so many years' purchase on the rental. It would be a false basis to estimate the price. He does not receive and did not receive anything like what his rental would show; and he does not receive it, and I have the proof of it here.

57105. CHAIRMAN.—Now you are arguing the difference between that and gross income?—What I mean is this: that if a man sells at so many years' purchase of his rental, the presumption is that his rental represents what he gets from the land. For instance, he says, "The rental shows that a man pays me £3. I want twenty years' purchase of that £3." It would appear to the Commissioners if it went before them that he was receiving that £3.

57106. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Not necessarily. It is a mere matter of nomenclature. Twenty years' purchase of the gross rental might be equivalent to twenty-two years' purchase of the net rental; so that you could express the thing in terms of the gross rental and at the same time have a basis of net rental?—The landlords want their net income. They want a price that would bring them their net income if invested at 3½ per cent. Well, now, if Colonel Nolan wants his net rental out of this property I suppose that means his rental, barring deductions for outgoings. Now, here is a schedule of the arrears of rent due by these poor tenants on this property, stretching over a number of years—some of them an immense number of years—which had to be absolutely blotted out, because the people could not pay them.

57106A. Were those rents fixed by the Court?—They may have been originally.

57107. Have they been fixed by the Court?—I do not think these people have ever gone into the Court. They were too poor.

57108. CHAIRMAN.—But surely no man could advance the theory that nominal rental was net rental?—I am afraid they might. In this case, at least, rental does not represent rent received or possible.

57109. Do you suggest that it is put forward that upon an estate where it can be shown by the books that a number of years' arrears of rent were due, the nominal rental is to include nominal debts, that, as a matter of fact, cannot be collected—that it is claimed that the net income should be based on that and not on what has actually been collected?—I would not say "should be," but it is likely what the landlord would do.

57110. Do you mean to say that that claim has been put forward?

57111. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—In cases where the landlord is his own receiver, where there are no receipts, there the gross rent and the net income are approximate, for he is his own agent?—The point I wanted to draw from it is that when the landlords talk about receiving their net income, that they ought to get a price that would bring them in their net income, their net income should not be estimated upon their rental but upon the receipts that they get actually.

57112. CHAIRMAN.—That is your theory?—Yes.

57113. That is merely for tenanted land?—Yes. I am finished with that property. Now I say that the parish of Kilquaine represents, and is typical of, an immense triangle of land, with Loughrea, Ballinasloe, and Portumna at the apexes of the triangle, and each side of the triangle fifteen miles. You have within that triangle all the best land in the three unions I have mentioned. In parts of this district the population was larger than in others, and public opinion made itself felt, and they were able to obtain some amelioration in their position, and to buy in many cases from the landlords; but throughout the part of the county that I am speaking of, the three unions, there is a constant quantity of grazing ranches beside congestion, and by this congestion I mean that the bulk of the people are living on farms which, in the good years, can scarcely give them a decent living; in ordinary years mean poverty, and in bad years mean extreme want. That state of things was brought about by means of famines and by eviction. The landlords were able to corner all the best land in this country. They created a land trust, which was more hostile to progress than the trusts in beef and steel in America, because those trusts in America are in some industries, but the trust here in land is in all the produce of industry, and the effect of this trust was—the only resource of the people being the land—to limit their access to it, and the demand being universal, the price not only goes up on the large holdings but also on the small holdings. And another evil effect of it was that rents were fixed not according to economical considerations, but according to the necessity of the people.

57114. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You are speaking of the Famine of 1846?—I am speaking of the present state of things—of the condition of things that exists at present.

57115. CHAIRMAN.—That you applied to tenanted land as well as grazing land?—Yes. The curse of

Sept. 30, 1907.

Rev. Joseph Alfred Pelly

the grazing land was that it created a trust, and it regulated the supply, just like the other trusts. That is exactly what happened here. They cornered the land and regulated the supply to keep up the price. And another effect of it also was that the spade labourers, not finding an outlet at home for their labour, had to go to enrich other countries, whereas at their own doors there were thousands of acres of land on which they might be profitably employed; and the best and strongest of them went away to America, leaving only the debilitated and the weak, with the result that the people are becoming deteriorated in physique, because the bone and sinew is going away from them. And I say this trust in land gave rise to the grazier. The speculators in land in the Incumbered Estates Court had not the inclination or energy or capital to work those ranches that were cleared. They put them up to competition, and out of this competition arose the grazier. Now, as I said before, I saw three generations of graziers in this place rise up and fall. The first of them were mostly some of the creatures of the rent office, and many, too, were shopkeepers, who, in the bad times, made a corner in food.

57116. What do you mean by creatures of the rent office?—Anyone who served the landlord very well in helping the clearances deserved a little reward, and came in for it that way; and I know, too, many of them grew very fat on the bribes they received from the unfortunate people who were turned out. Though they received the bribes, they did nothing for them, and the people were turned out.

57117. Mr. Bryce.—What time are you speaking of?—I am speaking of the time I was born—about 1855. In the bad times shopkeepers made money by making a corner in food. Food at the time was very scarce, and they could charge what price they liked, and I am sorry to say many of them did make money, and in the first rise of the graziers they came mostly from tradesmen and those who made money in business. And now these are gone, and I could mention scores of them, and everyone connected with this county feels that what I am saying is absolutely true. These went down, and a new set of men arose in Ireland. A good many of them were shopkeepers, and a great deal of them were those who had a little money, and borrowed more from the banks, to work on. About 1879 or so they ceased, and later on we had another set, and amongst them there was a good deal of the shopkeeper, too, in evidence, and men that were the tools of the Property Defence Association; we have men that were poor twenty years ago, that we know had not a blessed bit in the world, and now they are ready to grasp the whole side of a country.

57118. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—Are those men in the United Irish League now?—Oh, indeed, they are not.

57119. Mr. Bryce.—But tell me about the shopkeepers?—These all got ruined by competitive rents and by the change of times of course; because the grazier would be satisfied, as I said, with a few shillings profit on each acre, when his acres extended to a thousand, but let bad years come and he goes smash. They all go down in this country. The landlord did not help them, and there was no sympathy on the part of the people. They are looked upon as rash speculators, ruined. And although they saw them ruined, others were not deterred from following in their footsteps, because, like the fall of a gambler, to others having the same mania, it is not likely to prove an obstacle in their path. Irishmen always rush into land speculation, and it always appeals to the prosperous shopkeeper. He has made money, and he sees in the land a nice way and an alluring way of investing his money, because then he would have the manipulation of his own capital himself, and because, with a vanity begotten of success in one branch, he thinks he could be successful in others; and he believes, as many believe, that it requires only to have money in order to be a successful farmer. As these shopkeepers are ignorant of the value of land, they give an inflated price for it, often paid out of the profit of the counter, and this went on till in bad years pressure came down on the men, and ruined a lot of them. Of course, all the graziers were not shopkeeper-graziers, but I should say nine or ten years ago nine-tenths of the grazing ranches in this part of the country were occupied by the shopkeeper-graziers. I think they were a great curse. They made their money out of the poor, and with the money they made out of the poor they barred the access of the poor to the land.

57120. I suppose when the man does not see very much to invest in except the land it is natural for him to put his money into the land, because it is a convenient way of realising his debts. When the farmers are indebted to him he gets for his money their cattle, and then he puts the cattle on a grazing farm?—Now, sir, I have heard this statement, and I have read in the papers this statement, that has been made about the shopkeepers—that they use their position as shopkeepers and creditors of the farmer in order to get cattle cheap and to stock the land. I know all the grazier-shopkeepers in this country, and I do not believe that in the case of a single one of them they ever did that. But I told you how the grazier-shopkeepers arose, and that in their anxiety to invest their money they stopped the access of the people to the grass land; and I believe it would have been better for them to have minded their shop business; for I know very few of the shopkeepers going from their business to mind farms that did not lose by the transaction.

57121. Sir John Colomb.—You speak of the shopkeepers barring the access of the people to the land. Surely the shopkeepers are part of the people?—Yes; but they get their money out of the pockets of the poor people; and I think money thus got ought not to be used for the purpose of barring the people from what is necessary for them in order to get a decent living.

57122. You mean that they barred that section of the people that are agricultural?—Yes, and badly off. Now, these graziers I believe to be the real obstacle between the people and the realisation of the intentions of the legislature as expressed in the Wyndham Act. I believe if the graziers were done away with that the landlords would sell, and that the good land would return back to those that originally held it; that emigration would cease, that the greatness of the country, which is in its population, would grow, and that the wealth of the country, which is in the land, would receive its full development. I read the evidence of gentlemen examined in Tuam and elsewhere on the grazing system. The question at issue seems to be this:—Is the grazier such an asset to the country that he ought to be retained even at the cost of keeping the people as they are? I suppose no one would accept that, as it is universally acknowledged as a sound maxim of all good Government that the good of the many should be put before the selfish aggrandisement of the few. Is he such an asset that he ought to be retained for the good and welfare of the country? I say he is not, in comparison with the farmers, who use mixed agriculture. I say that untenanted land as it is used at present does not approach, and could not approach, even the possibility of doing the good that it could in mixed agriculture by ordinary husbandry. I say that the grazier does not help to develop the resources of the country in the same proportion as a farmer on a fair-sized holding of a mixed character would do. And everyone acknowledges that the poor man with, say, seven acres gets more money out of that land, and does more for the country than a grazier for the same proportion of the land.

57123. Chairman.—I do not think you need labour that very much?—And of course the grazing does deteriorate the land, and upon that question there was some evidence put forward by Mr. Armstrong in Tuam, and by Mr. Shaw Taylor in Loughrea. Their argument for grazing is that to remove the grazier would stop the supply of store cattle, and that it is Connaught that supplies the rest of Ireland. I say that is not true. You do not stop the supply.

57124. Sir John Colomb.—Is not it the demand you mean?—I suppose the supply and demand go with one another. I say first, the graziers do not produce. They are not producers. They do not breed stock. The real caterers for the supply are the small farmers, even as they are at present, and all the stock that is upon the grazing ranches, and the cattle particularly that are on the grazing ranches, are bought from the small farmer who has to sell them on account of

the smallness of his farm. I say, then, increase the size of the poor man's farm, and he will keep on that stock, and the profit that goes to the grazier will go to the producer, and the supply will be kept up, even in increased quantity, and what is sold by the grazier now will be sold in smaller lots by the small farmer; and I say, too, in better condition, because the stock will get more care and attention in the small farmer's hands than in the hands of the graziers, and they presumably will come out in very much better condition. I say, too, as regards sheep, the graziers may say that they are producers to a certain extent. And so are the small farmers. Give the small farmers access to the good land which is kept for the rearing of sheep, and of course they will utilise its possibilities just as well as the graziers did, and will be able to supply, in smaller lots, what the graziers supply in large lots now.

57125. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—What do you say to the argument that it requires a larger run?—I see one gentleman said that four classes of land are required. We here in this part of the country are slightly stock-mad. There is very little fattening land; and they sell at a year and a half or two years' old to the Meath men. There is no such thing here as four classes of land in this part of the country. I am speaking now of the district as a whole, and I say that as a whole this country is able to produce young stock, and leaving on one side the limestone that one sees, that gives the bone, and it has been always remarkable that the graziers have used the land only for that, they first keep them up to a year and a half, and then sell them to the grazier. Give the same land to the farmer and why can't he keep them?

57126. CHAIRMAN.—I do not think you quite followed Sir Antony's question. I do not think his argument was based on the allegation that there were different classes of land in the district, but that on a holding of 200 or 300 acres, which is at present in the hands of one grazier, there may be different kinds of herbage existing on different portions of the land, and it is necessary for the proper prosecution of the grazing trade that the cattle should have a large run in order that they might be able to move during different times of the year from one herbage to the other?—I have a good deal of experience of the graziers in Galway, and I don't know of cattle being confined to a little particular spot in a farm. They have the run of the whole farm, and I say if the farmers get the land they will use it with the object of feeding their beasts and making them fat.

57127. Suppose one man has got herbage which is required at one time of the year, and another which is required at another time of the year, what is to happen then?—You mean like what is called in this part of the country, winterage? Well, winterage is a special area of land that is capable of resisting the cold and holding the grass during the winter months, and people instead of buying hay and paying for labour take winterage. Of course, there are small meadows fit enough for the requirements of the small farmer, but if you give them larger farms assuredly the earth will give a better return, with the result that the breeding will be greatly benefited. So that I think the grazier as an asset to the country could very well make place for the farmer with mixed tillage, and that the intentions of the Act to increase their holdings should be carried out, and carried out by compulsion, I mean where negotiations have failed as regards sale, and where the landlords refuse to sell, the grass lands ought to be compulsorily acquired.

57128. What I want to know is this. You say that you think this grass land should be acquired compulsorily?—Yes.

57129. Well, I take it from what you said before that in your opinion it would not be a fair basis to take the grazing land as a standard of value?—No.

57130. Now, I ask you how you would fix the price?—In asking compulsory powers for the Government I would have Commissioners for the purpose of the Act, solely selected on account of their knowledge of land, and on account of their probity, and I would make them independent of party by making their appointment permanent. I would have the Commissioners keep constantly before their minds that the State is security for the money advanced, and the ratepayers finally responsible for the payment of the annuities; I would have the price estimated on the quality of the land, at what it would reasonably be expected to pay with ordinary husbandry after the maintenance, in suitable circumstances, of a family. Knowledge of land and experience would determine the annuity. I would have the Commissioners deal with the money of the State the same as a stockbroker would deal with the money of his client. If a stockbroker in using the money of his client would look at the seller and the interest of the seller instead of the quality of the stock that he was buying, that man would be a rogue, and if he gives the price of a gilt-edged security for what ordinary experience tells him is subject to risk, he is equally a rogue. And, then, if Commissioners, in dealing with the money of the State look to the income of the seller instead of to what they are buying, they are not much better. Of course, if the land is capable of bringing a price that will give him his net income, by all means give him his net income, but then the price is based not upon net income, but upon the quality of the land.

57131. When you say "based on the quality of the land" I do not quite see how you are to set about doing that unless you proceed by estimating what the fair rent would be if it was tenanted?—Yes.

57132. That is what you propose?—Guarded by the other two things, the security of the State and the responsibility of the ratepayers. I would give the landlord the full price.

57133. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—How would you proceed to estimate it?—By the value of the land estimated by experts.

57134. Take a grass farm which you are proceeding to acquire with the object of dividing it into, say, ten-acre holdings. Would you commence by basing your estimate of the price of the farm on its capacity and usefulness as agricultural land—would you fix a fair rent for the grass farm in consideration that it was to be used as a tillage farm?—I do not quite follow the question.

57135. Here is a grass farm, say, of 1,000 acres?—I would give the price according to the quality of the land.

57136. Quality of the land suited for what purpose—for the purpose of tillage or for the purpose of grazing?—For the purpose of mixed agriculture.

57137. That is to say, having regard primarily to tillage?—What it was best fitted for.

57138. You say that you want to fix a fair rent. There are two ways of doing it, I understand. One way is to take the landlord's net income over a series of years from the grazing land and then to capitalise it at so many years' purchase. Another way of doing it is to determine in your own mind what would be a second term rent for that particular block of land and then to consider whether anything should be added to the second term rent on account of the double interest of the landlord. Which of those two methods would you take?—I would, by no means, give him a price that would bring him in his net income unless judging by the quality of the land it was worth the price.

57139. But would you apply the method of procedure which requires rent as a basis?—No; it smashed all the graziers and surely it is not right.

57140. I understand you to say that graziers have been broken in the past, and that as a consequence of that net income from grazing land is an unsuitable basis on which to calculate. Now, eliminating that for a moment, would you say that with the other system, namely the fixation of what the land is worth for tillage and mixed farming, something should be added for the other interest?—I say that from experience and knowledge of land the Commissioners would be able to fix a just price on that grass land that they would say that that land could fairly pay after allowing for ordinary husbandry.

57141. CHAIRMAN.—That does not satisfy me, because you admit that in grass land which is in the landlord's possession there is what they call a double interest. You admit that?—Yes, I do, but you see if the landlord says, "I have a double interest in that land," I will ask him where did he get it. First and foremost the State gave him that without anything at all. The State wants back this tenant interest to restore it to those to whom it originally be-

Sept. 30, 1907.

Rev. Joseph Alfred Pelly.

longed, and it would not be fair for the State to go and pay an immense price for an interest that they gave for nothing a while ago to the landlord.

57142. It is not a question of a big or a small price but how you are to get at any price at all?—I would let the Commissioners use their expert knowledge.

57143. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Take this case. A landlord has fifty tenants and buys out the interest of twenty-five of them in their agricultural holdings. Before that he had a right to receive rent from those agricultural holdings, and he bought out those tenants, giving them fifteen, or ten, or twelve years' purchase—that is, he has paid something?—Oh, of course, but that is a different question altogether.

57144. But we are dealing with existing facts. He had already a right to receive rent from those holdings, and he paid a thousand pounds or something for the tenants' intearest, so he paid it for some substantial benefit?—Yes.

57145. And where he has come to acquire that, and now it is in his hands, ought not you to recoup him?—I never intended to cut him out on that.

57146. You admit the principle that he has a right to be recouped?—Well, compensation for disturbance I would call it in most cases.

57147. Call it what you like, but it is a double interest that has to be compensated for?—Yes.

57148. Give us your idea of what should be the measure of the value of the second right?—I consider that this tenant-right, which the landlord got for nothing, ought not to be estimated as if he bought it.

57149. What would you say it should be?—I am not an expert in land.

57150. If the tenants' interest is valued at 18 to 25 years' purchase—and 22 years' purchase is a common thing on second term rents—what should the landlord's interest be valued at?—What I say is that in estimating for compulsion the tenant should have the land at a fair price that would give security, and that he could not pay a competitive rent, but what would I do to bridge over the difference? In order to bridge over the difference between what the tenant should pay and what the landlord demands I would think it right to ask that Mr. Morley's idea should be carried out, and that 20 per cent. instead of 12 per cent. bonus should be given.

57151 You are anticipating. I want first to get at your idea or estimate of what should be the number of years' purchase to cover the landlord's interest?—I could not attempt to say that.

57152. CHAIRMAN.—We do not want to put you in a difficulty, but only to get your idea of how this price is to be arrived at. You tell us that, in your opinion, one system would not work, for the reasons given, and now we go further and say, admitting that for the sake of argument, what is the principle you propose in order to arrive at the price?—My principle in the buying out is centred in the probity and knowledge of the Commissioners, that they should give full value to the tenant to live, and fair value to the landlord for what he is selling.

57153. Mr. BRYCE.—Are you not aware that the judges, over and over again, have said that no principle whatever applies in the fixation of fair rents in Ireland?—Yes, and many queer things have been said.

57154. The Judges of the Supreme Court do not amuse themselves by saying fanciful things?—They know very little about it, some of them.

57155. It appears, from the dissatisfaction that exists in a number of places, that the sub-Commissioners do not know very much about it?—Of course you will find ignorant, as well as very clever, sub-Commissioners.

57156. But if neither the sub-Commissioner who goes on the land, nor the Judges of the High Court in Dublin know anything about the land, who does?—I would be sorry to say that the Land Court as a rule did not know it. Some of them may not, but I should at present take a sample of the valuation of the sub-Commissioners. We think they know the land and that they are honourable men; and from what I know of those men, with whom I have had intercourse, I say that they are intent on doing justice.

57157. Are you aware that Mr. Shaw Taylor the other day at Loughrea complained that when he went to the Court to have a second term fixed it was raised 10 per cent. on his own improvements?—I happened to be present in the Court in Galway when Shaw Taylor's case was tried. He brought up two valuers there and there was over £107 difference, I think, between the valuations of the two valuers; and a whole lot of things that I saw put in by Mr. Shaw Taylor as improvements for which he claimed were only the ordinary good use of the land.

57158. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—That makes it worse, that a price was put on things he did not do. Therefore the 10 per cent. that he complained of, according to you, was put on something that was not there at all?—It does not necessarily follow. It might be put on for something else. I say that from what I heard in Court the judge did not believe that there ought to be anything given for improvements.

57159. CHAIRMAN.—I do not think there is much use in pursuing this. I understand that you are not really prepared to say more than that you would like to leave it to the Commissioners to fix the fair value?—Yes.

57160. Now, having acquired this grass land, I want to ask you this further question, who are you going to give it to?—First, I would be for giving it to the evicted tenants, and I make no distinction there between Plan of Campaign tenants and other tenants because I was through the whole of the business in Ballintubber district and I was about their holdings, and I know the circumstances pretty well, and I was adverse to the Plan of Campaign, and got into a little trouble over it at the time with the people; but no matter what may be said about the principle I know how the tenants on the Clanricarde Estate suffered at that time, and Mr. Arthur Balfour, when it was brought before him, acknowledged it.

57161. You take the evicted tenants. Then, what next?—Those having uneconomic holdings, and as regards those that belonged to an estate which has been purchased and on which there is untenanted land. I presume at least that those who originally held the land on that would have the first claim on it.

57162. In the district?—In the district and occupying that estate first. And then, after these, I certainly would put the congests, migrants, before the sons of farmers. I know that is not popular, but I do not think philanthropy should be confined to parish boundaries, and I would relieve the misery that exists before I would give prosperity to others.

57163. You thus would relieve the congestion and poverty of an estate?—Yes.

57164. And, I suppose, of a neighbouring estate?—Yes, but not by bringing migratory tenants from a distance to places where congestion already existed.

57165. You would relieve the local poverty first?—Yes.

57166. And, having done that, if there remained a balance of land would you consent to relieve the poverty and congestion of the West before you would consent to any further distribution among the sons of tenants?—Yes, I would. I know that is very unpopular, but I say that it is a big National question, and that family interests ought not to be considered before the National question of driving the poverty away.

57167. You say that is an unpopular view. I may say that I agree entirely with your view, but do you imagine that men of influence like yourself in the locality would have power enough to get your neighbours to accept that view?—I think so. Of course the people's personal interests are always uppermost in them and warp them immensely, but I think if the matter was put before them they might growl at it, but they would agree.

57168. Would you not agree to this, that the present demand for the breaking up of the grass lands is fully justified on account of the congestion which exist?—Oh, yes.

57169. You admit that?—Yes.

57170. If, therefore, from the parochial point of view the congests are debarred and the land given to sons of tenants is it not unfair, and dishonest even, that that argument that the grass should be broken up for the relief of congestion should be any longer relied upon?—It would be wrong. There is another thing, and that is the machinery for working it out.

We have two departments, the Congested Districts Board and the Estates Commissioners. I see that was brought before you in Loughrea, and all I have to say is that in this part of the country the people have no confidence in the Congested Districts Board. Of course, I am not going to criticise the Congested Districts Board. I know nothing of it in its big operations, and therefore it would be impertinent in me, but to judge from the activities which it has extended to this part of the country the Congested Districts Board has been a failure, and it has impeded the work of the Estates Commissioners. It has bought four estates in the district. One of them near Woodford, the Slatefield Estate, was bought several years ago. The houses have been built for two or three years, perhaps more, and the land divided, and although it is in the very centre of the poorest scheduled district they have not been able, in all these years, to get a solitary tenant to take a house and land on account of the high annuity payable.

57171. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You say the Congested Districts Board impose a higher annuity?—In the instance that I am giving. I am speaking only of Slatefield.

57172. Is there anything in the fear that migrants have that if they came there they would be ill-treated?—We asked migrants from 500 yards away, in the midst of the scheduled district called Derryclare, and not one of them would come.

57173. With relation to the Oatfield Farm, that has been in the hands of the Board for some time?—It has, for some years.

57174. Does your information bear out the following account, that when the proceedings were in progress, before the Oatfield Farm could be occupied some dissatisfaction was expressed at the probability that it would become vested in the Congested Districts Board, and when the proceedings were carried out the people from the neighbouring farms entered on the farm under the guidance of the clergyman, and they parcelled out the farm into convenient takes, suitable for applicants for land, and having done that they reported to the Congested Districts Board, and asked for confirmation of their action. The Congested Districts Board had bought the farm for the purpose of migration, and before they could deal with the farm it had been portioned out. Does your local knowledge confirm that account?—I heard something.

57175. What can the Congested Districts Board do if it buys land for the purpose of relieving congestion, and if a local clergyman parcels it out without leave from the Congested Districts Board?—Oh, I did not hear that. I never heard that before.

57176. I ask you this, do you think that land acquired for the purpose of relieving congestion should be distributed and given to the first-comers, or should not there be much care and deliberation exercised in choosing the migrants that were to be brought from sixty or eighty miles distant to be placed in new surroundings?—I know Oatfield, and there are congests about it, and I think the Congested Districts Board might find poorer men round this place for relief.

57177. I am quite with you; but do you not know that at the present time the law does not allow that to be done. The law at the present time, as stated in Section 75 of the Act of 1903, restricts their power in that respect?—I understand that.

57178. For the present, the Congested Districts Board cannot relieve local congestion, and I entirely agree with you that the law ought to be amended on that point. But such as the law at present is, do you not think it rather hard that the Congested Districts Board's hands should have been forced in the case of the Oatfield Farm before they were prepared to make a distribution?—Well, they had two years, and I don't think there was any great agitation against it; and what brought about the agitation was the example of the Estates Commissioners settling down things so well around them, and the contrast between their action and that of the Board.

57179. It is explainable, but the objects of the two Boards are entirely different. You see, the Estates Commissioners, when they have become purchasers of an estate, proceed to distribute it, but it would not be open to the Congested Districts Board to do so; and that difficulty will continue as long as the two Boards are acting. Consequently, what would you say ought to be done?—I would not have two buyers in the same market, each anxious to show their superior activity in acquiring land. But when the Congested Districts Board have done good work, and where others have not done it, I would increase, if possible, the facilities for doing more good work, but let them deal with nothing outside the congested districts. I would make the Estates Commissioners supreme for the purpose of buying land outside the congested districts.

57180. And what would you do with the Congested Districts Board?—I would give them full powers to carry out their functions.

57181. What would you say to a proposal that all land, whether within or without the congested districts, should be purchased by one body—the Estates Commissioners?—I would leave the Congested Districts Board to work their own corner, but I would not allow them in on the preserves of the other body, running up the price of land by becoming buyers in the same market. And we have experience that the landlords would rather have the Congested Districts Board on account of the price.

57182. I think you may take it from me that in the Province of Connaught there is not sufficient untenanted land to relieve the congestion of the Province of Connaught. That being so, would you exclude the Commissioners altogether from any power of operating in Connaught?—Oh, no; I think that where individual care is required, as in other parts of the country, they have quite enough to do.

57183. In the Province of Connaught, outside the congested districts, but still within the Province of Connaught, do you mean that all land bought by the Estates Commissioners should be ear-marked for the purposes of the Congested Districts Board?—I would settle, not all the parties, but the evicted tenants and the uneconomic holdings of other tenants. I would say that.

57184. CHAIRMAN.—Do you suggest that local congestion should be relieved by the Estates Commissioners or by the Congested Districts Board?—By the Estates Commissioners.

57185. And after that the balance of the land should be handed over to the Congested Districts Board for distribution among congests?—Yes.

57186. And then you would have in the same area, and on the same estate, two different bodies carrying out redistribution work. First of all, the Estates Commissioners buy the land?—Certainly.

57187. And, then, having done that, the Estates Commissioners would relieve local congestion?—Yes.

57188. And, then, having done that, the balance of land on the same estate would be handed over to the Congested Districts Board?—I see the difficulty you are putting me into; but, at the same time, they might relieve local congestion, except in cases like Pollock's big ranches.

57189. As a matter of fact, would not your point be perfectly well met if you separate the areas over which the two bodies could act?—Yes.

57190. If you eliminate competition between the two purchasers, does it matter to you whether the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board buy the land?—I have seen the work of both, my lord, and I am giving my opinion that the Estates Commissioners ought to have the buying of the land; and where they settle uneconomic holdings they certainly, from my experience, save the ratepayers here.

57191. Would not you agree that absolutely the improving and distributing authority ought to be the purchasing authority?—Yes, if you have separate areas.

57192. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You have given us the history of a certain estate, the origin and commencement of the history being in the Incumbered Estates

Sept. 30, 1907.

Rev. Joseph Alfred Pelly.

Court. Now I see you have got many documents, going back very far. Can you give the Commission, or do you happen to have, any of the advertisements issued by the Incumbered Estates Court to induce people to come in to buy property with a statement that the lands were let too low, and rents could be raised, so as to bring in the shopkeepers and others with capital?—I have no document that would show that. The only document in connection with it is this—the rental and particulars of sale of the Eyrecourt Castle Estate, sold by auction in the Incumbered Estates Court on the 27th of June, 1854.

57193. May I put it to you generally in this way, as you know so much about that time? Was it not the common practice of the Incumbered Estates Court in giving notice of sale to give a schedule or rental, and then to put a notice such as this: "These rents are very low, and they can be largely increased," and that sort of thing? Do you remember?—I have heard it. I have no document that would prove it.

57194. You have spoken of the mania for land. That still exists?—It does.

57195. And for the reason that you gave, namely, that there is no other outlet for investment, I presume that you look to the probability of the mania for land continuing?—Yes. Well, of course, when the people are supplied with a sufficiency of land the mania will cease.

57196. But you gave instances, very interesting and important ones, of people such as shopkeepers and others who were not connected with land, who had a mania for land and bought it?—Yes.

57197. Now, I want to know, assuming that the policy is carried out to the full of all the land in Ireland being resettled in economic holdings, do you apprehend any danger in this mania for land still continuing, for we know very well that such is human nature, that some annuitants will get up earlier and work later than others, some will be thrifty, and some will not; and now the mania continuing, do you think there is any danger of shopkeepers and others with capital going in and purchasing out the annuitants?—Yes; I consider that possible unless it is guarded by some legislation that would prevent a man being given that land.

57198. Now, my object was to lead you up to ask you for your opinion, what form legislation should take to prevent such men, this mania for land still continuing, from being able to purchase out the tenants and thus get back to the old state of things. Can you give the Commission any indication of your view as to what form legislation should take to prevent that from happening?—It is only an opinion, and I have not thought very much on it, but I fancy that legislation might make the present occupier merely a life tenant with remainder to his children, or in some form of that kind, so that he could not borrow on it or mortgage it for his life interest. I think that would help the present man and the family, and it would prevent money being advanced which might afterwards swamp the tenants.

57199. You dwelt so strongly upon what happened in the past. But would you go so far as to prohibit the shopkeeper or solicitor or anyone else from buying the holding of an annuitant who has failed—would you prohibit the shopkeeper?—I do not think it would be possible to restrain liberty in that way.

57200. Then you admit the possibility?—There is a possibility, but I am afraid I could not offer an expert opinion as to the remedy for it. Of course, I see the possibility of the danger, but I am not able to apply a remedy.

57201. Do you attach very great importance to the question of preventing such a thing in the future?—Oh, certainly.

57202. There is only one other general question I wish to ask you on the subject. Where the State is carrying out a policy for the general benefit of the nation—we will take the landlords and the tenants as the two classes composing it—do you think that the State is justified in inflicting personal loss upon either class in carrying out that State policy—do you think any class or any individual should bear that loss, or do you not think it is right and proper and only just that if any loss is to be incurred it should be borne by the general community?—I think the State, as having the ultimate ownership and *altum dominium* of all that land, did in the past give to the landlord the tenants' interest without any compensation to the tenant, and I do not see where the injustice would come in. And, suppose the State came in and said, "You have enjoyed that tenancy, which I gave you for nothing, for so many years, and I must have it back by right of my *altum dominium*."

57203. You can give a better answer to my general question. If the carrying out of a general policy for the benefit of the State involves a loss do you think the State ought to bear it or do you think that an individual or a class ought to bear it?—I think in the case which is in your mind, that of the tenants and landlords, my opinion, in order to bridge over what would give a sufficient annuity to the State out of the land in possession of the tenant, and what the landlord might claim as his right, it would be right of the State to act on the principle expressed by Mr. Morley I think at the time of the passing of the Act. In the case of an untenanted farm itself, the landlord might not suffer such a great loss, but the State might give 20 per cent. bonus instead of 12 per cent. But I should hold that the tenant in all cases should never be burdened except indirectly for the holding; that the tenant's annuity should not be touched by any compensation that is given to the landlords in that way.

57204. But if there is a difference, on an equitable review of the whole circumstances between what is fair to the landlord and what would be fair to the tenant, do I understand you to express an opinion that it is just that the State should bridge over the difference?—As far as it is just and equitable. There is another question—from whom should I take the land? I would take up the eleven months and yearly takes where there was no resident tenant. I would take up the outside farms that are used merely for grazing purposes, that would not be necessary for the carrying on of the demesne that was in possession of the owner.

57205. CHAIRMAN.—Grass farms?—Grass farms. And I would take up certainly from the landlord the grass land that he took into his possession for the avowed purpose of defeating the intentions of the Wyndham Act.

57206. Now, reverse the position. Supposing that the grass farm is in the demesne and that the tillage farm is outside the demesne?—Oh, by all means, what is necessary. I would leave him what is necessary for the accommodation of the demesne or what would be worked in conjunction with it.

57207. Then you would not say that you would limit the landlord's possession to the demesne wall. If he could prove that there is a farm outside which is used in connection with a farm inside, would you leave him that?—"Used in connection" means used in mixed farming, I suppose.

57208. I understand that in many cases there are two farms worked in this way, one outside and one inside the demesne. Your illustration assumes that the grass land was outside and the tillage inside?—Yes.

57209. I have known localities in which the reverse was more often the case, the grass land inside and the tillage outside?—But I would allow what could reasonably be expected for the accommodation of the demesne. Mr. Tener, yesterday in Loughrea, spoke of home farms, but there were no lands which could be utilised for evicted tenants except home farms. A home farm, if I understand it rightly, is a farm that can reasonably be expected to be used in connection with the demesne. Now, in the case of the Clanricarde estate the demesne consists of 1,398 acres, and there is a strip of farm outside the demesne that is held. These were used as home farms, but besides this there are, two miles away from it, Deerpark, 110 acres, with three farmers; Drumscar, 352 acres; and there is in Moorfield a farm of Tom King's, and near Lockstown a farm occupied by E. Ferry; and another farm of nearly 300 acres also. And when Mr. Tener says there is nothing but home farms available, he considers these all home farms, though they have not

been used in my memory for at least forty years, I mean in connection with the demesne. And I think that was not quite correct.

57219. Mr. BRYCE.—You said that you would not give the landlord anything for his occupation interest?—I say that the State should make it up for him.

57220. Would it not be fair or would it be fair, in your opinion, to ask the incoming tenant anything for that occupation interest?—No, sir; but I would put an annuity on the land that the land could fairly pay, and the capitalised sum representing that annuity would, I expect, go very near paying for the two interests in the land.

57221. But the moment you give the land to the tenant, he can sell that land away and he can get something for nothing?—He had it before. It is only restitution he gets.

57222. Some one may have had it sixty years ago, but it does not follow that it is the same man exactly now?—I say that the landlord should have the value of the land. I say that a fair price should be given to the landlord for the use of the land, which is all he has to sell. You have to sell to the tenant, and you must sell to the tenant at a price that will make the State safe.

57223. If you put the tenant in he immediately acquires an interest that he can sell for a considerable number of years' purchase,—He does, but he has bought it on giving the value of the land.

57224. Is it not fair that the State in readjusting the land should consider that and charge something for it?—I say let them charge what they like provided they put a fair rent on the tenant.

Sept. 30, 1907.

Rev. Joseph Alfred Pelly.

57225. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—And the fair rent would be what was fair in the opinion of the Estates Commissioners?—Yes, expert knowledge guided by high principle.

57226. The Estates Commissioners are to be the arbiters in the matter?—I think you can never find anything better.

57227. We start with the annuity as being the guiding principle in everything?—Yes.

57228. You would fix the annuity, and having fixed that, anything above that which should be given to the landlord ought to be provided by the State?—Certainly. I was asked to draw attention to the drainage as a great hardship on property transferred to tenants and to draw attention to the Report of the Drainage Commission of Ireland in which they say that the non-productive part of the works that were carried out under the Act of 1863 represents £133,333. Before 1863 the State bore all the extra expense, and after 1863 they did not.

57229. CHAIRMAN.—Are not you now rather speaking on behalf of someone else?—Yes.

57230. Mr. Talbot Crosbie, I think?—Yes.

57231. I think we can hear Mr. Talbot Crosbie himself?—That would be very much better.

Miss ROSE ANNE GRIFFITH examined.

57232. CHAIRMAN.—You are instructress at the Lace Classes in Carraroe?—Yes, my lord, I was until August last, and now my sister is in it.

Miss Rose Anne Griffith.

57233. I think you have read, have you not, some of the evidence that was given at Oughterard by Mr. Patrick Naughton?—Yes, my lord.

57234. Evidence with regard to your lace classes?—Yes, my lord, I have.

57235. I understand that you would like to contradict some of the evidence then given?—Yes.

57236. Let me take you through. Mr. Naughton first said that in his opinion girls were brought down from Donegal to Carraroe, were trained in your lace class, and were then employed as teachers in the Carraroe district. What have you to say to that?—Yes, my lord; I was brought from Donegal to Carraroe by the Congested Districts Board, and was instructed by the French girls who introduced that work to Carraroe.

57237. But then Mr. Naughton assumed that others besides you were brought down and employed as instructresses. Is that so?—My sister was brought from Donegal, too, and she was in another school, in Lettermore.

57238. Anybody else?—That is all from Donegal, from that district.

57239. Were you both qualified lace workers—were you both instructed lace workers before you were brought to Carraroe district?—We were qualified to teach in other industries, but not in this specimen of lace we are now teaching.

57240. Did you both learn your business in Carraroe?—We learned to make this special curtain lace there.

57241. Under whom?—Under the French teachers brought there by the Congested Districts Board at first.

57242. Is there any proposal to continue migrating girls from Donegal to Carraroe to train them at Carraroe to make them instructresses?—No, my lord; I did not hear anything about it.

57243. Mr. BRYCE.—But you did know a certain class of lace manufacture before you went to Carraroe?—Yes, I did.

57244. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—And this particular kind of lace instruction given in Carraroe was not given largely?—Well, it was introduced by the French. Carraroe was the first school in Ireland in which there was this specimen of lace.

57245. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do I understand this to be the position, that you came as a qualified teacher in certain kinds of lace-making to Carraroe from Donegal?—Yes.

57246. And then there was going to be an improvement or change or development when French teachers came to teach?—Yes. We came as pupil teachers.

57247. And you then and your sister learned from those French teachers or qualified in their branch of the lace-making?—Yes. We were qualified in other industries first, but it was this industry that was introduced by the French ladies to Carraroe.

57248. That was superadded to the lace-making that you came there to teach?—I came as a pupil teacher to learn this work and then to teach it.

57249. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Were there any Galway pupils at the same time?—There were two Mayo pupil teachers at the same time.

57250. No Galway girls?—No, sir.

57251. Did the two Mayo girls get positions elsewhere?—At Lettermullen, Co. Galway, and at Kilkerrin, Co. Galway.

57252. There were no Galway girls at the same time who could take your position?—They might be able to do it, but having no previous training they were not appointed.

Sept. 30, 1907.

Miss Rose Anne Griffith,

57253. Were they qualified?—No.

57254. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Were there any Galway girls in Carraroe school as advanced as you were when you went to Carraroe?—No; I do not think that the Galway girls knew about industries at all until this one was started. When we went there we went as pupil teachers.

57255. CHAIRMAN.—They would be unlikely to bring a girl from another county to your place. Girls have often been sent from other counties to Donegal to teach industries there. Then you started as teachers. Mr. Naughton, in his evidence, said—"These girls were imported into our district, trained in our school, and placed as mistresses over pupils better than they," and I asked him for the names, and he said there would be a difficulty about giving the names because some of those girls were married. Have you known any cases of that kind, where girls were brought down from Donegal and trained in the school, and then become mistresses and then were married?—Yes, my lord; my sister has got married. It is since she has got married that she and I exchanged classes. I was teaching in Carraroe till she got married, and she was teaching in Lettermore. Now she is teaching in Carraroe and I am in Lettermore.

57256. And then, really, it only affects you two. Then Mr. Naughton said there was a question of audit. What is the system of your accounts—are they audited, do you know?—Yes; we keep an account of everything that is done in the school. All the money received for the work is paid to the workers weekly, and the account is kept in the school, which my books can show.

57257. Who looks over those books?—Mr. Walker, the Inspector, when he calls round.

57258. Has there ever been to your knowledge any suggestion made by the girls of your class that the money obtained for their lace is not distributed amongst them, but is appropriated by yourself or other teachers?—No, my lord; they never said anything of the sort to me. I asked them if they had any suspicion about it, and each of them said "No."

57259. Has there been any dissatisfaction in the class at all with regard to payment?—They raised the same suspicion about it when Mr. Wissmer was there; he had the same difficulties to contend with, and Mr. Walker then told them they could at any time see that the amount paid them for their work was the full amount received for the work.

57260. Then you tell us that they are not suspicious?—They told me that they were not suspicious.

57261. But you think they might be all the same?—They might say it to outsiders. I do not know. Each girl has a pass-book, so that she can see what she receives for her work, and the same amount is marked in the cash book and the same marked in the weekly return that is sent to the Congested Districts Board, and the sum total corresponds to the total amount of money orders received, as shown by invoice book kept in school.

57262. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You send a weekly copy of your accounts?—Yes.

57263. And Mr. Walker inspects them on the spot as well?—Yes, if he is at the office of the Congested Districts Board, or here when he calls.

57264. And all the accounts are sent up weekly to the Congested Districts Board to be examined?—Yes, all accounts of money paid out. And a monthly statement is sent to the Board of all money received for work during each month.

57265. CHAIRMAN.—Mr. Walker visits the school pretty often?—He does.

57266. Have those girls ever laid any complaint before Mr. Walker, or told you to bring it before Mr. Walker, about their claim of payment?—No.

57267. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Has there been any falling off in the earnings lately, or do they earn about the average?—Last year we did not get enough of orders to keep the girls in constant employment. We could not help that.

57268. But that reduced their earnings, of course?—Yes.

57269. CHAIRMAN.—Do you purchase any material or that kind of thing, from some one in France, probably?—No; we had nothing to do with the purchase of the materials. Mr. Morton sends us the order and the materials wherewith to do it, and he takes the goods again and supplies us with the money to pay the workers for them.

57270. Is that Mr. Naughton the gentleman who gave evidence—he has a shop, has not he?—It is Mr. Naughton, shopkeeper, Carraroe, who gave evidence, and Mr. Morton, of Darvel, in Scotland, who sends us the orders and materials.

57271. Do you buy any materials at all, or is there an account between your school and that shop?—No, none whatever.

57272. Any account between your school and the other shop?—None whatever. All the material we get into the school is sent by Messrs. Morton, and I think it is manufactured in Germany.

57273. Has there been any jealousy on the part of local shopkeepers that you are not getting any materials or anything from them?—No. All the material we get into the school is sent by Mr. Morton, and I think it is manufactured in Germany.

57274. Is there anything that you would like to say more than that?—No, my lord; I have got nothing to say to anyone further.

The Right Hon. The Lord ASHTOWN examined.

The Right Hon. The Lord Ashtown.

57275. CHAIRMAN.—You are nominated by the Landlords' Convention?—Yes.

57275A. Will you tell us what you have to say?—I am a resident landlord in County Galway, a farmer on a large scale, and a large employer of labour. I wish to give some evidence as to the probable effect of general breaking up of the grass lands in the West of Ireland. Roughly speaking, the present system of cattle-raising in Connaught is as follows:—(1) The small farmer breeds the stock; (2) the store grazier of Connaught buys the young stock from the small farmer; (3) the store grazier, after a year or a year and a half, passes them on to the Leinster graziers who finish them. The breaking up of the grass farms on a large scale would mean that the market for the young stock of the small farmer would disappear, as the Leinster graziers would not buy stock which were not at least two years old.

57276. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Do you follow this procedure yourself, Lord Ashtown?—I breed all my stock.

57277. There is a tendency then, is there not, to bring the stock to maturity at as early a stage as possible?—Yes, quite right.

57278. You follow that yourself?—Yes.

57279. You get rid of yours about two years old?—Under a year mostly.

57280. Then, if that be so, and if it be true that small farmers keep stock up to two years old, as we have been told they do, would there be any difficulty for small farmers, if their farms were sufficiently large, to do what your lordship does?—I think

so, for this reason, that they do not understand the care of the stock. They absolutely neglect their stock. They would not keep them in sheds and houses like I do.

57281. If all those things were procured, and if they had sufficient knowledge, they might do all that you do?—There is no reason at all that they should not if they had the knowledge; but you have to get the knowledge first.

57282. But there is nothing in the nature of things to prevent a small farmer with, say, thirty to forty acres and having sufficient knowledge doing what you do?—But you have to get the man with knowledge first, and it is very hard to get him, and with capital, too. You would want a far larger amount of land than the small farmer has now. You would want a lot of land.

57283. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Would the thirty or forty acre farm referred to by Sir Antony provide that—you must have good land, arable land?—I do not think he would want all arable land for it, but he could not do it on forty acres or anything like that. The whole system of farming would have to be changed. It would take years to educate these small farmers into adopting such a change, even if they could afford to do so. This a serious question. It is hard to believe that the Act of 1903 contemplated such a sweeping change. You should not seriously disorganise the staple industry of the country until you have something as good or better to take its place. In going fully into this question it must be borne in mind that there are four large and distinct classes of grazing land in the County Galway:—(1) Deep, heavy grass lands, which never could be profitably tilled; (2) light land on limestone rock, with the rock generally near the surface, and often jutting out from the soil. Tillage on such land is impossible, but it is most valuable for the classes of stock suited to it. On this I speak from experience, as I farm about 1,200 statute acres of land of this character; (3) land, chiefly in the East Riding of Galway, which could be tilled, but is far more profitable in pasture; (4) land, chiefly in the West Riding (excluding Connemara), which would be improved by tillage; but this and the preceding class of land would be most profitable if used for mixed farming, of which the chief object would be the raising of stock, as the western climate is too uncertain to enable farmers to depend on raising corn crops profitably. To carry on mixed farming profitably the farm should be large, the farmer a man of capital and experienced in stock-breeding. The system would mean the employment of many labourers, giving work both to men housed on the land and to small men living elsewhere in the neighbourhood. But it must be remembered that by doing away with so-called uneconomic holdings you decrease the supply of labour in the district, as a man with what you call an economic holding would have no time for other employment. The general breaking up of grass lands in the West would seriously injure stock-breeders in both the South and the West, as there is a large import of calves from the South into the West, and Western graziers often go to the South to make up their lots. It would also seriously interfere with the horse-breeding industry in Connaught, as all the good horses are reared on the grass lands. It is well known to breeders that horses cannot be properly reared on small runs. The same principle applies to sheep farming. Small farmers have neither the money nor the enterprise to use good sires, and all classes of stock would steadily deteriorate. If the Government decide on a widespread system of breaking up grass lands, and enlarging small holdings, they ought to take steps to be supplied from year to year with accurate information as to how these purchasing tenants are using their farms. I believe such information used to be furnished by the Royal Irish Constabulary, but that the practice has been discontinued for some years past. I have endeavoured to obtain this information in respect of several large grazing farms in my neighbourhood, which have been acquired by the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board, and have been divided mostly for enlarging existing holdings, and in a few cases for creating new holdings I find there is very little tillage. Most of the new land has been sub-let for grazing, or meadowed, and the meadows sold by public auction. In some cases where the tenant works the new land himself he tills only a very small portion, and in some of these cases he has turned the formerly tilled land of his old holding into grass. I am not surprised at these small tenants using their enlarged holdings in this way. It makes their lives easier and less laborious, and they find also that the land pays better in grass than in tillage. But the result, of course, is that, instead of creating a hard-working and a more industrious peasantry, this system is steadily creating a class of small proprietors who sub-let their land for meadow or grazing, and do little or no work themselves. In fact they are perpetuating the grazing system which it is desired to abolish, but in its new form they charge rents which are at least double what the landlord used to charge. Most of the land in these sub-divided areas is deep, heavy land which I have described as Class (1) (portions of it wet), not suitable for tillage, and this land could not be used to full advantage for stock-breeding without being worked in conjunction with land of the lighter description, which I have described as Class (2). But it is clear that small men cannot do this. Passing next to land of the Classes which I have described as (3) and (4), if this land is to be divided, care should be taken that it is only given to men who understand farming, and farm their land well, and it should not be given indiscriminately to men who are hopelessly bad farmers and are much in arrear with their judicial rents. In cases where farmers are considered deserving of additional land, but have no capital to work it, the necessary capital should be found for them by State loans or free grants, as no man can do justice to land without sufficient capital to work it. I don't approve of giving holdings to tenants' sons. It only tends to multiply very small holdings, and to prevent young men doing better for themselves. If it is attempted to migrate small tenants, say from the sea coasts or other districts, to be placed on grass lands elsewhere, care should be taken (if they agree to migrate) that they understand agriculture suitable to their new holdings, and that they are provided with sufficient capital, stock, and farming implements. The consequences of adopting on a large scale a new system that would not work would be so serious that the Government should proceed slowly, and not break up a great existing system until they are sure that their new proposals will prove successful and beneficial. If the whole system of farming is to be changed Parliament must realise and face the necessity of educating the people to carry out the proposed new system. They must be taught how to fatten their stock; they must be provided with suitable farm buildings; and steps must be taken to insure their stock being well-bred. It seems a mistake to try and increase the population without first making sure that the proposed system will work, and will enable them to live and thrive. It would be far better to encourage capital to come into the country by every possible channel, instead of legislating to try and give effect to mere popular theories. If capital could be attracted it would soon increase employment, and thereby result in the population increasing also. If many of the proposals now advocated are carried out, the bulk of the landlords will have to leave the country and take their capital with them; the bulk of the graziers, who are the backbone of agriculture and are also the men of capital among the farming classes in the West, will be driven out also; the last state of the country will be worse than the first, and the country will become bankrupt. Resident landlords should be encouraged to remain in the country. They give employment, and where they farm their own land their example is an education to the smaller farmers round them. Thanks to Acts of Parliament, a landlord has now only two inducements to remain in Ireland—(1) farming his own land, and (2) sport. The working of the Act of 1903 is rapidly taking these inducements from him. For these reasons grass lands are specially valuable to landlords who desire to continue resident in the country. It seems to me the system of the Estates Commissioners in buying grass lands to endeavour to obtain them at prices much below their value to the vendor. They say these low prices are necessary to enable them to re-sell the land to small tenants without prospect of loss. This admits that either these tenants are not competent to work the lands profitably, or that the land is more profitable when kept in grass and in large divisions than in small holdings. If the State wishes to carry out what

Sept. 30, 1907.

The Right Hon. Lord Ashtown.

I regard as a backward policy it should in equity pay the landlord a price based on the rent which a solvent and thrifty tenant would pay for the land if the law were enforced and the rights and property of the individual protected. It appears to be also more or less the practice of the Estates Commissioners to purchase grass lands where there has been gross intimidation, by which the letting value of those lands has, of course, been reduced. This practice is most unfair to the landlord and the grazing tenant, and it does not redound to the credit of any Government. It is simply utilising an Act of Parliament to plunder the loyal and thrifty classes of the population in the vain hope of keeping the country quiet, quite forgetting that the large sums of money already spent under various Land Acts have done little or nothing to allay agitation in many districts. I feel confident that, if grass lands were paid for at fair rates, taking into consideration the landlord's dual interest as owner and occupier, sufficient land could be obtained for enlargement of small holdings or migration of tenants in all cases where either of these processes was desirable. If a landlord is selling tenanted land he sells little more than his income from judicial rents. If he sells untenanted land he sells a property, which includes not only the income or annual profit which he may be deriving from it, but also his proprietorial rights, which are often of great value. Moreover, compulsion cannot be logically advocated as long as land is being voluntarily sold quicker than the State can pay for it. Some of the witnesses have said that most landlords in the West of Ireland have spent little or nothing in improving or developing their estates, and that the tenants' rents are not well paid. I know that the contrary is very largely the fact. As regards my own estate in Galway I hand in tables,* showing both the expenditure on improvements and the payments of the rents. But while I know that many Irish landlords have spent large sums in trying to improve estates consisting of very small holdings, I know also that landlords in England and Scotland are not expected to make, and, as a matter of fact, do not and would not make such improvements as these witnesses refer to on estates of this character in Great Britain. I don't know about the North of Scotland. The reasons for this fact are the same in both Ireland and Great Britain. Practically they are two—(1) it would cost nearly, and perhaps more than, the value of the fee simple of such small holdings to erect substantial houses and offices on them, and (2) the tenants would not, and could not, pay such rents as would recoup the landlord for such expenditure. The highest authorities, both in Ireland and England, including leading Liberal statesmen, have recognised these facts again and again. So long ago as 1845 the Devon Commission, in their Report drew attention to this matter, and stated that "the smallness of the farms," together with other circumstances, rendered "the introduction of the English system extremely difficult, and in many cases impracticable." Again, in the debates on the Irish Land Bill of 1881, the Attorney-General for Ireland (Mr. Law, afterwards Lord Chancellor) said—"There were about 500,000 small tenancies spread over Ireland, and it was plain that the necessities of the case forbade the landlords making the desired improvements." (*Hansard*, vol. 261, pages 1701-2.) In the same debates Mr. Shaw Lefevre (now Lord Eversley) said—"Where the system of cultivation of a country was that of small occupiers it was wholly impossible for the landlord to effect the improvements, to build the houses and the homesteads, or to reclaim the land and to maintain the general equipments of the farm. To attempt to do so in the English system would be to ruin the landlord, and would involve him in expenditure of more than the value of the fee." (*Hansard*, vol. 260, page 1597.) Later on, in the House of Lords, Lord Spencer showed the position created by this state of things, and the differences which it necessarily caused between the land system generally followed in England and the Irish land system, in these words—"In England we have a system of large farms where the owner finds almost all the capital necessary to work the farm. In Ireland we have a system of small farms where it would be perfectly impossible for the landlord to do this work." He then quoted examples, and proceeded in these terms—"The landlord would be ruined if he attempted such a thing without charging interest on his outlay, and the tenant would be totally unable to pay such a large addition to his rental. The fact is that rent represents different things in the two countries. Speaking roughly, in England it represents the value of the land and the interest of the landlord's capital spent on the land. In Ireland it represents only the letting value of the land." (*Hansard*, vol. 264, page 349.) I have submitted these expressions of opinion to show that no Irish landlord could be fairly blamed if if he did not make expensive improvements on these small holdings. Any improvements should be made by the tenant, and for nearly forty years past (ever since the Act of 1870) Parliament has been passing various Acts to protect or compensate him if he makes them. As to so-called economic or uneconomic holdings, I consider that it is not necessary that every farm should be valued at £10 or £12, or any other fixed valuation, to make it an economic holding. A very small holding would be quite economic if the tenant and his family have other sufficient means of living, derived from such sources as local employment, migratory labour, jobbing in small stock, etc., etc., In fact a very small holding, with such additions, would be far more desirable and profitable for the tenant than a much larger holding without them. It would, in my opinion, be a mistake to enlarge any small holdings, where the tenants or their sons can obtain employment in the neighbourhood. it would abolish the local market for labour, and cause land to be badly farmed, and compel many owners and tenants who have land suitable for tillage to lay it down to grass. That I know to be a fact. A lot of so-called uneconomic holdings could be made economic if the tenants would only work, and take an intelligent interest in their land. The outcry about uneconomic holdings in the West is largely due to the fact that the land is held by tenants who will work no more than they can help, and appear to have no ambition to improve their circumstances by any efforts of their own. In conclusion, I think (1) that the division of grass land, the enlargement of holdings and migration should be worked cautiously and gradually, and that all agitation intended to force the pace should be discountenanced, and where it assumes illegal forms should be summarily suppressed; (2) that every possible encouragement should be given to residents, both owners and tenants, to employ labour, thereby giving employment to small tenants and their families, and teaching them how to work land profitably; (3) that, where possible, local industries should be encouraged or started, to give employment to the occupants of uneconomic holdings. It is hopeless to expect that either of these last two points could be generally carried out unless the state of the country is such as would tempt people to invest capital in local enterprises, and unless theoretical legislation is discountenanced.

57284. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You say that in order to carry on mixed farming profitably the farm should be large and the farmer a man of capital and experience in stock-breeding?—Yes.

57285. Are you acquainted with the circumstances of the County Wexford?—It is different land altogether in Wexford from what you have here.

57286. You are aware that the majority of the farms in the County Wexford are of moderate size, and it is about the best farmed county in Ireland?—I know; but it is all different land, and different people, too.

57287. But at all events you will admit that you have good farming and efficient farming on moderately sized farms?—If the land is suitable for tillage, yes.

57288. You have as good land in Galway as in Wexford?—Not for tillage.

57289. You have not any land for tillage in Galway?—No; it is good for stock-breeding, but really I do not think it would be profitable in tillage. I am talking about mixed farming.

57290. You say the general breaking up of grass lands in the West would seriously injure stock-breeders in both the South and West, as there is a large import of calves from the South into the West, and western graziers often go to the South to make up their lots?—Yes.

57291. But there are very few small farmers in Connaught who buy calves from dealers who bring them from the South?—Yes, a good many of them.

57292. The grazier never buys?—The grazier buys from the small farmers.

57293. You say it would also seriously interfere

* See page 287.

with the horse-breeding industry in Connaught, as all the good horses are raised on the grass lands, and that it is well known to breeders that horses cannot properly be reared on small runs, and the same thing applies to sheep farming. At present, in other words, the farms are so small that the tenant cannot afford to keep a quality horse, as there would be no market for it?—Yes.

57294. Is not the remedy for that to enlarge the holding?—But it would not be big enough.

57295. Do you not think that if you enlarged the holdings to twenty or thirty or forty acres it would enable the tenants to breed a better class of horses?—I do not think so.

57296. You gave as your reason for the present failure of the tenants to breed quality horses the small size of the farms?—Yes, it makes all the difference; but I do not think that thirty or forty acres would be enough.

57297. And that it can only be effectively carried on in this way by the large graziers?—Yes, that is my opinion.

57298. And in regard to your statement about all classes of stock steadily deteriorating, is it not the fact that the Department provide good sires?—Yes, but I am afraid they do not use them.

57299. Is not that a matter of arrangement?—At all events they seem to like an under-bred animal better because they say it is easier to keep in the winter.

57300. You mentioned that you endeavoured to obtain this information with respect to large grazing farms. Is it not the case that this system of conacre and meadowing is less manifest in the farms that have been split up in the second and third years than it is in the first?—I will tell you why. They let the land—I can only speak for two years—for conacre meadowing the first year and they could not get sale for it. I noticed afterwards that they had too much hay.

57301. But at all events when a man is put into a new farm, at the commencement he has not got the capital to go on regularly farming, and he looks about and tries how he will get a little money, and he will let some of the land in conacre and some in meadow, but not with the intention of permanently following that procedure?—But it would take a long time.

57302. But at all events you will admit that there is some indication that, as the years progress, that system, which in your opinion and every one's is very objectionable, grows less?—I can only speak for two years.

57303. My information is that the thing is done in the first instance in order to get a little capital, and that with the capital that he accumulates a more effective method of farming is adopted?—I think the man will not get capital at any time. I do not think he will accumulate capital by that system He may have capital at the start, but he will not make it like that.

57304. You say it seems to be the system of the Estates Commissioners in buying grass lands to endeavour to obtain them at prices that are much below their value to the vendor. I do not wish to be personal, but you must excuse me if I refer to the case of Clooncah. You made an offer for that property and the Estates Commissioners offered a better price?—Yes. I only offered at the time because I thought the thing ought not to be bought by the Estates Commissioners, as there was intimidation.

57305. As far as the case is in any way an illustration, it seems to show that the Estates Commissioners are ready to give a better price than even you?—The reason I went into that case was not to try to get the land, but because there was intimidation. I do not say that the Estates Commissioners paid as much as the place was worth, but I was buying it on the principle of stopping intimidation. That was all.

57306. CHAIRMAN.—How does it stop intimidation? It did not, and unfortunately the Court of Appeal allowed them to make title to the land.

57307. Because it was reduced in value by the intimidation?—Undoubtedly. The rent was reduced to a mere song.

57308. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—So far as you have had personal relations with the Estates Commissioners, is your opinion regarding them favourable or unfavourable?—I have not had dealings with them at all.

57309. Am I right in representing you as likely to have taken this view of the matter if you had succeeded in the purchase, "I have bought grass land very cheap, but that is the owner's fault," or would you have asked the Estates Commissioners to give more than the owner was willing to accept—or am I justified in assuming, from what you say you have read and heard of the Estates Commissioners in your neighbourhood, that they have done fair and honest business, and that they have given the landlord a price which he considered it right and proper for him to accept?—I do not think that they would have got it at that price if there had not been intimidation.

57310. Then as to the intimidation or quarrelling between the landlord and tenant, there was certain intimidation no doubt, and so on. However, they come to an agreement, one side and the other, and then the landlord comes to the Estates Commissioners and says: "I want to sell my land; myself and my tenants have been quarrelling, but we have come to an agreement, and I am anxious to sell my land." Do you not think that that landlord ought to be allowed to sell that land?—He ought to be allowed to sell the land, but I do not think that the tenants should get enlargements of holdings.

57311. Do you not think it would have been unfair to that landlord for the Government to say: "We will not allow you to sell your land, because you have been badly treated by your tenants"?—That is not the idea. What I say is that they should not give grass land to enlarge the holdings of the tenants after the agitation on the estate.

57312. Do you not think it would be extremely hard on the landlord if, having passed through storm and stress and difficulty, and having at last surmounted it so far that he gets from the tenants a price which he thinks would be a fair price to give, and he is anxious to sell, an attempt were made to stop him?—Very, but I only say it is fair that the Government should take care not to countenance intimidation.

57313. You are a landlord's representative. I ask you would it not be unfair to a landlord to prevent him selling at a price that he considers fair, or for the State to say to him that it is a matter for the State, and that they should deal with it afterwards?—My theory of the matter is this that if you allow that intimidation to go on landlords will be compelled to sell at a reduced price.

57314. Now that is another business?—It is the same point.

57315. Take the case of a resolute landlord who says "I won't sell this unless I get a price which I am satisfied with," and that resolution has its effect, and he gets a price from his tenants that he is satisfied with, and that landlord comes to the Estates Commissioners and says to them: "Pass this through," would it not be extremely hard on him if the Estates Commissioners said: "We will not pass it through"?—That is not the case I wished to put.

57316. It is the case I wish to bring before you and put to you. You are the witness of the Landowners' Convention, and I want to obtain it from you, that it would be an extremely unfair thing that that landlord should not be allowed. Is it the position of the Landowners' Convention, that it would be a fair thing to that landlord to prevent him?—I do not say it would be.

57317. I want to bring before you the policy of the Government in contradistinction to the policy of the Landowners' Convention?—I say he should not be forced to sell. I say you should not allow a landlord to be forced to sell. However, we differ.

57318. No, we do not differ. I agree that where you do come to an agreement it would be very unfair upon you not to allow you to sell?—Well, yes, if the agreement was a genuine one.

57319. With regard to the rents of grazing lands, is not it the fact that the rents of grazing lands have been decreasing over a series of years?—Mine have not. My rents are about the same as they were in 1880, except when occasionally a tenant died.

57320. Mr. BRYCE.—That is on the eleven months' system?—The eleven months and the year.

57321. So that you have them let practically from year to year, and the rents can be raised every time?—Every six months.

57322. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Take the case of land which the landlord farms himself?—Yes.

Sept. 30, 1907.

The Right Hon. Lord Ashtown.

57323. In the case of land that the landlord farms himself, the Estates Commissioners offer, generally speaking, a fair price, judging by the number of transactions that have passed through?—Yes. If the landlord is satisfied, they should not keep the estate from sale.

57324. But a difficulty exists, or objections are raised, in regard to land which the landlord does not farm himself, but which he lets on the eleven months system, say to a shopkeeper—we have been told it goes largely to shopkeepers, and so on?—Yes.

57325. And from it he gets a certain income which the Estates Commissioners hitherto have shown themselves in some instances unwilling to give?—Yes.

57326. We have been told that a great many farmers, over a series of years, have been ruined owing to want of profits and want of success?—Yes.

57327. And we have been also told that a number of these are shopkeepers, who, failing to make a profit on grazing, still hold on in the hope of better times to come, and pay the rent from the profits of the shop. Do you agree with that?—No; that is not my experience at all. In fact, shopkeepers are fond of other investments. And it may be that there are extreme hopes among grazier men, as among others; but for failure to make profits you must go back to 1879. Then, undoubtedly, there were a lot of graziers who failed. Then there was pleuro-pneumonia and there was foot and mouth disease, that took a lot of the profits away. I don't think that since 1879 there is a decrease in rents. I should say, in fact, that they have improved.

57328. It is a matter which is susceptible of statistical verification whether or not the rents of grazing lands have been decreasing. We have evidence that they have been decreasing; but if rents of grazing lands have been decreasing, and if it be also the fact that many people have been ruined owing to these high competitive rents, would it be a fair thing to have a purchase price upon grazing rents?—I think it would be perfectly fair for the Commissioners to look back and see how long the land has been let, and see whether the price asked by the landlord was exorbitant or not.

57329. Where you have grazing lands in the landlord's hands, or grazing lands in the hands of present tenants, in regard to which rent has been fixed, the rent of the grass land has decreased *pari passu* when the land is tenanted land?—Certainly that is not my experience. I can only speak from personal experience, and it is not the fact.

57330. But rents have fallen?—First term rents have fallen, but grass land rents have not fallen.

57331. I am drawing a distinction between grass lands which are included in farms held by present tenants and grass lands held under a different tenure?—Yes.

57332. Does your Convention enable you to give me information on this point, whether the rents of grazing lands held on the eleven months system have kept up better than the rents of grazing lands let to future tenants?—Oh, certainly.

57333. They have kept up better?—Yes, they have kept up better.

57334. Is not that an argument why they should not be made the basis of a calculation for the future?—I do not think so, but an argument that judicial rents are too low.

37335. There are three sorts of grazing lands—lands which are held in present tenancy, lands which are held in future tenancy, and lands which are held on the eleven months system?—Yes.

57336. There has been, you say, a reduction in the rents of the two former, but not in the latter, and then I suggest to you that the maintenance of the higher rent in regard to the eleven months system is a reason why the eleven months system rent is an unsuitable and unfair basis, for it is not the eleven months rents, or the year to year rents, but it is all the rents, that give a fair basis?—But I do not think it is, because the only way you can get a fair price for land is by open competition. You cannot get it from improvident tenantry, but open competition is the basis of value.

57337. Sir John Colomb.—You stated in starting that you were going to hand in some particulars of expenditure and the nature of your farming operations?—Yes; I should like to give it in my evidence. I should like to show the improvements on the estate.

57338. My question was limited to asking you to hand it in. I leave it to your discretion?—I should like to give the expenditure on labour. The expenditure on labour in respect of lands in hand in 1900 was £2,563 9*s.* 11*d.*; in 1901, £2,664 7*s.* 11*d.*; in 1902, £2,272 6*s.* 8*d.*; in 1903, £2,890 0*s.* 8*d.*; in 1904, £3,034 1*s.* 0*d.*; in 1905, £3,130 17*s.* 0*d.*; in 1906, £3,002 15*s.* 10*d.*

57339. Chairman.—What is this for?—I want to show it, my lord, as evidence of economic holdings. I want to show that with the labour all these uneconomic holdings on my property would be truly called economic.

57340. In order to do that you should give us the history of each of those holdings?—I can do that here if you like.

57341. I understand that your point is that you employ a good deal of labour?—Yes.

57342. I do not know that anybody has controverted that?—But I do not consider a small holding uneconomic when it has labour.

57343. Mr. Sutherland.—Tell us the rent you get from the estate?—The rent I get is £2,130 15*s.* 0*d.*

57344. And the average of this other expenditure?—Counting the amount I spent on the place last year, it came to £3,732 10*s.* 0*d.*

57345. So you are carrying it on at a dead loss?—No, certainly not, because that is labour; only receipts must be put against it.

57346. You say the rent is £2,130, and the expenditure £3,732?—That is the labour.

57347. Sir John Colomb.—You laid down as a general proposition that any charge in the nature of transfer and striping and dividing up of land should be gradual?—Very gradual.

57348. Then you go on to classify, under four heads, different classes of grazing land?—Yes.

57349. Am I right in putting this interpretation on your evidence, that the authority charged with the acquirement of grass land, for the purpose of settling farmers on it for mixed farming, must eliminate practically two out of the four?—Yes.

57350. First, the heavy land; secondly, the light land, with limestone rock, and that it is the fourth, which is chiefly land in the West Riding, that would be improved by tillage; and that that should be the first land to be used in carrying out a policy of the nature I have described, and the first land to be taken for beginning the experiment?—Yes.

57351. And if that were successful you would only have remaining, in your view, No. 3, which could be tilled, but which is more profitable in pasture?—By that I mean that parts of those grass farms in No. 3 could be tilled.

57352. There are two things: first, that the work should be done gradually, and, secondly, that the lands should be acquired in the order specified for small holdings and mixed farming?—Yes.

57353. And you look at the uneconomic holdings as likely to furnish labour?—An uneconomic holding gives labour. I know that at the present time, and Mr. Daly told me that since uneconomic holdings were done away with, he found it very hard to get labour, and he had to lay down all his land in grass.

57354. But where you have uneconomic holdings and no demand for labour, you are met with a difficulty and migration is the only remedy?—Yes.

57355. Mr. O'Kelly.—The tenants have to do for themselves in that state?—They have too much to do for themselves to want labour.

57356. Sir John Colomb.—You were asked about the land in Wexford by Sir Antony MacDonnell. Is not it the case that the Wexford land is land which requires constant cultivation in order to get anything from it?—It is absolutely necessary. It is certainly different land from this.

57357. And do you give it as a general proposition that any places in Ireland which require constant cultivation in order to get a living off them are generally in districts where the land is poor?—The land is what you call light tillage land. It is not grass.

57358. It can be kept in grass?—It is not grass land.

57359. Now, you spoke of the grazier buying from the farmer?—Yes.

57360. When you use the word "small farmer" you are speaking of this district?—Yes.

57361. And I have in my mind other parts of Ireland, for instance, Kerry and Cork, and therefore I would ask you to intimate what you would call a small farmer in this country—about ten acres, or

twelve or fifteen?—It is whether he keeps two cows or one.

57362. Am I right in putting this construction on the process you describe, that the small farmer here buys from the small farmer elsewhere?—The small farmer here buys from the small farmers that come up from the south.

57363. And the process is this: The very small farmer produces something?—Yes.

57364. And the bigger farmer buys that?—Not quite. The bigger class of small farmer buys from the smaller to fill up with; but he also buys calves brought from the South, and he passes them on to the grazier.

57365. What you mean is that what the bigger farmer buys from the smaller farmer is used to fill up his stock?—Yes.

57366. Do I understand that the smaller farmers here that you describe are the original buyers as it were of the stock from the districts where the holdings are very small, such as Kerry?—Sometimes the graziers buy.

57367. You have referred to the desirability of obtaining information as to the actual facts of the working of farms?—Yes.

57368. And you say that that information used to be furnished, but that the practice is discouraged now?—The police used to furnish that return every six months. They do not do it now.

57369. You mean special returns concerning the holdings of tenant purchasers?—Yes.

57370. Were they published?—No; I do not think they were ever published, but they were sent in.

57371. You also referred to effects on the price of hay?—I said they stopped meadowing because the price of hay was low.

57372. But do you not consider that the hay should not be sold off the farm?—Yes, but I am afraid it is always done round here.

57373. It is wrong by all the canons of successful agriculture?—Absolutely wrong.

57374. We have had it in evidence that graziers are being ruined by the rents they are willing to give in competition for grazing land, and I see you have stated, and we have had it elsewhere in evidence, that an annuitant lets his land for grazing at a higher rent than the graziers paid?—He lets to graziers who I know for a fact where it has been done are renting some of the land back at a very much higher price, I may say nearly double.

57375. Then I should like you to develop that, because it appears to me strange. If the graziers are being ruined by paying too much to the landlords, I cannot understand how a grazier takes land from an annuitant and pays a great deal more. Would you kindly develop it?—I can only say this, that I think one reason of it may be that the grazier does not know what to do with his capital. He has to sell his stock, and he must put his money somewhere, and that undoubtedly may have something to do with it.

57376. Do you mean this, that the man with stock is eliminated, as it were, by the process. He has to find grazing somewhere, and he takes it in small patches from small holders instead of in big land?—Yes, he has to do it.

57377. Unless he gives up business entirely and starts a new line of life?—Yes.

57378. Then you point out how important it is that a man entering into a new holding should have an amount of capital to put into that new holding?—Absolutely necessary.

57379. And therefore your view is that in carrying out a State policy of this sort, it is not merely a question of providing the houses and the fences and the outhouses, but it is a question of giving the man the plant necessary to start him in farming?—They certainly have not got it.

57380. And therefore you advocate that wherever this is being done some means should be devised by the State to give that man the necessary capital in order to give him simply a fair start?—Yes, that is it. He could not start otherwise. I should like to add that they ought to be particular as to the man they choose.

57381. You say it would be far better to encourage capital to come into the country by every possible channel?—Yes.

57382. Well, of course, you are aware that that was the foundation principle of the Incumbered Estates Act?—Yes

57383. Now, as that Act has produced the consequence largely of involving the whole country in the present state of difficulty, in what way can you suggest to the Commissioners that capital should be encouraged to come in for the purpose you consider so desirable, and that we all admit to be desirable?—I think the land could be made much more profitable if there was no fear, like there is now, of intimidation and putting people out, and future compulsory legislation. In view of all these things, no one is secure in anything he has got here or will put any money in it. They do not know what is coming next.

57384. You are looking at it from the point of view of the large occupier of land?—Not only of the large occupier of land, but in every sense, industry and every sort of thing. I venture to say that the landlords who will sell their properties will not invest their money in the country at all.

57385. I thought you rather meant giving facilities to tenants and occupiers to put capital into the land?—I do not think the big tenants are at all happy under present circumstances. They do not know how much land they are going to be left.

57386. I am asking you on this basis, that it is too late in the day now to reverse the Land Laws, and you have got to face things as they are?—Yes.

57387. You have got to face and accept the condition that the policy now most favoured is the breaking up the grass lands, that this is now the State policy?—Yes.

57388. And it was in regard to that that I wanted to ask you have you got any suggestion to make as to how capital is to be attracted through the tenants to be put into the land?—I do not think there would be any way of doing it.

57389. You spoke about inducements for landlords to remain in the country after they had sold?—Yes.

57390. And you point out that the only two things really in this country to carry out and effect that purpose are the interest of farming land and the interest in sport?—Yes.

57391. And the two things go together more or less. And then I may take it from you that looking generally at the whole question, you see the importance of the question of game and fishing from the point of view not particularly of any individual class interest but as an element of the national wealth?—Certainly.

57392. And therefore in carrying out a big policy like this, do you not think that, not from the point of view of any individual or body, but as an element of the wealth of the country, that is a matter that has to be borne in mind and taken care of?—It must be.

57393. Now, I understood you to say, in reply to Sir Antony MacDonnell, with regard to cases where the question of intimidation was introduced, that the main danger you felt was as to the value of the land being whittled down by the fact of transactions not being free?—That is it exactly.

57394. You will correct me if I am wrong. What you meant was not that the Estates Commissioners should reduce or increase their price, but that if a landlord was willing to sell his property at its fair value the Estates Commissioners should pay it, and it was a question then as to the determination of the prices the tenants should pay. That is your attitude?—Yes.

57395. From the answer you gave to Sir Antony MacDonnell, the inference I drew was this, that abnormal circumstances, due to agitation, could not alter the inherent value of the land?—No; that is right; it could not.

57396. And therefore what you meant to convey to Sir Antony MacDonnell and the Commissioners was this, that that particular circumstance should not prevent the landlord getting the fair value, and that what you meant was that the Estates Commissioners should still give the fair value of the land if the landlord wished to sell it, and then it would become a question of State policy as far as redistribution?—I say that if a landlord wants to sell, the Estates Commissioners should give the fair price and not a price produced by agitation.

57397. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—But have you ever yet known the Estates Commissioners to take advantage of a reduction caused by intimidation?—In all those estates they have given a very low price.

57398. I do not want to press you, but I put my question again. Have you ever known a single instance in which the Estates Commissioners have offered a price which reasonably created a suspicion that that price was fixed having regard to intimidation?—I do not want to go into that, but where there

Sept. 30, 1907.

The Right Hon. Lord Ashtown.

has been agitation the Estates Commissioners are apparently under the impression that the landlord has to sell, and they do not give, and have not given, as good a price as anywhere else. I do not think that they would have got certain lands at the price they have, if there had not been intimidation.

57399. They have not given the price?—No; I do not think that they have.

57400. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—If you are going to buy untenanted land on the basis of net income ascertained over an average of previous years, then obviously if the letting value of the land had been adversely affected by agitation, that would effect receipts in some of the years?—Certainly, and they ought not to be taken into consideration at all. If there has been intimidation those years ought not to be considered.

57401. I want to ask you this about the feasibility of fixing the price to be paid for untenanted land. Where there have been regular transactions in a series of yearly grazing lettings there is not much difficulty about net income; but now let me take untenanted land outside the demesne?—Yes.

57402. Worked as an integral part of the holding of the landlord, the landlord's operations embracing the demesne; in that case do you or do you not see a very great difficulty in anybody arriving at really what was the relative value of that particular portion of untenanted land?—You could not possibly do it, because there is a lot of work that the landlord has done which may take several years to give a return—a lot of buildings, etc.

57403. You would agree that it is a matter of impossibility where there are two or three farms worked together in one scheme to apportion to each the profits made, for books could not possibly show it?—You cannot possibly do it.

57404. Another thing that cannot be possibly judged by an outsider is, if I take so much for meadowing how will it affect the rent?—Yes.

57405. And then you say you consider it is unnecessary that every farm should be valued at £10 or £12, or any other fixed valuation, to rank it as an economic holding. By fixed valuation you mean Griffith's valuation?—Yes.

57406. Do you think that a valuation made sixty years ago has relation to the inherent value of the land now?—None at all now. The valuation in the West Riding is very much higher than in portions of the East.

57407. And therefore may I interpret you as saying that a scheme for the relief of uneconomic holdings, based on the question of Griffith's valuation, is on a false basis?—I think it is all false.

57408. And therefore that in dealing with the question of economic holdings, it is not merely valuation, but a variety of other circumstances have to be taken into consideration?—Yes.

57409. Now, you say that every possible encouragement should be given to residents, both owners and tenants, to employ labour?—Yes.

57410. Now, can you give us any clue to what is in your mind in the case of tenants, because it is really annuitants you mean by that?—What I meant there was big tenants, not these annuitants, but the big tenants who have not already bought their holdings.

57411. Can you give the Commission a suggestion of how you would set about that?—The first thing is that you want to give the tenant the idea that he is a fixture there and will not be disturbed by legislation. There is a great feeling among big tenants that they may be cut out and find their land and house taken up again.

57412. I understand you to think that the big tenants you refer to are deterred from giving a considerable employment of labour or even making improvements by the fear of changes?—In legislation, certainly.

57413. Just as small tenants before the Act of 1881 were afraid of doing anything for fear of confiscation?—That is it; and I think there is no doubt about it that if the landlords could be sure that this was a final thing a great amount of money would be put into the land.

57414. Mr. BRYCE.—You divide the land in Galway into four classes. May I ask you what is the distinction of boundary between the East and West Riding of the county?—That is a police definition.

57415. But roughly speaking?—Well, if you went down by Athenry, west of Tuam, and round that way.

57416. And generally speaking the land to the east of a line through Tuam and Athenry, and so on, is good for tillage?—Part of it is. But there is a line of country which may be called bog country where the land is much too heavy.

57417. In passing yesterday I saw a great variety of magnificent crops of oats on land that had been reclaimed from bog?—I think there is not half enough value put on reclaimed bog. Where you have deep, retentive soil in the neighbourhood of bog you could never make good tillage land of it. It is too rich. I tilled a lot of it myself.

57418. The oats would grow up and then lie down, because they would be too strong?—Yes. I grow my oats on bogs for ensilage. The most valuable thing I know is cut-away bog.

57419. That being your view of the district, how much would you say exactly there is in three and four?—I could not tell you.

57420. In fact, according to you, there is very little land in the county available for mixed farming?—Oh, no; there is more land available for mixed farming in the West than in the East.

57421. You think there is more land fit for mixed farming, on the whole, in the West than in the East?—Especially in the West.

57422. You say it would be far better to encourage capital to come into the country by every possible channel instead of legislating to try and give effect to mere popular theories?—Yes.

57423. You say that the landlords at present are being frightened away from the country?—They are.

57424. And that if the land is distributed among the tenants no improvements or no industries will be started?—When the capital leaves the country that will be the end of it.

57425. Was there so very much capital in the landlord class, for we have always understood, and we have been told, that estates in Ireland have been very largely mortgaged?—I know that, but what I mean to say is this, that supposing they sell all their land, as matters are going on now, the money they invest will leave the country. It will not be invested here.

57426. But in former days when there was not this legislation of which you complain, in the days before the bad times, before 1880, say, up towards 1879, there was no obstacle to the landlords investing their capital in the land. Did they do so?—Certainly, but there is no object in investing capital in land now.

57427. You see you are foretelling a certain amount of disaster in case the capital leaves the country, but capital was in the country before there was any of this obnoxious legislation. What you regard as obnoxious legislation began with the Land Act of 1881. Was there any very large investment of capital by the landlord class in improvements either in agriculture or industry?—On some estates undoubtedly.

57428. But generally. Here is the simple case. Money was not being spent properly, and was not the capital that was invested in the land in reclaiming it and putting it into the shape in which it is here—was not all that put in by the tenants?—I don't know about Connemara.

57429. But has not the whole of the land of the West of Ireland been reclaimed by the tenants?—Oh, no, certainly not. What do you call the West of Ireland?

57430. Are not all the buildings put up by them?—No; I am building.

57431. You are talking of the whole country. I am talking of the congested districts of Ireland generally. We are inquiring into the wretched parts of Ireland?—I am talking about large parts of Ireland that you want to take in.

57432. You came to give evidence on behalf of the Landlords' Convention to the Commission, which is inquiring into the question of poverty and wretchedness?—I wish to appear for a great many of those landlords, and I say that when they sell, too, they will not invest in the country.

57433. Your point is that a large part of Ireland will be impoverished by the improvement in the position of the poor tenants in the West?—I do. I think so, undoubtedly. I think so.

57434. Then, in view of the maxim of the greater happiness of the greater number, do you not think it would be well to improve the condition of the poor tenants in the West even if a richer district in the centre suffers?—You should not improve the thriftless at the expense of the thrifty.

57435. That is introducing another question, that is introducing the question whether they are thriftless or not. It is claimed, and apparently with some show of justice, that it is not thriftlessness but want of opportunity that keeps them in their present position?—I do not know that there is any want of opportunity at all.

57436. With regard to that question of want of opportunity it may be a disputed point, but I think there has been a good deal of evidence that the people want opportunity?—Only if they stay where they are.

57437. If they stay where they are! Would you like them to go, too?—To go and get employment elsewhere.

57438. To go out of Ireland altogether?—Why stick down there?

57439. There is plenty of evidence to show that they do go away. They go to get labour. There are large numbers that go from this county and Mayo to Scotland and England to get work?—They do not stay there. They come back. If a man cannot live in a position in his own country he can get labour elsewhere, and there are lots of people that can get it.

57440. But the whole object of this Commission is to try to get a remedy for that state of affairs. Now, it appears to me that the drift of your evidence is to show that the present state of affairs is good in so far as it sends these people out of the country to get labour elsewhere. Would you look to see that state of affairs continue, with people on the verge of starvation, or would you like to see it stopped?—I do not say it is good at all, but I say you need not feel on the verge of starvation if you can go and get labour elsewhere.

57441. In the old country suppose they cannot get work?—But they could get work elsewhere. Hundreds of them go to the harvest and come back again.

57442. Do you think it is an economic condition of the country when it requires two millions of pounds sterling to come into the country to help to maintain the people?—Who puts it in—this Government.

57443. I do not mind, but somebody or other contributes over two millions per annum from outside to maintain the people?—How is it contributed?

57444. In the form of earnings of migratory labourers in England and Scotland?—But then it is their earnings.

57445. There is something like two millions that comes in gifts from relations in America to relieve the misery of the suffering people in this country?—I know, but those are men that had small holdings, and they have done like other small holders we know of; they have gone somewhere else to get labour. I think it is a pity that the labouring man who goes to get work does not stay where he gets work.

57446. I see. In fact, I may take it that you want to keep the whole country in grass?—I certainly say that with a mixed holding, I would sooner see it in the hands of a big tenant giving labour than in the hands of a small tenant proprietor. It would give more labour.

57447. Now, you say that the Estates Commissioners have given low prices, and that the low prices which the Estates Commissioners have given for grass land are owing to the fact that there has been intimidation?—I say that they would not have got the grass lands at the prices they have if there had not been intimidation.

57448. And it was not owing to the fact that the rents of grass lands had fallen?—But the rents have not fallen.

57449. Do you not think that the argument is rather inconsistent?—What?

57450. That your rents have not fallen, although I presume that you have been intimidated as much as anybody else?—Yes, but I have not sold. I would not take the price at their valuation of it.

57451. And if it is to be supposed that there is intimidation anywhere it is where you are?—That is right; but I can hold my own. Some landlords won't. Lots would clear out.

57452. But I am only pointing out that you are getting no lower price for your land?—I am not selling. I will not take any price.

57453. Your tenants have not been intimidated?—No.

57454. Suppose you said to them: "We want you to throw up the land," according to your experience, they would give the same price for their yearly takes?—They will not give the same price where a grazing tenant has been intimidated. There is a case in point where the rent was cut from £140 to £40 through intimidation.

57455. I cannot help thinking that the fact that your tenants have not been intimidated shows that intimidation has not been so really rampant?—Round me; not on my estate. You have only to go to the Athenry grass farms and the Dunsandle Estate, which has been sold.

57456. Now, the only other point I should like to mention to you is that you seem to say that every uneconomic holding should be called economic if the tenant and his family have other sufficient means of living, derived from such sources as local employment, migratory labour, or jobbing in small stock. That is an attempt to introduce, I take it, a different definition of "economic"?—I say I don't agree with the present definition of "economic."

57457. Would you say that a holding is economic if it consists of ten acres on a block of granite?—If the man could get labour besides from that block of granite I would say it was all right. You must take into consideration what he gets, besides what he gets off the holding.

57458. It is introducing a new definition of the term "economic"?—I don't agree with the present definition at all.

57459. Mr. KAVANAGH.—On the question of grass farms, you stated to Sir John Colomb that you would accept the net income. Supposing these grass lands have to be acquired, would you accept the net income as the basis of purchase?—Yes, plus the landlord's good will.

57460. That is not what I call the net income?—It should be based on net income; but at the same time there should be the landlord's good will. The landlord has as much good will in the land he has as the tenant has in his.

57461. Sir ANTONY MCDONNELL.—Does not grazing land cover all that?—No.

57462. Mr. KAVANAGH.—What does the grazing land cover?—The grass that grows on it.

57463. Does not the price include the good will?—No.

57464. Would not that cover it?—No; because if the landlord were to put the letting of the land up to auction he would probably get seven or eight years' purchase.

57465. Sir ANTONY MCDONNELL.—You would not estimate grazing land at competition value?—Of course I would.

57466. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Supposing that competition were to cease?—How is it going to cease—there is plenty of competition for land.

57467. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Do I take it that you do not accept the net income as the basis of the price of grass land?—The net income of grazing land, not as the full price; no, certainly not.

57468. You are aware that your Convention has already accepted it?—I cannot help that. I do not think they have, as a matter of fact, with regard to grazing land.

57469. CHAIRMAN.—You are in a difficulty once you begin to talk about price on the basis of net income?—You are putting it to me on the basis of net income.

57470. Sir ANTONY MCDONNELL.—Would you not say that thirty-five years' purchase is an enormous price for land in that case?—I think grazing land is worth more than that.

57471. Grazing land is bought now by the Estates Commissioners at twenty-seven or twenty-eight years' purchase?—Yes.

57472. And you would add to that a number of years' purchase for your good will?—Yes.

57473. You get nine or ten years for a small holding?—It depends on the size of the ground. You get far more for small bits of land than you do for big ones.

57474. Then you get the normal price of land up to considerably over thirty years?—I would say that if the State choose to do it, they must give the landlord the price.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—That is an absurd doctrine.

57475. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Now, with reference to grazing lands where the landlord is the grazier?—Yes.

57476. Suppose he grazes these lands himself. In reply to Sir John Colomb you stated that it was difficult in that case to arrive at the net income?—Not if he grazes the lot of them.

57477. But if he uses one or the other, it would be difficult then to arrive at the net income?—Yes.

Sept. 30, 1907.

The Right Hon. Lord Ashtown.

57478. Have you any other suggestion to make about arriving at it from his books?—I don't see how you could. You must always take into consideration in grazing lands what effect the taking away of one would have on the other.

57479. Then you are driven from that, and you have to go to some other basis?—I could not give you any opinion unless I was selling land myself, and then I would.

57480. Would you take Mr. Boyd's definition?—No; I do not think the present valuation is right either.

57481. Mr. O'Kelly.—You would not wish to see anybody buy a property the income of which was, as Sir John Colomb has put it, whittled down by what you call rampant agitation?—No.

57482. It should not be touched?—I do not say it should not be touched; but I say the agitation should not reduce the price at which it ought to be sold.

57483. Was there any agitation on the Clooncah property?—Yes.

57484. And is it right to say that in consequence of that agitation the price was whittled down?—It was, most certainly.

57485. And for this property—the Clooncah property—you proceeded to offer a price?—I did.

57486. Do you complain that the Estates Commissioners have been giving lower prices for certain estates on account of agitation?—Yes.

57487. As a matter of fact, would you not have got this property at a considerably lower price than the Estates Commissioners paid for it afterwards if the landlord accepted your offer?—Certainly, I should.

57488. So, therefore, if your price had been accepted, you yourself would have reaped a benefit from the agitation that was proceeding?—That is not the way I looked at it.

57489. Is not that the way to look at it?—The way I look at it is this. I went in to buy the land, to see if the land could be bought; and if I had bought the tenants would not have gained their ends by intimidation.

57490. If you had bought?—Yes.

57491. But you would have bought it at a lower price?—Exactly; but I could have put a spoke in the wheel of agitation.

57492. At the same time the fact remains that you would not have extinguished the agitation on the property, because you would have got that property at a price which would not represent its fair value?—Undoubtedly. I don't deny that; but that is not the point. The object I tried to buy that property for was to prevent tenants getting the land where there was intimidation.

57493. And incidentally to secure the property for yourself at a price lower than its value?—That was a minor thing.

57494. Mr. Sutherland.—So that you would have made a profit on the effect of intimidation on the price of land?—Yes.

57495. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—From what you say of the manner at which you would arrive at the selling price, there is not much likelihood that the Commissioners would be able to abolish large farms?—There is not.

57496. Is not that merely strengthening the case for the necessity of compulsion?—They are lands for which there should be a great deal more paid, even at present.

57497. Mr. Sutherland.—You made a statement in reply to Sir Antony MacDonnell that the price of land is too low at the present time for the seller?—I say it is.

57498. And has the selling price of the land been going down lately?—Well, it is being sold too quickly.

57499. Is the price downward just now or upward?—Well, I cannot tell you that just now.

57500. Would you say it is going down?—I do not think it is.

57501. It is going up?—I think it remains steady.

57502. You know the price at which land was sold under the Ashbourne Act in Ireland?—It was sold by heavily mortgaged landlords.

57503. And the price paid now is considerably higher than that price?—I dare say it is.

57504. And it is still going up since the passing of the Act of 1903, is not it?—Oh, yes; it is going up since the Ashbourne Act.

57505. So that you cannot complain that the price of land is affected by intimidation when it comes to be sold?—I did not say it was depreciated.

57506. I see that you made a complaint to the Commission that the landlords were not getting enough, and that the price of land was being depreciated by the agitation?—I say the land is sold at a price it would not be sold at if the country was right and in order and peaceful.

57507. And then it would be sold at a still higher price?—Yes.

57508. So that concurrently with intimidation the price of land has gone up, and intimidation does not affect the price?—It does, certainly. You are comparing the 1903 Act with the Ashbourne Act.

57508A. What becomes of the general proposition that intimidation puts down the price of land?—It has put it down.

57509. And then you say that with the existing intimidation the price of land is going up. How do you reconcile these things?—The price of land would be higher if there had not been intimidation. I say the landlords would never have taken the prices they have if there had not been intimidation.

57510. So that the more intimidation the higher the price will go?—No; I say if there had not been intimidation the price would have gone higher.

57511. Chairman.—Now, with reference to your point about labour, I take it that in your view the change from uneconomic to an economic holding would diminish the labour supply?—I am certain of it. I know it has done so.

57512. Now, take your own case. On what work do you employ the labourers?—Farm labour, improvements, fencing draining.

57513. Then can you divide that into two heads—labour which you employ in connection with your home farms, and labour which you employ in connection with the grass land which you have in your possession?—Yes; it is all worked together. You know that with breeding stock there must be a lot of labour.

57514. But is not it fair to divide roughly into those two heads the labour which you employ about your place?—I employ labour on the home farm. There is a lot of labour employed in connection with the demesne, a lot of labour employed outside.

57515. There is labour which is employed in connection with your farming operations?—Yes.

57516. And there is the labour which you employ in connection with your demesne inside?—Oh, no; that is not included.

57517. You omit that?—That comes to about £954 more.

57518. Is the labour which you have at all or entirely connected with your agricultural operations?—Fencing and draining of the land, and building and farm labour.

57519. If you break up the grass land for instance, which is in your possession, and give it to a number of men, though there may be less demand for outside labour, employment still will go on as there must be a certain number of people who are living by that land?—I do not think that a man with an economic holding will make so much a year as they would make.

57520. You do not think that a man getting a good holding will earn as much off that land as he would by occupying the small holding and labouring outside?—That depends on how big the holding was.

57521. An economic holding of thirty acres?—I do not think he would. He would not clear £2 an acre on it.

57522. Whether he did or not he would be more contented, for labour is a precarious kind of thing?—No; my wages are practically fortnightly. They are certain of their wages unless they are sick.

57523. Are you certain that circumstance will always remain the same—suppose you were to go out for example?—If I were to go out my farming operations would probably still remain.

57524. Supposing you did not take an interest in farming operations, the whole of the labourers might be discharged?—They would, but they might get economic holdings out of my land.

57525. If that could happen would not the man's future be more safe and more certain by having a holding on which he could prosper comparatively as a farmer than when he is perhaps depending on the whim or taste of the man who lives there?—That is

quite true, but if that came it would be time enough to think about it. At present I give plenty of labour.

57526. But you have a right to think of it because it is a matter which affects practically the prosperity of the district?—I do not believe that the dividing of grass land will make prosperity.

57527. Supposing for a moment that the creation of economic holdings does have an effect on the labour supply this man will have sons, and if there is a demand for labour in the district these will be available, while one of these sons will take to an economic holding that will perhaps be planted?—As a matter of fact I find that the sons of my tenants work for a certain time and then go to America.

57528. Because there is not sufficient to keep them at home?—I find that after three or four years those I employ go to America.

57529. Because the wages they get there are better than what you give them?—No; I do not think that, but because there is no opportunity to save money in this country.

57530. Does not it depend on what they can earn?—In this country, hardly.

57531. But is not the migration of agricultural labourers from Mayo and Western Galway due to the fact that in England they can earn better wages than they get at home?—They would not get any demand at home.

57532. And they go to America for the same reason?—I think they feel more independent.

Mr. JOHN CUNNINGHAM examined.

57533. CHAIRMAN.—You are Chairman of the Mount Bellew Board of Guardians?—Yes. I have here statistics of the Union, and from the statistics I find there are 2,759 landholders under £5 valuation in Mount Bellew Union. 300 of these are in the scheduled electoral division of Clonkeen. There is only one electoral division in the Union scheduled, although each electoral division has congested townlands. In the non-scheduled districts there are 2,479 holdings under £5 valuation, and there are 33,600 acres of land available for distribution, that is if the owners are inclined to give it. In a few of these cases there are sales arranged, but it is not divided. The population is very much reduced too. In 1871 it was 18,423, and in 1901 it was reduced by 3,400. The system of scheduling is very misleading, inasmuch as the most congested townlands in the Union are not scheduled as being congested owing to their being large grazing farms which overbalance them, and that is the reason they are not scheduled, and it is a very misleading thing; as an instance of this in Derrysessann electoral division one grazier with 893 acres and all the other holdings in the property are uneconomic. This gives an idea of this system and of the tenants on that estate. Nearly all of them have uneconomic holdings, thirteen of them have only four acres with an average valuation of £1 15*s.* 0*d.* It shows how hard it is for these poor people to live. Yet they were not scheduled owing to the large grazing tracts beside them. Again, in Mount Hazel electoral division one landowner, Mr. Joyce, owns 795 acres of land to himself, and he has about forty tenants whose holdings average about seven statute acres, and the average valuation of all his tenants is only about £2 9*s.* 0*d.*, yet he declines to sell. In Gunnade and Curraduff in Ballinakill Electoral Division there are thirty tenants with an average valuation of £3 10*s.* 0*d.*, and the estate was sold twelve years ago here in Ballinasloe. It was sold by order of the trustees of the estate, and the tenants holdings were so small and miserable that the agent considered that the Land Commission would not advance money on holdings so hopelessly scattered, and therefore he offered it for sale and it was bought by Mr. M'Donnell, of Tuam, at something about twelve years' purchase. Some years ago the tenants approached him with a view to sale, and he would sell at twenty years' purchase and no less. However, when the Land Act of 1903 was passed, which gave him a bonus, they asked him again, but instead of the bonus bridging over the difficulty between them, it seemed to make the land more valuable in the eyes of the landlord, as he asked twenty-two years, and refused to give them a grazing farm he holds near them, so they are still living in these miserable patches. Before 1903 the Congested Districts Board bought two estates in our Union, in fact in the parish in which I live, and they bought them at fourteen and a half years' purchase. Since the passing of the Act they purchased three estates at twenty-eight and one-third years' purchase on the average, taking the Poor Law Valuation, which shows, I think, the great increase there is in land since the passing of the Act.

57534. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—What was the other estate bought for, before 1903?—One of the estates purchased by the Board was the French estate called St. Brendan's. That was purchased at fourteen and a half years' purchase in 1895.

57535. Were any rents fixed on that?—The Congested Districts Board divided it at that time. That was the first estate which they worked, and the most successful thing they did.

57536. But before the Congested Districts Board bought had the tenants had judicial rents fixed?—They had, but I am calculating it on the valuation, because I had no means of knowing the judicial rents that were fixed.

57537. On the valuation?—On the Poor Law Valuation I take it as the Government valuation and first term rents were nearly equal in my district.

57538. What was the other estate?—The other was the Netterville estate.

57539. You mentioned that they purchased some estates since the Act of 1903?—The Fallon estate. That estate itself cost 31½ years' purchase on the Poor Law Valuation, but, taking the estates on the average, the price was twenty-eight and one-third years' purchase.

57540. Give me the names of the others?—The M'Donnell estate, one large grazing farm. That was about twenty-eight, and the O'Kelly Estate.

57541. You know the Fallon estate well?—Yes; I live there. I am a tenant on that estate, and I could show you the justice of the basis of the Poor Law Valuation. The Poor Law Valuation was something higher than the first term rents that were fixed.

57542. Your holding has been re-sold to you by the Board and the price fixed?—Yes.

57543. And are you satisfied with the price?—Well, I am better satisfied than some more of them. I think some of them are not satisfied with the high annuity fixed on them, but the holding is fair. I think it is too bad that the tenants have to suffer through the high prices paid by the Board.

57544. But in your own case?—Well, I am paying more per acre than I was paying before, but I got a small increase.

57545. The land has been improved by the Board?—The tenants got more land which gave them a better chance of living. Their condition is better, but the rent is higher per acre than it was before.

57546. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Has the estate been improved in any way?—Oh, yes, it has, very much. The Congested Districts Board have done a great deal in the way of improvement. They have drained it and have made a little in the way of roads, but the leading road through the estate is not made yet. This land was too dear. But I will not blame them for that. We petitioned them several times to buy, and they made the best bargain they could.

57547. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The basis you take is the number of years' purchase of the Poor Law Valuation?—Yes.

57548. Do you consider the Poor Law Valuation really represents the present value of the land?—No; in fact I cannot say that, but I know it is about the same all over the Mountbellew district. We might calculate it on the first term rents. It is higher than the first term rents that were fixed on these people.

57549. In some places, but not always. You said that the Congested Districts Board were forced to give too much?—Yes.

57550. That is, too much in your judgment, based upon valuation?—No, not based on valuation, but based on the actual value of the land; and I will give you one reason why I think they did give too much. I do not know on what basis they went, but I know the landlord was getting more for that grazing land

Sept. 30, 1907.
Mr. John Cunningham.

than it was really worth. It was in the centre of a congested district, and these poor people had no means of living but to go to England to work and to leave their wives and children They kept a cow at any rate, and they had not the grass of a cow, and when they wished to put a cow on the landlord's farm he would charge his own price, and they should pay a great deal too much. The landlord sold meadow to the country around, and he was making more out of the land than it was really worth; now I consider that when land is bought in a congested area like that it is a very misleading thing to go on what the man makes of it, because he makes more of it than it is worth.

57551. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—What is the size of your farm?—Eighteen statute acres.

57552. Have you a shop?—I have a shop.

57553. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Have you a licence?—No; it is a small country shop.

57554. You give the population in 1871 as 18,423, and you say that, compared with 1901, it has decreased by 3,404. Now, can you tell me what the poor rate was for 1871?—No, I cannot.

57555. Has it fallen very much?—I know it is higher in the district now than it was ten years ago; and I believe the land will be taxed higher, and must be. But there is one thing with regard to the French estate, that was the first estate the Board bought. They are very comfortable, and the land question is surely settled there. Not that they got much land, but they got it on reasonable terms, and they are prosperous.

57556. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—That was bought at fourteen and a half years' purchase?—At fourteen and a half years' purchase.

57557. CHAIRMAN.—Have you finished?—Well, I think so. I have nothing to say except about the Board. The Estates Commissioners did very little in our place; it was done by the Congested Districts Board; and I think the Estates Commissioners are shy about buying in these quarters, because they have to pay more for land in congested areas than elsewhere; and as far as we are concerned in our district, I think the Congested Districts Board is much a better body to deal with congested areas. They have more experience and they go to a great deal of trouble in draining and doing things that the Estates Commissioners would not be likely to do; and then they lend money to some people who are poor to enable them to stock their land, on reasonable terms. And provided they get the land cheap enough, and without compulsory powers I do not think they can, we consider them the best body for congested areas.

57558. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Do you mean for buying or distribution?—For distribution.

57559. And what about purchasing?—I think they should get it as cheap as the others.

Mr. JOHN F. WARD examined.

Mr. John F. Ward.

57560. CHAIRMAN.—You are a member of the County Council, are you not?—I am a member of another body, but I have been appointed here to give evidence before the Commission by the Galway County Council.

57561. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You are not a member of the County Council?—No, sir; I am a member of the Poor Law Board of Guardians and of the Urban District Council. I am not a member of the Galway County Council.

57562. CHAIRMAN.—Where do you live?—Ballinasloe.

57563. You have got a business here?—No.

57564. What are you?—I have been trustee over an estate belonging to my late father. The estate lies in the two counties. In the County of Roscommon there are about ten acres of land held by agricultural tenants, and I have been a trustee over that for the last eight years. I am an annuitant under the State also beneficially.

57565. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—So that you are practically representing the interest of the landlords?—No, sir; I severed my interest with the landlords long ago. I have been thinking for myself. I consider that this Union of Ballinasloe will be most important and interesting to your Commission on account of the extensive clearances that have been carried out by two Scotchmen who came over some forty or fifty years ago.

57565A. What are the names?—Pollock and Mathers. There are vast tracts of untenanted lands of prime quality on the Roscommon and Galway sides of this town, and I would venture to say that if they were sliced so as to satisfy all the needs of evicted and uneconomic tenants, there would still be a large surplus left for migration. This Union is situated in the two counties of Galway and Roscommon, and with each portion I shall deal separately. The total acreage of grass lands in the Roscommon division is 5,274 acres, valuation £2,060, which means an average of about eight shillings per acre. There are 243 holdings under £5 valuation and 285 under £10 valuation. The total acreage in the Galway division is 45,709 acres, valuation £23,304, which means an average of twelve shillings per acre. There are 798 holdings under £5 valuation and 521 under £10 valuation. The total for the whole Union is 50,983 acres, valuation £25,365. The total number of holdings under £5 is 1,041, and the total number of those over £5 and under £10 is 285.

57566. Mr. BRYCE.—That is, between £5 and £10?—Yes. The grass lands make up 32·4 per cent. of the whole area less the urban area. The population of the union was in 1841, 48,811; in 1891, 20,993; and in 1901, 19,279; which means a decline of 59 per cent. in sixty years. The inhabited houses numbered in 1841, 7,646; in 1901 they numbered 3,412, or 55 per cent. Now, in order to account for this deplorable state of things, I must, with your permission, take a brief retrospect of the events which led up to this extermination of the people. During eight years, from October, 1849, to September, 1857, the Incumbered Estates Court sold over twenty-five millions worth of land, of which twenty-four and a half millions worth passed to creditors, including £3,692,611 to purchasing incumbrancers. Its powers were in 1858 extended to the sale of non-incumbered estates and its jurisdiction perpetuated in the Landed Estates Court. Much advantage, no doubt, was derived from the convenience and cheapness of landed sales effected by these Courts; but to the unprotected cultivators their work has been fraught with almost as much evil as a new invasion. Many of the new purchasers were simply investors who, seeking the highest possible percentage for capital expended in the purchase, respected no rights nor customs, and regarded the old tenants as mere rent-producing machines to be worked to the utmost or superseded by other rent-producing machines, animal or mechanical, as it might suit their interests best. There were many of this class who, buying in anticipation of great profits, were disappointed, and sold out quickly. Some, finally, were speculators or land jobbers gifted with the most cunning commercial instinct, who scrupled not to deal with estates as they would have dealt with other articles of commerce. They bought when the market was low and sold when it was high, thus insuring frequent changes of lords. They raised the rent to a high multiple of its former amount when they became purchasers, in order that when they appeared as vendors they could point to a great rent-roll, leaving it to the purchaser to extort or evict as he pleased. They willingly agreed to stipulations to "clear the estate" on negotiating its sale, in order that a newer purchaser, a grazier or large farmer, should have no more trouble than that of razing the homesteads. Under that system, authorised by its devastating code, devastations were committed which exceeded the transplantations of Cromwell in magnitude, outvied them in the cruelty of the accompanying circumstances, and far surpassed them in the amount and persistence of the hostility they have evoked. Under the circumstances I have described, and by men of the type I have referred to, were those cruel and inhuman evictions carried out that brought desolation over a thriving and populous country. On the Galway side of Ballinasloe lies the Pollock Estate, a vast triangle of land, with its angles at Ballinasloe, Banagher, and Eyrecourt. When the grandfather of the present owner came from Scotland to purchase this estate, he found it a thickly-populated country covered over with happy homesteads. What is it now? A dreary wilderness in which, as far as the eye can reach, not a single human being, not the vestige of a human habitation, except a herd's

house, is discernible. All have gone to make room for "King Bos," who reigns supreme. There hundred families were driven from their homes and sent adrift upon the world to gratify the caprice of one who, before God and man, probably deserved less consideration than the last and least of them. It was not for nonpayment of rent that these people were evicted; in fact they were in some manner bribed by getting high prices for their little articles to give up their homes, which does not mitigate the crime one iota. On the Roscommon side still more heartless scenes were witnessed. I have listened to the tale from two of the victims, who settled on my father's property after being turned out. A man named Daniel Mathers, another of the Scotch speculators, came over here and purchased the estate of the St. George's. He proceeded at once to evict, although none of the tenants owed more than one year's rent. On Christmas Eve, that holy season when "peace on earth to men of good-will" is inculcated by every Christian creed, the absolute and resistless decree of this inhuman monster went forth. Neither the babe at the breast, the pregnant mother, nor the dying were spared; from the homes their fathers had erected they were thrust forth in the midst of a rigorous winter. Many of them died, some found shelter in the workhouse, the most of them went to America, and a few who got farms on other estates are still alive. The eviction I have described must not be considered an isolated exceptional event, nearly every parish in the union was familiar with such scenes. Now, a sentence of eviction from the land (in a state of society in which without the land it is impossible to support life) is tantamount to a sentence of slow but certain execution; and hence it is very difficult to distinguish in thought between the system of wholesale clearances that prevailed in these two counties and a system of wholesale murder. I now come on to some of my suggestions, and the first one is Re-afforestation. I shall only mention a few of its manifold advantages—shelter afforded to man and beast, avoidance of inundations, the moderation of violent winds and storms, the prevention of the silting up of our rivers by the binding action of the roots of trees on the soil, and last, but not least, the wood itself, which human labour could convert into articles of daily use. For manufacturing and other purposes we have to import wood, and there are our waste lands lying idle, derelict, useless. It is calculated that for an outlay of from £3 to £8, an acre of land could be prepared, planted, and fenced; that the return would pay the accumulated interest thereon in a few years, and that in fact in twenty years the acre would be worth about £20 or £30. There are in Germany entire districts wholly dependent for their living upon the forests and contingent wood industries. On the skirts of the Thuringian forest there are over 50,000 people engaged in the making of dolls and other toys, which realise over a million of money annually. Now, I do not want to say that we could compete with Germany and her forests in the matter of toys. I merely mention what can be done where wood is available. Ireland should, then, be replanted, and the cost should be undertaken by the Treasury, not by private enterprise. If due care had been taken of the forests of this country as they stood two hundred years ago they would be worth one hundred millions of money to-day. Before leaving this question of re-afforestation, I may mention the planting of osiers. The callow lands along the banks of the Suck and Shannon, which are liable to flooding, would be eminently suited for these semi-aquatic plants, which after two years begin to pay steadily, and run up to £25 an acre, less the rent of the land. The basket-making could be developed as an industry in the vicinity of such osiers. The next point is arterial drainage. The great problem of arterial drainage of Ireland has been under consideration by the ablest scientists for the past 150 years, and seems as far as ever from solution. This is to be regretted, for Professor Tyndall said it would raise our temperature about four degrees Fahrenheit all the year round, and be of immense advantage, not only to the land itself, but the human constitution and climatic influences. On arterial drainage depends largely the reclamation of from four to six million acres of land, half of which could be tilled and half planted upon a small scale. Something has been attempted by several landowners, but like afforestation it is a vast scheme, dependent on far more than mere individual, or even concerted private, enterprise. Other and poorer nations are great examples to us in this respect. The Dutch cultivated and drained the whole Haarlem Meer with a vote from their Parliament of £860,000, and they afterwards reclaimed a half million acres of the Zuyder Zee, which paid an immense profit to the State—something like about £12 an acre. Any benefit derived from the drainage of rivers in that district are greatly counteracted by the maintenance of a navigation level on the river Shannon. The profits and the convenience arising from the navigation of this river are inconsiderable—in fact, the subsidies of several County Councils have been withdrawn from the Shannon Development Co., as no trade was being done. If all impediments to the free flow of the river were removed, the lands in the catchment area would benefit incalculably—the callow-lands could be brought into cultivation, and the bogs would subside so considerably that they could be more easily utilized for any of those wonderful possibilities which, according to modern scientists, are in store for the peat mosses of this country. As to the milling industry, I would strongly advocate the subsidizing of mills by the Agricultural Department. The presence of mills would stimulate the growing of wheat and oats. And the next most important point is the establishment of agricultural banks or co-operative aided associations. This is a question of supreme importance to the farmers of this country, once they have purchased their holdings. As they become tenants to the State, there can be no abatement of rents in bad seasons, no permission of arrears of rent to stand over, but a hard and rigid system of merciless precision must prevail. The farmer must safeguard himself against the failure of crops. The only way he can do this is by having a ready means of procuring a loan to get him over the bad year. The one universal truth in regard to agriculturists the world over is that they must borrow, and agricultural credit under the present system is of the dearest and most unjust kind. The small farmer has either to go to the urban banks, with their high interest and excessive security, or he has to fall back upon the money-lending shopkeeper, who extorts usurious interest for loans and allows his victim to entangle himself so hopelessly that eventually the farm comes into his hands. All this can be avoided by the establishment of co-operative banks, the central principle of which is the co-operation or association of borrowers. Several of these banks have been established in the West, but I know of none of them in this district. Money could be borrowed in this bank at very low interest, say three or three and a-half per cent., and for periods varying between six months and several years. In connection with these banks, I would recommend the formation of co-operative agency associations, which would control the management of co-operative depots, and which would be connected with the railway stations by a motor service. This system would enable the farmer to sell his produce in the dearest market, to escape middlemen's profits, to have cost of transit considerably reduced, to procure the best manures, seeds and feeding stuffs, and every kind of agricultural implements at the lowest rates, and to obtain all the information he requires as to the state of the various markets. I might here make a suggestion relative to the railway systems of the country, which have done more to retard industrial development than the most pernicious legislation. I would strongly advocate State control, such as is found in Australia, where no profits, beyond working expenses, are aimed at; but if they chance to be realised they are given in bonuses to the officials, applied in relieving the rates on the travelling public, and expended on the extension of the railway lines. Although this system might not pay the State directly for its capital outlay, it must eventually pay by developing undeveloped districts and increasing the general commercial prosperity of the country, thereby increasing the national revenue and consequently easing taxation. I am glad to be able to quote from a speech recently delivered by Lord Brassey, on "State Railways," in the course of which he said: "We see what is taking place in continental Europe. In Germany, and in Russia, in Belgium, and more recently in Italy, the railways have become the property of the State. The requirements of the public are fully considered. The savings from the unity of management allow of considerable reductions in rates and tolls. We might begin," he said, "with State ownership in Ireland." I hope the day will come. The next question I have to consider is the advisa-

Sept. 30, 1907.
Mr. John F. Ward.

bility of the fundamental principles of agricultural science being taught in rural National Schools. This is a question of paramount importance to the rising generations of farmers in this country. We can never hope to be anything but a purely agricultural country, with industries dependent on agricultural produce, so that it behoves us, if we want to compete successfully with other countries, to teach the farmer's son the science of his profession. The beginning should be made in the rural National Schools, each of which should possess a small farm, say an acre, for giving a practical illustration of the various processes connected with tillage and market gardening. This could be done by itinerant instructors, or by having the teachers sent up for six weeks every year to Glasnevin, or some other agricultural college, for a practical course. On leaving the primary school, the boy could proceed to complete his education in a higher school, one of which should be established in each county. Being a Ballinasloe man, it is not without personal feeling that I allude to the commercial decay of this town. Ballinasloe about forty years ago was a prosperous town, having a great market for wool, wheat, oats and rape. It possessed four mills, one of which was a flour and the others corn mills; three tanneries, one brewery, several looms and two large buildings which were visited by a society of farmers for its meetings and agricultural shows. One of these, which you may see across the road, was built at a cost of £9,000, and is the finest building of its kind in Connaught. For thirty-seven years it has not been used for its original purpose, and often it has been put to the base use of stabling horses at the October fair; but, even in its degradation, it speaks eloquently of the vanished prosperity of Ballinasloe, and silently it tells its tale of the ruin caused by the exterminator's hand. The peasants that sustained its greatness were driven from their homes, and there is now a wilderness where once were happy homesteads and fields of golden corn. This decline of Ballinasloe is certainly due to the vast clearances which took place on the Galway and Roscommon side of the town. Those of the evicted who did not find their way to America came into the town, where, after battling with privation and pestilence, they at last graduated from the workhouse to the tomb. Another cause that contributed to impoverish towns situated like Ballinasloe was the influx of agricultural labourers and cottiers as an effect of the passing of the Relief Act of 1838. This Bill, as it passed the Commons, made the Union the area of chargeability for all expenditure, but the Lords, leaving the rule unaltered as to establishment charges, made the division the area of chargeability for the maintenance of the destitute who had resided within it before becoming inmates of the workhouse. The principal argument for divisional rating was that it would induce ratepayers to keep down rates in their neighbourhood by employment. It did reduce rates in rural divisions, but not by the agency of employment. When famine came, the system enabled the agricultural interest in many instances to evade its duty. To secure themselves against possible liabilities, many landlords and large farmers evicted the labourers and cottiers and drove them into the towns, where they became a burden on the division containing the towns. There the evicted labourers and their descendants remain, finding little employment in a community where trade has been made poorer by the burden of their relief. It would be impossible, observes a witness, to describe the odious acts of oppression that were then perpetrated consequent upon this electoral division rating. The poor were driven to the towns, estates were cleared, and notices to quit were served. As typical of the extent of the cruelty of the evictions, take this instance. J. Walsh, Esq., J.P., destroyed in 1845, near Belmullet, Mayo, an entire village, excepting six houses, according to the evidence of English writers, one of them Mr. Poulett Scrope, M.P. In two villages fifty houses were levelled. All this in mid-winter forty miles from the nearest workhouse. Similar scenes were witnessed all over the country. It is regrettable that the provisions of the recent Labourers Act were not extended to the towns where labourers are huddled together in filthy slums. Their lot has been infinitely more than that of the country labourer, even in his most wretched condition. The State is taking a motherly interest in the latter; for the former it has done nothing—it was the State in the past, by tolerating those cruel evictions, that produced those melancholy deposits of human wretchedness and vice in our towns, and it is the duty of the State to undo what it has done and try and better the miserable condition of the town labourers. I think a town like Ballinasloe, situated entirely on one estate, that of the Earl of Clancarty, should have been included in the 1903 Land Bill and scheduled as a congested area. What worse form of congestion can there be found than in the slums of a town like this, where the people live like rabbits in a warren. There are hundreds of acres of town parks held by a few men, which, if judiciously divided, would give a couple of acres to every large householder in the town, who find it very difficult to get milk or vegetables; every holder would till part at least of his two acres, and give employment to the poor, who are at present receiving outdoor relief to the extent of £500 a year. The town would be able to give employment to some of the labourers that are without employment at present. The people in towns are very badly off for milk and vegetables, and I think that if each householder got about two acres they would be able to provide all those things for themselves. The next point is the increasing insanity in the two counties of Roscommon and Galway. The increase of insanity in the counties of Galway and Roscommon within the last twenty-five years is alarming. Although the population has been dwindling, insanity has been increasing. In 1890 there were 731 patients in the Ballinasloe Asylum, and in 1905 there were 1,340, showing an increase of 83.3 per cent. In the decade between 1891 and 1901 the increase of the insane in all Ireland was 41.5 per cent. of the population, while the increase in Galway and Roscommon for the same period was 54.6 per cent., showing an increase in the two counties of 13.1 above the total for all Ireland. Now, it is a remarkable fact that the amount of insanity in proportion to the population is greatest in the most remote rural districts, while in the towns the ratio of the insane to the sane falls lowest. The primary cause of this is that the flower of the population have been emigrating, leaving behind the old and the weakly to propagate the race. Amongst other causes are the want of nutritious food, and what I consider a very potent factor, the loneliness and monotony of their lives. Take a man from the lonely hill-side of Connemara, or from a hovel near a bog. His mind from morning till night is occupied by one thought alone, and that is to provide a subsistence for himself and his family. This thought engrosses him so much that it becomes an obsession. One faculty of his brain is brought into use, and the others atrophy, and he eventually becomes a monomaniac or an imbecile. If isolated people like that were migrated into villages, where diversion and brightness would be brought into their lives, I believe a fruitful cause of insanity would be removed. Man is by nature a gregarious animal, and he cannot outrage nature's laws with impunity. There is only one remedy for this. Take the people from these barren desolate regions, give them farms of good land wherever it can be got, bring them into association with their fellow men; let them have their games, and, if possible, rural libraries, and I am confident that in the next twenty years insanity will show a marked decrease in this country.

57567. With reference to agricultural banks, you state that they could lend money at 3 per cent.—Yes.

57568. Where do the agricultural banks get their capital from?—I think from the joint stock banks.

57569. The joint stock banks finance them?—Yes.

57570. Do the joint stock banks charge them any interest?—Well, I think the joint stock banks would be able to lend them money at less than 3 per cent.

57571. And at what interest would the Provincial Bank or National Bank lend money to an agricultural bank—will it not be the same as to good clients. 4 or 5 per cent.?—Well, some of the joint stock banks, so far as I know them, charge 6 and some of them 10 per cent.

57572. Let us say 5 per cent. The agricultural bank gets capital at 5 per cent. and lends it out to its clients, and from those clients it must get a little more in order to pay the 5 per cent. and a little percentage more for costs and expenses, so that you get up to your 6 per cent. at once?—The class of people that patronise these agricultural banks would not be patrons of the joint stock banks.

57573. But the agricultural banks cannot make

noney, cannot coin money; they must get money from omewhere; they must raise capital from somewhere. You say that they are financed by the joint stock banks?—Not entirely, but there might be wealthy patrons that might put money into them.

57574. If they put money into them would they harge interest for the money or would they be philanthropists that would let them have the money without interest?—I do not think there is very much philanthropy amongst that class.

57575. I agree with you that I do not think you would get many people to lend money to the agricultural banks without getting any interest whatsoever; but if they charge any interest you must have that repaid by the agricultural banks plus something more? —Certainly, and therefore I would limit it to three and a half.

I should say six and a half or seven and a half would be nearer.

57576. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I see that in your precis speaking of the Ballinasloe Division you mention an estate at present held on English tenure. What do you mean by that?—That is a property belonging to Mr. Hardy.

57577. You say it belongs to Colonel Mitchell?—Colonel Mitchell set it on the eleven months' system to a party, and it was set, I think on a ten months' tenancy afterwards to Mr. Hardy, the present occupier.

57578. My point is what are we to understand by the expression "English tenure"?—A yearly tenancy.

57579. You have indicated a prospect of a large scheme with an enormous expenditure. Who is to pay for it?—The State. We want nationalisation of the land and here the same as nationalisation of the railways.

57580. Is it to be repaid to the State in any form? —Eventually in the development of the country, the same as it is in Australia, where they have expended large sums in acquiring the railway system there. The two things are parallel, nationalisation of the land and nationalisation of the railways, and it pays the State eventually by developing the country.

57581. Is that part of your scheme—nationalisation of the land, so that individual tenancy would disappear—is that it?—I am a Socialist, if you put it that way, literally a sort of Socialist. I believe the State should manage everything. It manages the Post Office and the army. Well, we want it to manage the land as well.

57582. CHAIRMAN.—You have pointed out in the statement you have made to us the necessity which, in your opinion, exists for breaking up the land. May I ask you have you formed any opinion as to how that land should be acquired?—Yes. From the evidence of all the witnesses that have come before you to-day, I see no hope for this country at all in the higher agriculture. The remedy will come eventually.

57583. I think you do not see the point?—We have been told the land is required for Connaught cattle breeding, but we need not be afraid of that. My scheme would be this. Let the farmer get a new system when the land is sliced up into farms of twenty-five or thirty acres, let him fall back on the lesser agriculture, and that will pay this country better.

57584. This hardly was my point. I think you supposed that I was asking what sort the agriculture should be; but who are the men you are going to put upon those holdings?—First of all on that grass tract that is going to be sliced up I would put the contiguous evicted tenants, the uneconomic holders and their sons, and after satisfying their wants I would bring in migrants, then giving a slice to their sons also.

57585. The local congests and the congests on a neighbouring estate?—Yes; charity should begin at home.

57586. And then you would give some to the sons of these people?—Yes.

57587. And do you imagine that if you did that you would have any land over for migration?—I think the area of grass is so immense in the county that you should be able to accommodate them, that is, by giving them a slice in addition to their old holdings.

58588. Why should the sons of tenants of this generation be treated better than the sons of tenants in subsequent generations. Do you suggest that the State will be for ever able to distribute land among the sons of tenants. Take thirty years hence, the men who are sons of tenants now will have sons themselves asking for land. What is to happen then?—I would not go in for minute sub-division at all.

57589. You would not?—No; that would be dangerous.

57590. Those men when there is no land for them will have to get other forms of industry?—Yes, they will go to industries, to America or some other place.

57591. Therefore in giving allotments to the sons of tenants on these farms you are only meeting a very temporary evil?—If you give a twenty-five acre slice of a farm to a man, say, with two or three sons, that farm will be maintaining the father and the two or three sons that he has. It is better then to give another twenty-five acre slice to one or two of the sons if land is available in the vicinity.

57592. How then do you propose, if you are to do this to cure congestion—how would you help those people who are in uneconomic holdings in the western area?—I would compel the owners of the grass ranches to divide them. Compulsory purchase is the only solution.

57593. Please try to follow my point. You may take it from me that there is not enough land even if you compulsorily acquired the whole of it, for division amongst congests and sons of tenants. You cannot satisfy everybody. There is not enough of land. Statistics prove that there is not. Figures show it. What are you going to do. Are you going to give the land to the sons of tenants. Who is to have first claim?—I would say the evicted tenant first; the uneconomic holder after him; and then I would migrate in the congested area.

57594. But you said just now that the sons of tenants should come before the migrants. Would you migrate before giving any to the sons of tenants?—Yes.

57595. Then are we to take it as your opinion that the evil of congestion which, in other words, is the evil of poverty, should be dealt with before any new holdings are allotted to sons of tenants?—Certainly.

57596. And no matter where that poverty exists?—Yes.

57597. Mr. O'KELLY. Do you think that your view of the congestion problem is generally shared in the County Galway; ?—Yes; that is my opinion, and there is a consensus of opinion.

Mr. THOMAS FEENY examined.

57598. Are you nominated by a Roscommon District Council?—Yes.

57599. You are a representative of the Rural District of Athlone, which lies in Roscommon?—Yes.

57600. What do you want to tell us?—There is a list of the holdings under £5 valuation.

57601. You need not read it. We have got it all? —Very well. There are 838 holdings under £5 valuation, and there is about the same amount, as I will show you, from one parish here under £10.

57602. Are you in a congested district—is it scheduled?—No, it is not scheduled. There is about the same amount under £10 valuation, and some of the holdings under £10 valuation are down as low as £5 rent, so that the valuation in our Union of £8 or £9 might be on the £5. Then you have to take, for example, that that £8 or £9 valuation would be an uneconomic holding. An £8 or £10 holding I consider an uneconomic holding.

57603. And what do you consider economic?—Well, I would call a holding of about thirty acres of fairly good land economic.

57604. And that would give a valuation of what? —I suppose the best of it would be something like £15.

57605. Mr. O'KELLY.—How many acres would there be in an economic holding of £8 or £10 valuation?— About thirty acres. It might be all sand-hills and bog.

57606. CHAIRMAN.—It differs very much according to the land?—Yes, my lord.

57607. One may have thirty acres of land so poor that it is almost impossible to live on it?—Yes.

57608. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Are you a farmer yourself?—Yes, sir.

Sept. 30, 1907.

Mr. Thomas Feeny.

57609. What is your acreage?—My acreage is about thirty, and the rent is less than £5.

57610. And what is your valuation?—£11.

57611. Poor Law valuation?—Yes.

57612. And therefore I suppose you would say that the poor law valuation is no test?—I consider it is no test. This is one parish, the parish of Kiltoom, and that would give you an idea of the whole. This is upon the east side, and I live upon the western side, and from the mearings of this Union of Ballinasloe to the mearings of Roscommon, thirteen miles alongside the River Suck, I suppose there is not a decent holding in the whole division. We have three electoral divisions alongside this river.

57613. Take two of these holdings you describe, and if you lumped them together would that make them all right in an economic sense, or what amount would it take to do it?—No less than three of the holdings put together would be economic.

57614. If you put three of the holdings together would that then be economic and would the occupiers be able to get on?—Well, they could, just; and it is by money earned in England and elsewhere they always live.

57615. Even then?—No; if you put three together.

57616. Do you think they would still be dependent on money from America—do you think they could live by the land without it?—I think they could.

57617. Would you have to move two out of every three?—You would in some cases. This is a parish now on the eastern side, the parish of Kiltoom. It consists of 230 small holdings of inferior land. There are ninety under £5 valuation; seventy-five over £5 and under £10, and the remaining sixty-five over £10 valuation. The majority of them consists of bog or peaty land, any upland in the possession of the tenants being of the worst description—poor, sandy hills. The tenants live mainly by the sowing of conacre, such as potatoes or oats, £6 to £8 per acre, and buying conacre hay on other lands a considerable distance away; by lime-burning and turf-selling; and principally by money sent from America by their children or friends there. That there is ample means of enlarging the holdings of the tenants and making them economic, as well as providing new farms for some of the young men of the parish, is beyond doubt, from the fact that there are 2,000 acres of grass lands within the parish boundary, and some of these farms will likely be sold in the near future.

57618. CHAIRMAN.—Speaking generally, from your experience in your district, do you think there is any other way of relieving the poverty in your district except by moving some of the people out of it?—I do, my lord, there is a greater facility for accommodation; for in Ballyforan there is a plot of land and mill which would suit for a factory, and in Derrycahill, which is another populous district, there is a plot, and the River Suck runs along it, and there would be great accommodation in it; and I know if there could be any factory in the locality that it would relieve them as well as changing them into other land.

57619. A factory?—Yes. That would be of great importance in Ballyforan. If there was one factory in that side of the district it would be of importance, as there is a big population on both sides of the river on the Galway and Roscommon sides, and it is twelve miles from the town of Athlone, and the rent of the land is also too high, and the landlords are not willing to sell. And even there is a property sold in part of the Union, in the lower part of it, and even after having bought it they cannot live on it.

57620. Mr. O'KELLY.—What kind of factory would you suggest?—Well, I would think a woollen factory. It is of the utmost importance that the district should be scheduled, and some definite action taken to prevent emigration and to improve the condition of occupiers of uneconomic holdings. Efforts were made by the tenants on some of these estates to purchase their holdings, but no sale was effected owing to the exorbitant prices demanded by the landlords, the prices asked under the present Land Act being from six to ten years more than those at which some estates in the neighbourhood were sold under the Ashbourne Act. For example, the Watson Estate was sold about twenty years ago at thirteen years' purchase; the Bailey Estate was sold about ten years ago at seventeen years' purchase, and the Hudson Estate about four years ago from eight to seventeen years' purchase under the 40th section in bankruptcy. The inspection of estates is of vital importance before the State advance is made, as it is the only safeguard against giving excessive prices for inferior land and the rushing of the tenants into improvident bargains. The Compulsory Bill is the only solution to the land question, as it is the only means by which the grazing farms can be acquired for distribution amongst the people, and provision made for new holdings for the young men of this district, thus providing them with a means of livelihood at home in their own country. A great many of the young girls of the district also emigrate every year, and for these an industry might be started. A crochet or lace-making industry would after a very short time become a most remunerative employment. The parish is composed of a number of small properties some of which are sold under the old Purchase Acts; the remaining landlords are willing to sell, the prices demanded being the only obstacle, from 21 to 24½ years purchase. Here is a list of the lands, with names of landlords, that are untenanted, and can be acquired for re-distribution:—Rockhill farm, Mr. Wilson (residential), 300 acres; Carroclohan, Mr. Connell (non-residential), 300 acres; Moyvannon, Mr. Smyth (non-residential), 200 acres; Ardmullen, Mr. Pim (non-residential), 400 acres; Kiltoom, Mr. H. Strevens (non-residential), 500 acres; and Newpark, Mr. Levinge (non-residential), 300 acres. With regard to bogs, the most important one in parish was taken over by the War Office authorities. Consequently the industries of turf selling and lime-burning are almost things of the past. There are upwards of 200 acres of bog greatly in need of drainage and requiring to be opened up for use, and roads made through it, as the bog is of little use in its present state. Here are the names of landlords with whom the tenants were endeavouring to negotiate, and the prices the lanlords demanded:—Mr. Waithman, 21 years' purchase; Mr. Mitchell (Curramore Estate), 22 years' purchase; Mr. Lloyd, 24 years; Mr. Levinge, 21 years; Mr. Goff, 24 years, and Mr. Hamilton, 24½ years' purchase. The holdings have very little industry. Turf, lime, and cabbage used to bring them in money, but now only a little. The reasons for the decline of turf and lime I have already given above. With regard to cabbage, the Agriculture Department has scattered information about cabbage-raising all over the county.

27621. Mr. O'KELLY.—That causes a decline in the cultivation of cabbage?—Yes.

57622. That the Department have given information as to the cultivation of cabbage?—Yes; and there is not so much of it used in Athlone and round Athlone. They used to have them all first in the market.

57623. And therefore the Department of Agriculture served no useful purpose by interfering?—Well, they did harm to one and a lot of good to others.

57624. CHAIRMAN.—Yes?—The people will leave their old homes provided it is made clear to them that they can live in comfort in their new ones. No care is taken to show this, so far as we know. Well, this is only one parish; but the land is inferior in all. And at the time of the valuation, some fifty years ago, there was part of it that used to grow wheat, and it was then the wheat was the principal industry, and it is on that account that the valuation was so high in that part of the Union.

Mr. JAMES RYAN examined.

Mr. James Ryan.

57625. CHAIRMAN.—You are a member of the Grazing Farmers' Association?—Yes.

57626. And would you like to offer some evidence to the Commission on behalf of that body?—Yes. I just wish to say that a great deal of the best land in Roscommon, at present used for grazing, is quite unsuitable to anything else.

57627. Why is that?—It is all deep, heavy, cold land, hard to till and hard work to till it, and it returns a very poor crop when it is tilled.

57628. Was it ever tilled. Are there marks of tillage on it?—Yes; part of it. There are on parts of it; a very long time ago. But you see some of it

tilled. Some of it is cropped at present by small farmers.

57629. At present occupied by small farmers. Do they not till it?—They till it.

57630. They till a small proportion?—They till a very small proportion. A man having a holding of say thirty acres may have an acre and a half under crops.

57631. Does that do?—No. The return is very poor and the labour is very great.

57632. Mr. Bryce.—What is the nature of the soil?—Deep, cold, heavy clay land. The small tenant in occupation of this land at present uses it principally for breeding young cattle or sheep, and the larger people might breed a horse or two; but they till very little of it.

57633. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—What parts of the county are you speaking of?—I speak of the centre of the county, viz.: Ballinasloe rather than Strokestown. Strokestown has more tillage land as well as peaty land.

57634. You speak about the land from Knockroghery to Ballinasloe?—Yes.

57635. There is a good deal of land there suitable for production?—There is, part of it. There is a good deal of it not suitable.

57636. Would it be possible to separate the land suitable from the land unsuitable?—Yes. That is what I think would be necessary.

57637. What part of it would be suitable for production. Take a farm in Knockcroghery of 100 acres?—You would not find any more than a third of it.

57638. Would thirty-three per cent. be the general percentage of the whole district from Roscommon to Boyle?—Till you get to Ballinasloe the proportion would be greater, but from that on it would be very much less.

57639. Would you say a third to a half. Take the land about Strokestown. You know that locality?—I do, very well.

57640. If you were travelling from Roscommon by Strokestown, Ballinasloe, Boyle, Castlerea, and all that tract of country, would you say that fifty per cent. of it might be cultivated and fifty per cent. left for grazing?—I do not think you would get as much as fifty per cent. on the whole of it.

57641. Forty?—Well, from thirty to forty, I should say; but you do not find all that land together there.

57642. Chairman.—You are a grazier yourself?—Yes; I am an occupier, and I graze about 600 acres.

57643. And therefore you have practical knowledge of the trade?—Yes.

57644. Tell me this. You have got a holding of 300 acres?—It is more than one holding.

57645. What is the biggest holding?—270 acres is the biggest holding.

57646. Supposing we have 300 acres. If you divided that holding of 300 acres into fifty-acre holdings, is there anything to prevent men occupying those holdings doing exactly the same thing that you are doing now?—No; not if you gave them fifty acres each. There is nothing to prevent them, if you gave them fifty acres each, but on the small farms of fifteen to twenty acres, which I understand they have been getting, I think there would be a good deal of difficulty.

57647. Now, take a twenty-five-acre holding. What would prevent a twenty-five acre man doing what you do on a smaller scale?—Well, he would be principally a breeder.

57648. Why should he be a breeder; you would buy at two years old?—Yes, I should.

57649. Why should not he?—Because breeding is much more profitable. It would pay. I would be a breeder if I could carry it out on a more extensive and larger scale. He could breed very much cheaper than I could.

57650. He could breed, it is true, but would the effect of this be to create a difficulty for him to sell his own stock?—I have been told that if all those small men were to start breeding on land now used for grazing, the result would be to create a difficulty in the disposition of young stock.

57651. Supposing he realises that, and does not breed the first year, but buys?—I do not think he could live on the profits of the small holding. I do not think that if I was confined to a fifty-acre, even with a greater profit than at present, I could live on it. I mean to say that if a man had a twenty-five acre holding the amount of stock he could graze on it would be very small, and with the small profit that he would get on it at present, I do not think he could live.

57652. Do you not think that he could live on it if he had an acre or two in tillage for the wants of his family and himself?—I suppose he could if the land was suitable for tillage.

57653. You see that in the case that we are speaking of, smallest farmers, they have a bit of tillage, but they do not count on it to any extent, for potatoes and things of that sort?—Well, yes; they have to get potatoes, but they do not count on it at all, I see.

57654. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—Have you seen any of those farms that have been split up?—Yes, and have not seen any people on them except very few. They seemed to be using them exactly as we are using them, except on a smaller scale. I have seen two or three farms split up, and they used them exactly in the same way as we use them.

57655. Then you think there would be nothing to prevent any man who had fifty acres from doing as you do?—Yes.

57656. Could a man with forty acres do it?—It all depends on the effect that the division will have on the country. Nobody can perceive what the effect will be. If things stand as they are, with the forty-acre or fifty-acre men going on in that way, and with the profits on stores going down, and that we have to depend on live stock for a living, I think they would have a very hard time of it; but nobody can say what will happen in the future.

57657. If the price of stock goes down to the grazier?—Yes. I think the fact of bringing down the grazier will have the effect of bringing down the stock.

57658. But if the price of stock goes down would not the grazier, as he is at present, disappear?—Well, I think if that went down the rents would go down in proportion. If the price of stock was cut down they would not be asked to pay the same rents.

57659. Is the rent a very important factor?—Yes, it is.

57660. Chairman.—Suppose four men got holdings of twenty-five acres each?—Yes.

57661. Is there anything to prevent those four men co-operating and knocking down their fences in the middle of their farms and renting that farm as a joint holding between them of 100 acres?—I am afraid it would give rise to a lot of friction and trouble. Of course there is nothing to prevent them if they cared to do it.

57662. There is nothing from the trade point of view to prevent them?—There is nothing from the trade point of view, that I see. I think it would be very unworkable.

57663. As a matter of fact, you think they would be likely to profit over it?—Oh, these things would spring up, about such things as the different ages of their stock, for instance.

57664. Suppose they bought all their stock at two years old, or at three?—If you go into a fair and one buys ten two-year-olds, and another buys ten two-year-olds, one set of ten might be a great deal heavier on the farm than the other.

57665. Do you mean that they would eat more grass?—Yes. Then you would have to have some standard of hunger, some standard of appetite. I think you would have a lot of trouble if they started that.

57668. But you think there is nothing in the trade to prevent it?—Nothing in the trade, that I see.

57669. Mr. Bryce.—You said just now that rents have gone. Would you say what period did you speak of?—For the past twenty years.

57670. But the past ten years?—No; not the past ten years.

57671. They keep pretty steady?—Yes.

57672. You have got the same for your farm now as five years ago?—Yes, five or ten years ago. The farm that I occupy is large. It was taken, I think, in 1883. It has gone down a pound an acre. It went down a pound an acre. That was ten years ago. It was taken at £2 5*s.*, and I have it at £1 6*s.* or £1 7*s.*, and that, of course, brings it down nearly a pound. The rent has not been lessened for the last ten years. Before, there were reductions given on it.

57673. Mr. Kavanagh.—How have you held that?—From year to year.

57674. As a yearly tenant?—A yearly tenant.

57675. Is there a judicial rent?—No judicial rent.

Sept. 30, 1907.

Mr. James Ryan.

57676. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—With reference to Lord Dudley's question about 300 acres broken into six, would not that mean that instead of one grazier you would have six?—Yes; that is what it means.

57677. And after the Government had striped the land and put up fences they agree then to graze it in common, and knock down the fences put up with State money?—I think the fences would end in a mess.

57678. Is not it an essential condition of success in carrying on grazing business, large or small, to have capital?—Certainly; you can do nothing without capital.

57679. And if a man is under an annuity for improvements made on his farm by the State he has to meet that annuity, and am I right in saying that he would therefore, unless he had capital, be very often forced to sell at a low price?—That is the fact.

57680. If he had not capital?—Yes, if he had not capital.

57681. His annuity perhaps is due, and his shop debts have to be paid, and unless he has capital he is forced to sell, is not he?—Certainly.

57682. Therefore, I take it that, looking at this grazing question from the point of view of the small holder and the big holder, the difference lies in the amount of capital, representing staying power, enabling him to hold on for months, instead of being forced to sell?—Yes; I think that is so. I do not wish to be taken as saying that there ought to be no division of grazing land. I think a large proportion of it could be divided profitably; but what I do say is that the large men are necessary to carry on the live stock trade in Galway.

57683. Quite so. But, assuming that the division is to be made, and an agreement come to among the six men to use it as a commonage between them, do you think, or do you not think, that that would lead to a sort of sub-division with regard to the land, and that it lends itself very much to that?—I do not think that that would work at all. If my opinion were asked, in my opinion, the last state would be very much worse than the first. For instance, the sons would get the right to graze so many cattle.

57684. Might not it end in one man with a considerable amount of capital getting all the land?—It would end in that. One man would have the whole and he would be farming in a great many places.

57685. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Cannot that happen now?—It can happen now.

57686. With the present graziers?—With the present graziers.

57687. What is to prevent it?—It does not happen, as a matter of fact.

57688. Why?—They stock their own land.

57689. Why do you assume that it would not?—I am not assuming. I do not approve of it at all.

57690. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Do you see any objection to grazing in common?—Yes; I have a great objection to it.

57691. It is carried on very largely in Scotland?—I have no experience of any part but of this, in the West, but I think every man should work his own holding separately and have absolute control over it.

57692. And you never heard of grass land let in common?—In Roscommon that does at present exist. There is a large amount of grazing farms let for six months grazing every year, and any man who wants grass has no difficulty in getting it at a reasonable price.

57693. Does that succeed?—Small tenants who keep over their cattle graze them on these farms.

57694. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—When was the discovery made that grazing land was not fit for tillage?—Well, the discovery was made by the people there, which you could, if you got the opportunity, see for yourself.

57695. When was it made?—The men who work small farms seem to be fairly intelligent men, and I assume that they would till the grazing land if it would pay. On two of my own farms, for instance, I find that in one case a man with a holding of five acres does not till half-an-acre of it.

57696. Is not he the owner of the land?—I think so, and he does not till half an acre of it.

57697. Why?—Because the man would naturally till if it would pay.

57698. He does what he wishes?—And what there would be most profit in doing. They would till if tillage would pay. And on another farm a man has no tillage at all, and he lets it to me for grazing.

57699. Do you say it is an impossibility for tillage farming to pay when carried out on a large scale under present conditions?—Yes.

57700. Do you refer to Ireland alone?—To Ireland, to my own district.

57701. And what is there difficult in the condition of Ireland from that of other countries that do it?—I have already said that I have no experience of other countries.

57702. Then I ask you what causes the difference between this country and other countries where it is done?—I do not know anything of other countries. I suppose the land is lighter or sandier, or there is more sunshine. I could not tell you. I have no experience of other countries, but it cannot be done in our country.

57703. You cannot tell me what makes the difference, or suggest what it is?—I know nothing of other countries. I speak of my own country.

57704. Can you tell me why this land that was once cultivated has ceased to be cultivated?—I think it is because it was not suited for cultivation.

57705. You think it is best for grazing?—Quite so. I think the best tillage land and the best grazing land are two different matters altogether.

57706. Then you said that you graze 600 acres?—Yes.

57707. How much stock do you keep on an average on that? Have you a rule in your trade as to the number of animals an acre will maintain?—No; no more than I hold using the same farm.

57708. Have you no rule?—Well, the best part of the land would probably have a beast on the good land to every two acres.

57709. And what do you pay for that an acre now—£2 5*s.*?—I do not. I said for a time it was £2 5*s.* I pay less than 30*s.* now, but it is only for six months of the year that I am giving that. Then, of course, in the winter it would be much less than that—probably one-half.

57710. You pay less in the winter?—No, but it takes less stock in the winter.

57711. Have you an average for the year?—It would be very hard for me to make out an average. Changes of stock very often take place.

57712. Then, that is the best use for the best land in Ireland—feeding cattle?—No; I say there could be a great deal of the land divided profitably, but if you cut up the country into these small holdings I do not see what the people would do about the purchase of live stock.

57713. They would breed more stock, of course?—Well, of course.

57714. Yes, and till?—They will not till except they change their methods from what they are doing now.

57715. CHAIRMAN.—Do you say that grazing rents have fallen in the last 10 or 15 years?—Well, about 15, but not for the last 10.

57716. Do you think that on the whole, speaking generally, about here graziers have prospered for the last ten years?—I think they have held their own.

57717. Now they are quite content with paying the present rents?—Evidently they are. They are able to live and support their families.

57718. And there has been no demand for reduction of rent?—I daresay there have been applications for reductions of rent. You could not make any hard and fast rule. One rent may be higher than another.

57719. Speaking generally, the standard of rent for grazing land is not considered too high?—That depends on the length the land has been in occupation. New rents are, I consider, too high. On land that has been in the same occupation for 20 or 2[illegible] years the rent is fairly reasonable. But then, of course, I am only speaking from my own experience. People might be induced to give too much for land taken on the 11 months' system, and taken by the year.

57720. Do you think land dear?—Well, I should say so.

57721. Mr. BRYCE.—How do you pay your herdsmen?—In kind.

57722. That is to say, you give them so much land for feeding?—No; they rent their land. I give them so many sums. I give land for tillage also. A unit of cattle is a cow and a half. The usual thing in Roscommon is grazing and hay for a cow, an acre to every 50 acres of land that the man would mind.

57723. And then you give them so many cattle, too?—Yes.

57724. Then, you do not give them any cash at all —One man I do pay cash to; that is in lieu of grazing. He does not put in his grazing stock.

57725. Now, the general system being in that way, the result is that these herdsmen are practically the only inhabitants of Roscommon, except a few tenants, that never have any cash at all?—I think they are very well off.

57726. They are well off?—Well, most of them are. They have their calves and poultry, and a great many of them young stock and a pig.

57727. When those cattle are saleable they sell them and they then get cash, I suppose?—Yes; they work practically on the same lines as the small farmer in Roscommon.

57728. But as a matter of fact they are generally in the position that they have to go to a shopkeeper for credit, and for long credit?—I never heard of it.

57729. You never heard of it?—No.

57730. But there is only one time in the year when these people have any opportunity of selling their stock?—Yes; they will sell some in May, some in November, and they generally have some pigs to sell, and they work practically on the same lines as the 30-acre farmer.

57731. And you think they are just as well off as if they had farms of their own?—I think a herd on a good farm is just as well off.

57732. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—You say the herd to whom you have given four acres of land cultivates half-an-acre and keeps the remainder in grazing?—Yes.

57733. I suppose that the herd is engaged all day long in looking after your cattle?—The family is there.

57734. My point is that the employment of the herd on your business precludes him from working his farm?—It does not. He is not occupied two hours a day in doing my business.

57735. Sir John Colomb.—In your memorandum you refer to the injustice of depriving graziers of their means of living without compensation: you mean whose land is purchased?—I mean that if the State decides on splitting up the whole country into small holdings the grazing occupier is entitled to some consideration. You take away a man's living. He has nothing else to fall back on. If the State decides on doing that the grazier ought to be compensated.

57736. He suffers by the change?—He is ruined by the change.

57737. You speak of the actual holder of land under a certain class of grazing tenancy from the Purchase Act of 1903. What is the particular point you complain of?—I had a case of my own in my mind at the time. At present I occupy a farm that has been held by us for 25 years. After a while the landlord owing to the Land Acts changed the agreement so that we are not to take advantage of any Land Acts, but at the same time he gave us a substantial reduction, and we were in no worse position as long as the land was left in the landlord's hands than if we were judicial tenants, but now when the land is being sold that class of tenants are excluded from the benefits of the Act altogether.

57738. I take it that generally you complain of the uncertainty in your future owing to the change of policy?—As things work out at present one class of men will be left without land at all. It is quite possible that a man may have 600 acres of land at present, and if the new policy is carried out this man may be left without any land whatever without any compensation.

57739. In order to get some certainty would you be prepared to terminate the existing uncertainty if you were able to do so by purchasing your land on the 68 years system by paying an annuity for that period equal to your present rent?—I would not.

57740. You do not think, even to secure fixity of tenure and thus remove your present uncertainty, that you would pay an annuity equal to your present rent for 68 years?—I don't think I would. It would be a long look forward.

57741. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—In other words, the grazing rent you pay is not a fair basis on which to found a purchase agreement?—It depends on the number of years' purchase.

57742. No doubt, but would you pay 27 to 30 years' purchase?—I would not.

57743. Would you pay 20 years' purchase?—20 years' purchase of an ordinary grazing rent, I think, would be fair.

57744. Sir John Colomb.—Putting aside years' purchase and taking the question of annuity as against rent, you would not be prepared in order to get fixity of tenure and be certain of the future to pay an annuity equivalent to your present rent?—I would not. I think it would be too high.

57745. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—That is a most important admission from a gentleman of your knowledge and experience. You say you don't think that grazing rents ought to form a basis of purchase at a lower number of years' purchase than 20 years, or thereabouts?—Or thereabouts.

57746. Sir John Colomb.—You don't propose to lay down a rule for everybody. That is your view of your position?—My own position.

57747. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—As a typical grazier of Roscommon?—Yes. Anything like 30 years would be absurd.

57748. Mr. Sutherland.—And that is your opinion as a representative of your association?—Yes, but I think that as the thing is being worked out at present it is being done in a very haphazard way. No grazier whom I know in Roscommon would object to see a fair division of the grazing land at present, but what they object to is being left without any livelihood. If they were left to purchase up to the limit in the Act, say, £7,000 worth of land, speaking for myself, I would be quite prepared to surrender the rest of it.

57749. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—Would you go so far as to say that you would be satisfied with that land that is not suitable for tillage?—Yes, to purchase it.

57750. So that the portion suitable for tillage might be acquired for these purposes and the remaining portion of the grazing land left in the hands of graziers?—It should be sold to the graziers. I would not say exactly 20 years' purchase, but in or about.

57751. Sir John Colomb.—How does your rent compare with the valuation?—In one case it is under. In the other it is slightly over.

57752. Do you apply proposal to purchase at 20 years' purchase of the grazing rents to both holdings equally?—When speaking of 20 years' purchase of grazing rents I am only speaking generally.

57753. Are we to take your statement to Sir Antony MacDonnell as applying to both holdings equally?—Yes.

57754. Although in one case it is below the valuation and in the other case it is above it?—The valuation is very little test.

57755. Therefore I may take it the question is not one to be based on the valuation, but on the actual rent?—On actual rent.

57756. So that to estimate the purchase price on valuation would not, in your view, be exactly correct?—Not at all; not as grazing land anyway. Another thing I wish to mention is that I think a good many graziers would be prepared to sell their interest in land they have an interest in if there was any prospect of getting a fair price for it, any fixed rule for arriving at a fair price.

57757. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—Do you think could a fixed rule be arrived at perhaps in this way: would the valuation for the fair rent of a holding under the rent-fixing Acts afford a fair basis on which to estimate the price of grazing land?—Tenant's interest or landlord's?

57758. Both interests are concentrated in the landlord in the grazing land?—They are not. Take for example a leasehold farm occupied by a grazier. He has an interest in that that he may wish to dispose of either to the Congested Districts Board or the Estates Commissioners, and he will want to arrive at what his interest is worth. There has been no fixed rule for arriving at his interest. Take a leasehold farm of 200 acres on an estate purchased by your Board, of which the present rent is £300 a year. If the farm were sold to the grazing tenant in occupation his rent would be reduced by about one-third, and he would be paying £200 instead of £300. He would then have £100 a year more interest in it than before the operations of the Act, and if he were to sell his interest he would calculate this additional interest in his farm.

Sept. 30, 1907.

Mr. David Talbot-Crosbie re-examined.*

Mr. David Talbot-Crosbie.

57759. CHAIRMAN.—You wish to say something about the charge for the drainage of the River Suck?—I was examined in London and gave evidence of the very heavy charge on the occupiers for drainage. It would be a great incentive to purchase if the drainage charge could be written off in cases where landlords sold and tenants bought, and it would make things much easier.

57760. If a tenant buys land subject to that charge he has to continue to pay it in addition to his annuity?—He has to pay his share now, and if it were knocked off it would reduce his annuity.

57761. Do you mean he has to pay it as purchaser or as tenant?—He has to pay it as tenant. He pays the rent first and also a drainage charge. If he purchased he would have to pay his purchase annuity and also this charge extra.

57762. Does the landlord pay anything?—The landlord pays a portion, too. It is a very heavy charge.

57763. Is this charge by way of a sinking fund to pay off the original cost?—Yes; in forty years.

57764. You want the State to cry quits?—Yes. It has been paid for the last eleven years, which I think quite long enough. In the report of the Royal Commission on Drainage there is a lamentable description of the condition of affairs in reference to the Suck. It says: "In the case of the River Suck district, where the estimated cost was £106,481, the actual cost in round figures was £200,000, of which £50,000 was a free grant, £13,000 was charged on county cess, £67,000 represented the increased value of the lands, capitalised as an annuity at £4 10*s.* per cent. per annum over forty years, while over £70,000 was unfruitful expenditure, falling on the owners of land within the district. Upwards of £2,000 was also charged on the county for improvements in benefit. Of an expenditure exceeding £200,000, only one-third was reproductive, the remaining two-thirds yielding no return. These facts bring into relief one difference under the codes of 1842 and 1863, namely, that whereas the excess of actual over-estimated cost under the former code, produced by exceptional circumstances, was borne by the State the excess on works under the latter code was borne by private proprietors." Therefore I consider it a tremendous hardship on the proprietors and on the occupiers that they should pay this enormous annuity on this excessive expenditure, amounting to two-thirds of the entire cost, which the Royal Commission tell us is unproductive. This represents an annuity of practically £6,000 a year taken from the people of a poverty-stricken district. The hardship falls specially on the occupiers, as they had no voice whatever in the starting of the scheme. But it also falls on the proprietors, as they were lead to believe, firstly, that the scheme would cost much less than it did; secondly, that the "increased value" of the land was estimated at much more than it proved to be.

57765. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Your contention is this, that inasmuch as the scheme was calculated to increase the productiveness of the land by so much, and it has failed to do so, therefore those concerned in the annual payments should not be called on to continue paying?—The loss should be borne by the State as it used to be in former years until this new code was established, which saddled on the people a loss of two-thirds of this expenditure which the Royal Commission has stated was unproductive.

57766. Mr. BRYCE.—The people would be willing to continue to pay the annuity on the part that is reproductive?—Yes. I think we have paid that already. We have been paying for the last eleven years.

57767. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—On the two-thirds the payments ought to cease?—Practically the whole thing ought to cease as an incentive to purchase where the landlords are willing to sell and the occupiers to buy.

* For former examination, see Appendix to the Fifth Report of the Commission [Cd. 3630, 1907], p. 202.

The Commission adjourned.

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH PUBLIC SITTING.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1st, 1907,

AT 11.0 O'CLOCK A.M.,

In the Courthouse, Ballinasloe.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (Chairman); The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Mr. HERBERT SATCHWELL examined.

Oct. 1, 1907

Mr Herbert Satchwell.

57768. CHAIRMAN.—You are engaged in the cattle trade?—Yes.

57769. Do you represent the Cattle Traders' Association?—I am a member of the Irish Cattle Traders and Stockowners' Association, but it is at the request of your Commission that I came as a witness.

57770. Where do you reside?—At Creggs, in the County Galway, just outside Roscommon County. I have some farms inside Roscommon County.

57770A. I believe your practice is different from that of your neighbours and that you go in for stall-feeding?—Yes. I till a lot and stall-feed.

57771. Describe to us what you do?—I reside on a farm of over 500 acres, Irish, and till 60, 80 or 90 acres every year, according to the size of the fields as they fall in. With the produce I feed cattle and sheep on my farm and send them to the meat market.

57772. You fatten your beasts yourself until they are fit for the butcher?—Yes. I sell them in the Dublin market or the English market.

57773. What age do you buy them?—I buy them at all ages from 6 months to 3 years old, just as I see animals that are suitable.

57774. What is the earliest age at which you can sell them ready for the butcher?—About 2½ years old. A lot of my cattle that I will tie up now will be only 2½; some of them will be 3 years old.

57775. I suppose you employ a good deal of labour?—Yes. I keep a staff of twenty to twenty-five men every day in the year, all round.

57776. Why don't other people do what you do?—Perhaps their land might be better, but mine is only very middling class land, and the tenure of land in the past prevented it a good deal, because if I were not resident on my farm I could not till it. If the tenure of land were different in the past, a farmer could build a house for his son on it, and I think you would have had a lot more residential holdings through the country, which would be to the betterment of all parties.

57777. Suppose a man had 40 acres of land could he do what you are doing?—I don't think he could, unless in a very small way. He would be more a man to raise stores.

57778. Why could not he buy like you? Would he have the knowledge?—He would have the knowledge, but on a thirty or forty acre farm he would want to carry a horse and two or three cows and a few sheep, and the succession would be coming.

57779. In your opinion if a man had thirty or forty acres of land he would have cows and young stock?—I would be very pleased to see a lot of the fresh land broken up and divided among industrious young fellows, but I believe a large man is required among them to buy the stores. They want some good grazing lands to prepare them for the home market and the English and Scotch markets.

57780. Would not English people come to buy stores?—They would not buy them in small numbers. A large farmer at home keeps them for six months of the year, and puts them in good condition for shipping. If the English and Scotch feeders did not get our cattle here in numbers suitable they would fight very hard to get in Canadian cattle, which would ruin the small holder, I believe.

57781. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you breed stock?—All my sheep and some of my cattle.

57782. I suppose we may take it that in consequence of your having this great extent your cattle are not all bred by yourself, and that you are obliged to buy?—Yes.

57783. Do you buy from the small farmer?—Yes.

57784. Your fear would be, for instance, that if 500 acres of land were broken up into 25 holdings the small man could not do exactly what you do?—I don't believe he could.

57785. Though you can carry on successfully by breeding and finishing you don't think the small man could do exactly as you do?—Not on 25 acres of land.

57786. Do you think could he do it on 50?—I think he could, in a small way.

57787. But he would require more capital?—Undoubtedly.

57788. He has to get quick sale, for he is dependent on it for the payment of annuities and all that, so that he has to sell when the big man would not sell?—Yes. No doubt a tillage farmer requires a lot more capital nowadays. You have to invest a lot more money in farm implements and one thing and another, which swallows up a lot.

57789. You would be very glad to see the certain land divided up among industrious young fellows?—Undoubtedly.

57790. But the land you would like to see divided is land that requires to be worked in tillage to get the best out of it?—Yes.

57791. You don't mean that you would indiscriminately apply that policy to land naturally more profitable in grass?—Yes, but at the same time I would like to see even this very good land in the hands of residential holders.

57792. You are anxious for such a system as would produce the residence of men under economic conditions under which they could live comfortably?—Yes.

57793. Mr. BRYCE.—Do the Scotch and English buyers come a great deal to the West to buy cattle?—Yes, or their representatives.

57794. Suppose a great number of graziers owing to the breaking up of grass lands disappeared would not there still be a market for store cattle?—Not to the same extent, because a good many of the graziers buy in small numbers, and keep them a year or six months to make them better, and forward them to the Scotchmen; or their representatives will come and buy them in scores or 25's, which means giving him less trouble, and securing a more uniform class of cattle than if he bought in any other way. We have to average them after six months.

57795. Still they do come to buy the young cattle now?—Yes.

57796. They buy even calves?—I don't know about calves. There are no better buyers at the Mid-Roscommon fairs for good young bullocks fed to 1½ years old than the Scotchmen.

57797. They must take them in odd bits?—Yes, they do.

57798. Why should not they go on buying them in odd bits?—Some men will come for that class, and some for 2½ years old. They won't buy them singly. They would be more in lots.

Oct. 1, 1907.

Mr. Herbert Satchwell.

57799. Did you hear Lord Ashtown's evidence yesterday with regard to the classification of the lands of East Galway and Roscommon? He spoke of some lands as being entirely unsuitable for tillage?—I did not hear his evidence.

57800. He distinguished four classes of land. He said that some of the land was so rich, heavy, and deep that it was not suitable for tillage; is it your experience that that is so?—There are some lands in Roscommon that I don't think it would be right to break. They are not very suitable for tillage, and would be more profitable in grazing. You would grow better crops on nice lively light soil than on this very deep soil.

57802. There is a good deal of clay land?—Yes, in Mid-Roscommon, if you took from Strokestown, Elphin, and Boyle in the North, and round about Tulsk.

57803. What kind of land are the plains of Boyle?—Rich feeding lands.

57804. Would they be suitable for breaking up?—Some of them would, where the sub-soil is of a gravelly nature.

57805. Where it would not be too damp and heavy?—Yes.

57806. In former times were not those heavy lands cultivated?—I believe so. I have not seen them cultivated.

57807. Was not it the custom to burn the soil?—That was a bad custom.

57808. I am sure it was, but they did it?—Yes, I daresay they did it; but it ought to be condemned by everybody that is in authority.

57809. It ruins the land?—Of course it does.

57810. The upshot of your evidence so far as English and Scotch buyers are concerned is that they do come at present and buy odd ones?—Yes.

57811. Even in Donegal we had evidence that they buy them at six months old?—I don't know that, but I know that the Scotchman or his representative comes to our fairs to buy 1½ year bullocks in condition. They stall-feed that fellow. They say he stall-feeds better than older ones. When they have the calf-teeth they can eat better than when they begin to work with their grown teeth.

57812. Is it your experience that you can get as high a price for your cattle in the English markets as the Aberdeen finisher can?—We cannot compete with the Scotchman.

57813. What is the reason?—I think they feed the stores better from the start. Down in Roscommon we have a fine beast to look at, but given fair play it would require another year to mature him, but we are going in lately for a cross between the Aberdeen Angus or Hereford and the Roscommon heifer, which produces a very good beast. It would surprise you how much he would weigh. If you brought him to the Dublin market you would have the London chaps at you and the Dublin fellows.

57814. Sir John Colomb.—Which do you prefer, the cross of the polled Angus or the cross of the Hereford?—You would get half a dozen practical men and they would be divided on it.

57815. That is the reason I ask you?—I like the Aberdeen Angus.

57816. Mr. Bryce.—When you breed your own cattle from the very start, from your own cows with your own bulls, do you find that the beast when finished is not as good as the Aberdeen beast?—I breed some with my own cows. I just keep from six to ten cows to supply myself and my workmen. I let an Aberdeen Angus on them. At 2½ years old they are the finest cattle in the market.

57817. Just as good as the Scotch?—Just the same.

57818. When you speak of not being able to compete with the Scotch you mean when you buy a calf from somewhere else?—Yes. Let me feed my own calves from the start. It is not every man who has the roots or things like that to give them.

57819. When you breed your own calves and feed them from the start they are as good as any Scotch beast?—As good as any Scotch beast if they are properly fed.

57820. Chairman.—They will get fat, but the fat does not mix up with the meat?—They get what they call the calf lay on them if they are fed from the very first.

57821. Mr. Bryce.—Do you own your own farm?—Yearly, and I have some on the 11 months' system.

57822. What is the difference between the yearly tenant and the 11 months' man?—We have some farms that my father had sixty years ago as yearly takes as long as we paid the rent. The good old landlord came down a bit in his rent. We had a meeting and paid our rent as well as we could. I think if such farms be taken from graziers they certainly ought to get some compensation. In consequence of the tenure of the land farmers could not be let on those lands where a lot of young fellows might have built houses. Otherwise some would be living on them now, giving employment, and this would be all the better for the country and the land would be improved and so on.

57823. Sir John Colomb.—You mean that by reason of the agreements of letting being from year to year certain of the tenants were deterred from building houses?—You could not do it. You would not be allowed to do it.

57824. Mr. Bryce.—But you might have got a lease of this land that is taken from year to year, as they do in Scotland, where they have 21 years' leases. Then you might have been able to build?—They did not care to do that.

57825. But there is some leasehold land, we heard yesterday?—There is.

57826. You have got no kind of tenant-right at present?—No. I believe it is about being sold out to the Estates Commissioners. Though I am only a yearly tenant I have a letter to say that I will be treated the same as tenants who had judicial tenancies.

57827. Suppose you were buying, what number of years' purchase of your rent would you be willing to give?—Of the grazing land or the land I live on?

57828. The grazing land?—If I could buy one or two grazing farms I have to work in connection with the farms I raise the young stock on I would certainly give 20 or 22 years' purchase of the rental. Having this large farm of middling land I could raise a lot of young stock that I could send on to the good land that would come home, so that I would have very little trouble in stall-feeding them.

57829. During all this course of years have you been paying the same rents to the landlords or have the rents been falling?—The farm I am living on I took twenty-four years ago, and I am paying the same rent to-day.

57830. That is the land on which you breed?—Yes.

57831. With regard to the grazing farms?—I am not more than about ten or twelve years in occupation of the outside farms, and I am paying the same rent, but not as much as was paid by my father.

57832. But there has been no sensible fall in your experience on the land you occupy for the last ten years?—No.

57833. Suppose you got a lease for twenty-one years, would you be willing to give your present rental for twenty-one years?—I would, if I was allowed to purchase the farm in connection with the farm I live on.

57834. But if you were merely leasing it for twenty-one years you would not be willing to give the same rent?—I don't think I would.

57835. What are you afraid of?—It would not be so valuable to me. Some of these lands in Roscommon, if you have to go into a fair and buy stock in May or spring to sell in October, are not nearly so valuable to a man who has a residential holding, as he can buy every class of stock, and keep them until he can sell them to the best advantage. If he buys in May and sells in October again fellows are often ruined at that sore of work.

57836. What is the present rental of your grazing farm—about 30*s.* an acre?—Yes. The best farm I had was £2, and really I think it was the cheapest land I had; but it has been bought by the Congested Districts Board. It is Captain Caulfield French's property. I had it from Sir Nicholas O'Connor, who was a middleman. As soon as it was bought I surrendered it at once.

57837. It is now being divided among migrants?—No. They have it in their own hands yet, taking in grazing. They treated me very well. They set it to me for six months, and gave me leave to retire. I had a stock in hands, and they gave me leave to retire at the end of six months. I gave it up, and they have it now set to poor people in the neighbourhood, from whom they take in stock at so much a head.

57838. Suppose you were offered a lease for fifty years at 25*s.* an acre of the land that you have for

30s., would you be willing to agree to take it at that rent for fifty years?—I would, indeed.

57839. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—How does your rent on the property of the Congested Districts Board compare with the valuation?—It is a lot over it.

57840. Therefore, when you say you would be willing to purchase at twenty or twenty-two years' purchase, that means more than twenty or twenty-two years' purchase of the valuation?—What I said was that if I was allowed to buy one of my outside farms to work in connection with my home farm I would give twenty or twenty-two years' purchase of this outside farm.

57841. When you talk of the outside farm, is the rent you pay below or above the valuation?—I don't pay the taxes, and I don't know really what the valuation is.

57842. Do you pay rates and taxes on any of these lands?—Not on the outside lands, but I do on the home farm.

57843. Therefore, the twenty or twenty-two years' purchase on the outside land would mean really without deduction for taxes or rates?—Yes.

57844. Do you in your business come across yearlings, young cattle, brought from Kerry, Cork, and away down south?—Yes, sometimes. I may buy a few calves from what we call the Munster dealers, who bring them up. You may get a few good-looking, healthy calves among them. Perhaps I would buy two or three out of twenty.

57845. Mr. BRYCE.—Speaking generally, do you think the graziers in Roscommon have been doing pretty well during the last ten years?—I think that the trade was more even for the last ten years than it was before that, especially during the last four or five years, and the last couple of years were not bad; but, of course, in 1879 they got such a whack that they never got over it.

57846. Lately they have been doing better?—Yes.

57847. Do you think they are much in debt to the banks?—I could not tell you that. I know nobody's business but my own.

57848. You don't hear anything?—I may hear a good deal.

57849. You don't always believe it?—I do not.

57850. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You say that in recent years business has been steadier?—Yes.

57851. Does not that date from the introduction of the Bill prohibiting Canadian cattle?—About eighteen months ago it was threatened they were coming in, and people did not know what to do. There was a sort of little panic on. Take wool. For the last three years we got more. The price was more even.

57852. When you spoke of the market being so unsteady years ago, was not that due to the fact that at that time cattle could, by Order in Conucil, be prohibited or not prohibited—it was the uncertainty as to what might be done that produced the uncertainty as to price?—Yes.

57853. Mr. KAVANAGH.—You say you buy stock of all ages?—Yes.

57854. You say you buy calves. What do you do with them?—I keep them on. I don't remember when I sold a store beast. I keep them on until they are fit to go to stall feeding.

57855. You don't sell the calves again?—I don't sell the calves.

57856. How long do you keep them?—If a calf is bought at six months old it is put in a stall when it is two and a half years old, or perhaps I might have to keep him a little longer.

57857. Suppose that this land was broken up into thirty-acre farms, would not the small holder be able to carry on his calf until it is ready for the Meath man?—I daresay he would; but on a thirty-acre farm you have the succession to keep up; and I doubt if he would be able to feed them all until they come up to the age of selling them.

57858. Would you say a forty-acre farm?—As you increase the acreage you would be coming nearer the point.

57859. You referred to the Congested Districts Board giving out grazing; would you approve of that system?—If they give it to deserving poor people, as I am sure they always do, it is helping them on, but there is a great deal of complaining, I may say, in their dividing the lands.

57860. Apart from that would you approve of the system of giving out grazing in a congested area?—For the time being it is a great thing for the poor people to get a place for their little cattle. They get it cheaper from the Congested Districts Board than they would from a private individual, but I think it would be better to divide them up as soon as they could, and place the deserving parties upon them.

57861. The dividing is very much more expensive, owing to fencing and so on?—I think it better for every man to own his own part, and to know what to do with it.

57862. Mr. BRYCE.—Are you alone in Roscommon following this system of stall-feeding cattle up to the finishing point?—There are three or four in my neighbourhood who do it.

57863. But it is not general?—Not at all. I don't think there are many men in Roscommon stall-feeding. I don't know if there is one who stall-feeds twenty-five beasts.

57864. How many do you stall-feed?—I stall-feed on an average about 200 beasts every year.

57865. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you consider, taking the average small farmer in the parts of Ireland you know under the present conditions, that a stall-feeding programme is the thing for him?—Not for the small farmer of twenty acres. I don't see how he could do it, and keep up his succession; but I have no doubt, and I say without fear or favour, that if people lived on their farms, even if they were large, things would be a great deal better. It would encourage everyone, and help the labourers, and draw them from towns and cities, where they have gone to live.

57866. Mr. BRYCE.—How can you force people to live on the farms?—I don't want to force any man; but I really think that if the tenure of land was different, and they got a chance of building on it, you would see a great many more residential holdings.

57867. You mean he should be the owner of it?—Yes; I daresay.

Mr. THADDEUS GLYNN examined.

57868. CHAIRMAN.—You are nominated by the Ballinasloe District Council?—Yes, and by the Fohanagh branch of the United Irish League. I am a District Councillor and a farmer, and I have just put down some remarks in writing. I am myself the son of an evicted tenant. My father was evicted in 1852 from the holding that the family held for, I could not tell the centuries or generations. He was evicted from there though his rent was paid. He had to leave it although his rent was paid, to help to make a large grass farm for somebody else. So with my uncles also——

57869. I do not want to curtail your evidence, but you know we have nothing to do with your father's or your uncles' eviction. You must keep a little more closely to the point of our inquiry?—This is the complaint that I have, that it is a very grievous thing for a man to be evicted from a farm that he is willing to pay his rent for, and that all his family before him did the same in.

57870. We have no power to alter that?—As I say this was done to make a large grass farm. I represent the division of Annagh in the union of Mountbellew. There are 98 families in the division at £5 and under, and some of them as low as 5s. There are 2,462 acres 2 roods 32 perches of untenanted land in that division, and if the people had it they would have a way to live in comfort compared with now when they are living in starvation, watching for money from America and England from their children to try and eke out a living. They hold their land under conacre and pay £3 and £4 an acre to the large grazier, expecting that from their children in America—robbing those poor children to try and keep the large grazier in existence in Ireland. In the parish I represent there are about 3,000 acres of untenanted land. There are only 80 families in the whole parish, and these 80 families have only about on an average, eight to ten acres at a valuation of from £2 up to £7. All these are held under conacre

Oct. 1, 1907.

Mr. Thaddeus Glynn.

and are paid for by money which comes from either England or America. In the Clonbrock division, adjoining mine, the land is just held in the same manner. There are 215 tenants in the division of Clonbrock at £5 and under, and there are only seven or eight up to the value of £20. In the Annagh division there are only five at £20, while there are 98 at from 5*s.* to £5. In my district, my lord, we have made several applications to purchase under the Act of 1903, but we have been refused, if the tenants did not buy their own small holdings. They wanted to keep the graziers in existence, and to give no land to the poor people. They simply said: "Let every man buy his own, or if not there will be no sales." At any rate there has been no bargain completed in my division of Annagh under the existing Bill of 1903 up to the present. There is not one question settled between the landlords and the tenants yet in the Annagh division, I am sorry to say. In every case I know they asked for sale, but they got no sale. There is no sale complete. In two or three cases I know where three or four branches have met, and we petitioned Lord Clonbrock, Mrs. Mahon, and Mrs. Johnston, saying that we would buy through the Estates Commissioners and give them whatever the Estates Commissioners would think fit and fair, and that the tenants would abide by that, but they, the Estates Commissioners, refused, except we could make our own bargain with the landlords. However, there is no sale yet. We got a letter from Lord Clonbrock to the parish priest to say he would sell if he got 22 years' purchase out of his agricultural holdings, but that he could not sell the grass lands except the Estates Commissioners brought him up to such a sum as would make his net income; and that if the Estates Commissioners did not offer him that, he would not accept the sale. The tenants look at that in this way—they think the Estates Commissioners would do justice between the tenants and the landlords, and that they would pay from the Government money nothing but what would be just and fair. That is the opinion of the tenants. I have another thing in my parish and district to complain of. In the village of Lisnacreena, which is in my branch and division, they bought under the Ashbourne Act. They bought their small holdings in 1899 at 18½ years' purchase, and they are at from £2 valuation up to £5 and some of them £6, and there are only three cases out of seventeen in the whole village where it is over £10. There are three other farms bought under the Ashbourne Act in the same year beside where some of these poor people were crammed into these small holdings, say about 1855, after the famine, off a large estate of 1,100 acres. The landlord at the time cleared them out. Some of them had their rents paid; more had not. At all events they were cleared out and crammed into this little estate, where they are now so congested; and if compulsory purchase came to pass, and the interest of these farms acquired from those who bought them under the Ashbourne Act, and compensation given them, the land could be divided amongst these small holders, and congestion would be relieved. A man cannot live on a farm at £2—from £2 to £7 valuation. He has to go to the conacre meadow.

57871. Chairman.—We have heard a good deal about that. We know the difficulties of living on a small holding. That has been described to us before. There is nothing else you want to say, is there? I would ask the Commission to do this—to say that there is no remedy against unwilling landlords except compulsory purchase. I have known them to refuse purchase through the Estates Commissioners. The remedy is to give compulsory purchase powers to the Estates Commissioners, and give them power to do justice between landlord and tenant. Another estate I would like to make some remarks on is the Usher Estate. On this estate in 1899 Mr. Usher offered sale to his tenants at 18½ years' purchase. When the Act of 1903 came into operation he wanted 25 years' purchase. Now it is in the hands of the Estates Commissioners for something like about eight months, and the other day in the Boardroom at Mountbellew we had the arbitrator, Mr. Arthur Taylor, down there arbitrating for labourers' cottages, and he had a letter from the agent of Mr. Usher, and also from the Estates Commissioners, to say that the sale of the estate is not complete yet. That is the information that the Inspector gave the Board. So you see, my lord, that he raised the price five years and a half from 1889 until the Land Act of 1903 was passed, and the people cannot see what market raised the land that high, or where the improvement had come to the country that would raise the land from 1899 to 1903 by 5½ years' rent of a rise.

57872. Mr. Bryce.—Why did not you buy at 18½ years?—I was not a tenant on the estate.

57873. Why did not the tenants on the Usher Estate buy at 18½ years?—Well, they were expecting increased holdings. Their holdings were too small, and they wanted more land. They were congested. There were thirteen under £5, and some of them as low as 5*s.* valuation, and it was no good to purchase the holdings they held. They were people who in 1850 and 1855 were taken from the good land, and driven into the slough and the brink of the bog and of the river, which is famishing their crop every season. There is another remark I would like to make as far as my division is concerned. There is a river running through it, and in wet seasons such as this they have to face ruin. The landlord would not drain the river or clean it, and the people's crops are drowned. I would ask your lordship and the other Commissioners to recommend that something should be done in cleaning rivers such as this, where such damage is done in wet seasons, and where the people were unfortunately taken from the good land, and put to the brows of these rivers.

Mr. T. B. Hibbet examined.

Mr. T. B. Hibbet.

57874. Chairman.—Where do you live?—At Kilconnell, Co. Galway.

57875. Are you a large farmer?—I farm 100 acres.

57876. Do you do anything else besides farming?—I buy and sell stock on commission for a couple of thousand acres of land owned by gentlemen. I do not manage any land but my own.

57877. Your work there is entirely connected with land?—I have a shop, too—a small shop.

57878. And a licence?—Yes, my lord. The evidence I have got to give will be mainly on the question of the great National evil of grazierism, and I will only touch on the lesser one—the misfortune of congestion. Grazing land for the raising of store cattle is only adaptable to a remote and sparsely inhabited country—

57879. Chairman.—Are you reading from the precis which you have given us?—From a preface to it. The letting and hiring of grass lands wanted by the people for cultivation is politically immoral in any nation. The fertile land that is allowed to produce only grass, for the rearing and feeding of store stock, is more than half idle, and the Government that prefers the raising of the bullock to the growth of the man is unworthy and stands self-condemned. Hardly without any exception in the West of Ireland, you will find congestion on the fringe or back end of every grazing farm. There you will find some few people, on fag-end patches, whose little holdings probably were not worth the levelling during the eviction period, left as you find them for that reason, or perhaps they were quietly transferred as an alternative, from fair-sized farms, which they or their parents occupied, on the now green broad plain, comprising the grazing farm beyond. Thus, wherever you find grazing farms, you will most probably find congestion hard by. They are two evils, one blocks tillage; the other tends to clog the physical aptitude of a naturally agricultural people. The present eleven months grazing system in the West is detrimental to cultivation, injurious to the quality and value of cattle, and its pernicious example has changed in a great measure the thrift and industry of the people, to sloth and negligence, and its continuance is a national loss. It is conducted on the methods of hiring grass lands as cheaply as they can be secured, making hard bargains, buying and selling stock, and running the management of the stock and farm as near to starvation lines as possible. The present western grazier barely tills sufficient to supply his domestic necessity, he can hardly be said to give either employment or labour; in fact, the greater number of his class fail to keep their fences in proper repair; neglect cleaning watercourses and drains through their farms, and allow weeds, thistles and

furzes to spread as they may, all over their pasturages. In many cases they are allowed sums from the rent by the landlord, to be expended for these necessary purposes, but the landlord is indifferent as to the application of the money. As a consequence of this neglect of drains, watercourses and weeds, and inattention to furze waste, fully more than five per cent. of the grazing farms of Connaught are absolutely worthless to either king or country. While the grazier is able to make the rent and any little surplus with it, and while the landlord, who is probably an absentee like Clanricarde, gets the rent quietly, both are satisfied and utterly indifferent as to what the nation otherwise may produce, or presently lose. The first and only thought of the grazier is to save and work the land with the least possible outlay ; his cattle, shown in the spring fairs, bear remarkable testimony to his stinginess. They are extremely thin and emaciated, and it is no uncommon sight to see some of them dropping down on the fair green from faintness. How different in appearance and value, side by side, is the poor man's two or three beasts, although, as is often the case, he is only the holder of a tightened little farm? He has sold before he has barely stood them on the fair green. They have been better fed and better sheltered during the winter, and will finish into beef three months earlier than the grazier's, and they have now realised from three to four shillings per hundred live weight more than the grazier's hungry, outlying lots. The extraordinary, though true, report often astonishes one at these fairs as being "very dear" and "very cheap." All the poor man's cattle are bought early and well by the exporter and keen County Meath fattener, while the lots of graziers' cattle are left ; they will not be asked for by the exporter, and will be only purchased late in the day by the County Meath feeder, who has to do with them ; yet dreading the time they will finish when the English markets are glutted with American beef late in the season. It is a well-known fact that the Connaught grazier has very often to accept a very little profit for his six months' keep of cattle ; therefore, if he did not save, he could not continue, and he cannot, nor never can, be of use or benefit to the country. Hence, as a proof, in the very best part of the country, in the midst of the finest grazing lands, you will find a dearth of labour and the poor in poverty. The Barony of Longford in East Galway is the least remunerative district in the county in all Connaught, perhaps in all Ireland proportionately. It is the most fertile barony in the county the highest rated ; its soil is rich all over, abundant with every quality, suitable for any purpose agriculturally. Its 99,000 acres are nearly all grazed, or in the keep of graziers. Its twenty miles across from Ballinasloe to Portumna is without market or bank, and over that fine reach of country, with the exception of the diminishing little town of Eyrecourt, there are only two nominal villages which fail to break the ever-appearing view of stone walls green fields, herds of cattle and flocks of sheep. There is no other barony in the County of Galway from which so many people were evicted. Its population in 1841 was over 33,000. Its population now numbers under 13,000. There is no other barony in all Connaught recording such a decrease per cent. of houses, 58·73. In the Barony of Longford the return shows that since 1841 three thousand two hundred and eighty-three houses were levelled to the ground. After the evictions the little town of Eyrecourt became tradeless, and the market of Ballinasloe almost trafficless. With the disappearance of the small farmer ceased the produce of the soil, the grass only grew when the corn was reaped, and the bullock grazed where the labourer earned. This barony is but a typical case, but perhaps in a greater degree, of all the Connaught baronies. It is put forward by some that if these vast grazing ranches are bought by the Government for distribution, and the eleven months graziers knocked out, the number and value of cattle will decline, and that it will be most difficult to dispose of small store cattle. To demonstrate the absurdity of this fallacy, take one hundred Irish acres presently in the possession of a grazier and used by him. Its complement are eighty ewes and thirty cattle. Divide this one hundred acre farm into four holdings of twenty-five acres each holding. Each occupier can till five acres, meadow five acres, and the remaining fifteen acres will maintain one horse, two cows, three two-year-old cattle, three calves and twenty sheep. These figures show there will be no diminution of stock in the country, even though all the land should be divided. Yet it will be asked if there are no graziers to buy poor men's store cattle, how will they be disposed of? And if the Canadian stores are allowed into England what will Irish stores be worth? The twenty-five acre holder I have indicated I have put down as having five acres of tillage, I will say two acres of oats, two acres of potatoes and one acre of turnips. No matter what the price of store cattle, high or low, he will soon find that his best system of farming is to fatten all his stock, his cattle as well as his pigs. By proper cultivation his two acres of oats, which he may utilise for stockfeeding, will return him two tons oatmeal ; one acre of his potatoes for like purposes will return him seventeen tons, a ton of his turnips and a ton of his hay added, and he will have sufficient of the most excellent food to fatten eight cattle, besides a surplus for pig fattening also. Three stones of the potatoes and meal cooked, with a stone of turnips and a stone of hay given each day for ninety days, will finish any beast fairly put in. The farmer will thus have the highest price for his crops, and will have the benefit of selling in his yard without cost—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
2 tons of oatmeal at £9 per ton ...	18	0	0
17 tons of potatoes at £1 6*s.* 8*d.* per ton	22	13	4
1 ton of turnips at 10*s.* per ton ...	0	10	0
1 ton of hay at £1 5*s.* a ton ...	1	5	0
Profit of fattening eight cattle, allowing £5 5*s.* for fattening each beast ...	42	8	4

The manure will be left for the land, and no artificial manure will be required for following year's cultivation. Here follows profit and employment, and twenty-five per cent. of the grazing lands of Connaught are brought into tillage and food production. The example of industry and economy would spread, and the people would soon learn to utilise the wealth of the soil, which was hidden under the bullock's hoof, and to shake off the lethargy and laziness of the grazier's creation, which have left such a demoralising effect on the rural energy and labour of the country. Yet it would be well to correct the impression, even though the few might entertain it, that the purchasing of all the grass land by the Government for division would benefit the country. There is no necessity for the advocacy of that presently. There is more than ample land procurable, let on the hiring system, in the hands of the graziers, available for all the applicants, congested and other, for this generation. The class using these other grazing lands are the owners and occupiers, who in most cases have incomes from other sources. They graze stock and farm, not so much for the profit as for the interest and amusement it gives, and the occupation it demands ; besides, they usually employ a staff of labourers, and in many instances assist towards the improvement and the breeding of stock. Still, if they held land to an unreasonable extent, and injurious to a district, or if there was exceptional congestion in the vicinity, their places should be drawn upon, but to not more than a necessary limit ; otherwise their lands should not be interfered with, as local men of wealth are a source of income to the districts they reside in. In a measure their living in the country would cause a reaction and produce a harmony among all classes, and tend to obliterate the baneful effects of the past. With the division of the good grazing lands in the neighbourhood of large towns and the expansion of the industrious and rural population, work and wealth would spring forth and starvation and discontent would disappear. It may be observed everywhere through Ireland presently, and it is a noteworthy fact as showing the injury grazierism has wrought and is working on towns, that the worst business towns are those where grazierism is most rife and where the finest store cattle are fed. Take two examples—Templemore and Loughrea. The first-named town is in the centre of the finest plain of land that man could wish to look across ; yet, except on fair days, when it is packed with the best of store cattle for sale, the town wears the look of lifelessness and poverty, and the poor and the labouring classes appear stamped with the lines and furrows of insufficient feeding. Loughrea is another evidence of this extraordinary situation ; numbers and numbers of special trains of cattle and sheep

Oct. 1, 1907.

Mr. T. B. Hibbet.

leave its fairs each year, but enter the town the day after the fair, and one is struck with the almost ominous silence. There is neither trade, labour, nor traffic sufficient to cause a single echo along the stretch of street—neither mills, corn, nor vegetables to break the monotonous view of the silent rows of houses, although the surrounding country is unequalled for cultivation. It is a town, but not town-like, but, strange to say, it is camp-like, if police duty and police discipline resemble a camp. Small troops of the Constabulary walk or stand and watch within every dozen yards, and more closely in the neighbourhood of the Clanricarde rent offices, where, after the May and December fairs, the few small land holders and the big graziers deposit their rents to be forwarded to the Most Noble, who gives no return, and keeps his best lands locked up, caring nought for the Western old town which is fast tottering to its fall.

57880. CHAIRMAN.—Mr. Hibbet, you own 100 acres?—Yes.

57881. You graze that?—Yes.

57882 On your principle would it not be more advantageous to till it?—It is not all fit to till, my lord.

57883. Why should all these other lands be fit for tillage?—I was speaking of the change that is coming, my lord, of the coming era. I am as bad as the rest, probably.

57884. That is a good thing to understand. How about these 2,000 acres that you manage for your friend. Is he as bad as the rest, too?—Certainly. You are going to inquire into these things, and we are waiting for the change.

57885. Until the new era comes you think it is more profitable to keep the land under grass?—Certainly.

57886. Why don't you break it up?—Certainly it would be better, but from the bad example of the past we do not understand tillage. We are driven out of it. We are cramped.

57887. But you have got 2,000 acres under your control, and you own 100 acres yourself. Why, if it is more profitable to till that, don't you till it?—There is no labour in the country. The best men we ever had are gone to America, owing to the clearances and evictions in the past. We have nothing left now but the weeds and remnants of the country. If you plant the country with houses here and there, and the young men, as they grow up, are induced to stop at home, we will have plenty of labouring men by-and-bye.

57888. Mr. BRYCE.—If land was broken up and tilled as you propose, it would require capital, would it not?—Well, suppose the land is divided, and the tenant's son gets a division of land, probably his father would give him some money, as it costs from ten to twenty pounds to send each young man to America. For the remainder he might borrow from the bank or somewhere else.

57889. But it is dangerous, more or less, to get into debt. It would require a considerable amount of capital in permanent buildings to stall-feed the cattle in the way you propose, up to the stage of finishing, so that they may be ready for the English market. What amount of capital do you estimate for a forty-acre farm, equipping it with buildings and implements, and so on, so that the small farmer should be able to finish his cattle. What amount for that forty-acre farm do you think would be necessary in capital?—He would not want much. He would work his way along by degrees, and put up sheds, and so on.

57890. Still that requires some capital. What amount of capital do you think a farmer of thirty or forty acres would require to go on with, to treat his land in the way you propose?—Well, to commence with, about £150.

57891. CHAIRMAN.—Do you suggest that if all this land was broken up in this county, and the next county, it would be suitable for tillage?—I will just explain that I agree with neither Mr. Doran, on the one hand, nor Mr. Tener, on the other. Mr. Doran said some lands were too good to till in the County Meath.

57892. Do not go so far afield as County Meath. Take this county?—I neither agree with Mr. Doran, that some land was too good to till, or with Mr. Tener, that stiff land would be improper for cultivation. I would advocate the tillage of a field, with a soil of gold, if it would produce crops of wheat or corn.

57893. Without going into the question of the fields of gold—I suppose they are rare—on the fields of clay, which I suppose are more common, would you suggest tilling them?—Certainly I would.

57894. You do not agree with other witnesses who say that heavy clay is not suitable for tillage?—They would give good crops if properly tilled. I would also like to convey that where these heavy stiff clay lands are, it is for want of cultivation they are so stiff. If they were tilled they would be more porous.

57895. Have you any practical knowledge yourself of tillage?—A little.

57896. Your experience is that if you till land it makes it more easily handled?—It makes it better in every sense. In fact the land of all Ireland would want to be tilled. It would improve it.

57897. Then, there is no land in Ireland which you think is incapable of tillage?—Of course you could not till the rocks.

57898. Well, of course, I mean no soil?—Yes, no soil.

57899. Then, you say that there is more than ample land procurable, let on the hiring system, and in the hands of the graziers, available for all the applicants, congested or otherwise, in this generation?—In Galway.

57900. Where did you get your figures from?—Well, I would be wrong if I went into the question of so many holdings.

57901. Can you tell us, to begin with, how many acres of land there are available in Galway, let on the hiring system?—Well, I could not, but from observation.

57901A. Can you tell us how many applications there are from congests in Galway?—I have not the figures, but I apply my mind to those who are eligible for it.

57902. Do you know how many sons of tenants there are?—There are not many presently. They are gone away.

57903. Well, how many?—Do you want from each house?

57904. How many houses?—I could only say from observation.

57905. You must have studied Ireland pretty closely?—Well, I have looked about me and have formed my opinions from my close connection with my countrymen.

57906. You must have, when you can tell from looking about you how many applicants, sons of congests, and how many acres are available. You must have remarkable powers of observation?—Of course no man can do that without having a return of figures.

57907. And without figures how can you know them?—Not accurately. I am only giving evidence broadly, from top to bottom, but if you lay traps for me like that you can turn me any way.

57908. Pardon me; I am not trying to lay traps for you. I was only asking for information?—I have no more information on that particular point.

57909. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do I understand you to say that you yourself hold 100 acres in grass, and that you manage 2,000 acres?—Yes; I am stock manager for other parties.

57910. That 2,000 acres is, I suppose, mostly grazing?—All.

57911. You come to condemn a system which you are managing under yourself?—I am speaking for the benefit of the country, and not for any parties or individuals.

57912. Then the Commission is to take it that you are engaged in making your money and profit by managing a system which you condemn?—Certainly.

57913. Then you say that this system, which you represent as a manager, has changed the thrift and industry of the people to sloth and negligence?—Certainly.

57914. Therefore, as this is a grazing district, do you tell the Commission that the characteristic of the people of this district is sloth and negligence?—Yes.

57915. You make that general assertion with regard to the people of this district?—Yes, from the condition of things.

57916. You mean all classes of the district. You mean that the characteristic of the shopkeeper is

sloth and negligence?—Yes; except there might be individual cases.

57917. Then, you say this system produces weeds?—Yes.

57918. Do you wish the Commission to understand that on grazing land there are more weeds and less attention than on the tenanted land?—There are more weeds; far more.

57919. Then you speak about the hard bargains—that it produces the effect of people making hard bargains? Is it not the fact all the world over that people buying and selling and dealing in commodities each tries to make a hard bargain?—Yes.

57920. Then there is nothing peculiar about the grazier?—He has it more than any other class.

57921. Don't you know that shopkeepers sometimes make hard bargains?—Certainly; but that is conducted on a standard system.

57922. Therefore you are on all fours with the grazier you condemn. You answered Lord Dudley that the reason you do not till—as I understood you—was that you did not understand tillage enough?—I said we did not because we have not labour.

57923. Do you include yourself?—Yes.

57924. Then you proceed to give us—as if you did understand tillage—some figures and prices as to a farm of land worked on a tillage system, as compared with land worked by the grazier?—I spoke of a general system. It can be done.

57925. I select the page of your evidence where you take 100 acres and divide it into four holdings. Then you proceed to give us particulars of how one of these should be worked in tillage, and how it would pay to work it in tillage. Did you give us those figures with the feeling that you knew nothing about it?—I did not say I knew nothing about it.

57926. Let us test it. First of all, as to this process of fattening. What are the months in the year during which the process of fattening is carried out?—From November to April.

57927. That is five months. What will a beast consume in roots—turnips, say—in a month?—It will depend on the feeding she gets. If it is a rich feed, it will be less, and if it is lighter, more.

57928. The fattening of the beast would depend on the getting of sufficient food. I ask you, in the process of fattening, what quantity of turnips per month would you allow for a beast being fattened?—I would not allow it all turnips for fattening.

57929. It is a simple question. You have a beast in a stall fattening. What amount of turnips will it consume in a month?—I would not give it turnips. Turnips will not fatten a beast.

57930. I will take it another way. You take the produce of this farm off, two acres of oats, two acres of potatoes, and one acre of turnips, and you tell the Commission that that, along with hay, will fatten eight beasts?—Yes.

57931. You return two tons of oats, one ton of turnips, and seventeen tons of potatoes. On that you say you will fatten eight beasts. I want to know how much you will allow for each of these beasts?—Three stones of potatoes and meal, cooked with turnips, and a stone of hay each day.

57932. You put these figures forward, and I merely want a rough answer. What quantity of turnips will you give each beast during the five months you are fattening these eight beasts?—If you look at the end clearly you will see it is not turnips I use only. I said three stones of potatoes and meal, cooked with a stone of turnips and a stone of hay each day.

57933. That is thirty stone a month. I won't trouble you further. You give the figures, and the Commissioners can work them out for themselves. I only asked you could you tell roughly, to test your knowledge, and I won't pursue it further. I will only ask you on another point, which is the last I will take. You say, as giving practical illustration of the injury of the grazing system, that in these grazing districts you find the worst business towns? Do you admit that Ballinasloe is about the centre of a grazing system?—Not exactly.

57934. Well, grazing prevails largely around?—Yes.

57935. Do you consider that Ballinasloe is an example of the worst of business towns?—It is not a good business town. The evictions that took place beside it years ago destroyed the town. If you ask people what the market was before those evictions they will tell you it got ruined by them.

57936. How do you hold your grazing land? Are you a tenant?—I bought the most of it. *Oct.* 1, 1907.

57937. Then you are an owner of grazing land, and you are a grazier?—I am not a grazier. Mr. T. B. Tibbet.

57938. I understand that you bought 100 acres?—Eighty-five acres.

57939. But you use it as grazing?—Yes.

57940. Then you are the owner of that grazing land, and you are a grazier yourself?—I am not a grazier. I am not an eleven months' grazier.

57941. You own grazing land?—Yes.

57942. You make your money out of it by grazing it?—Yes.

57943. Therefore you are a grazier, and the land you have may become necessary to settle tenants. You are an example of a class that you say ought to be got rid of, as regards the eighty-five acres?—I am a tenant, and bought under the Act.

57944. You are an owner of grazing land, and grazing land, according to your principle, is required by the State to give to people and till it. Very well. That being so, do you think the Government ought to buy it at their own price, whether you lose by it or not?—That is very personal.

57945. But you must come to the personal. You have been condemning the grazier and the grazing system, and you advocate the compulsory purchase of grazing land, and I want to apply it personally to yourself, and I want to know what your view is as to what you think would be fair dealing with you if the Government bought the land?—Can they buy the land I have bought under the Act, or do you want to change the law?

57946. I ask you a very simple question. You represent the policy that grazing land should be taken from owners of grazing land?—Yes, large owners.

57947. And striped and split up?—Yes.

57948. You are an owner of grazing land, and I ask you now what do you think would be a fair way of arriving at what the Government should pay you?—My point is that the eleven months' grazing land—the land on hire, should be bought.

57949. Then every owner who grazes his own land is to be excluded from the operation of this policy?—Yes. You buy first the eleven months' grazing land. See what condition you are in then, and take the other lands if you want them.

57950. But Lord Dudley gives you plainly to understand that even if you take all the grass land in Galway, you have not got enough. Therefore yours must be taken?—But you have a long way to go from the big grazing ranches until you come to me. First take them up.

57951. Yes, but I am assuming—I am not merely assuming. I am taking it for granted—that the Commission is aware of the evidence that there is not enough grazing land to go round, and therefore whether graziers or owners work it, it is all wanted. I ask you what do you think would be a fair price for the Government to take your land at?—If you come to ask me my opinion of what ought to be given for land, I say the Commission should send independent men to go on the land and fix the price—men who know the land. That is not my opinion alone, but the general opinion.

57952. Then you would be quite satisfied to let any authority constituted in that way go on to the land and say, "We will give you so much"—it might be a great deal less than you know it is worth, and would you be satisfied to take that price?—I would have to be satisfied.

57953. But I ask you would you? Do you think it would be fair?—It may or may not be.

57954. Do you think it would be any more fair than for a man to go in and fix the price of the goods in your shop?—I would not give an opinion on it.

57955. Mr. O'Kelly.—When you condemn the grazing system, does it matter whether a man holds at eleven months or from year to year?—A year to year and eleven months are almost similar takes.

57956. Then you condemn the one and the other. It is the grazing system you condemn?—The difference is—a man has a tenancy in land or he has not.

57957. Yes, but the system is the same?—No, the system is not the same. A man hiring land does not care a hang about the land. All he cares about is to get as much out of it as he can. He has no other interest in the land.

Oct. 1, 1907.

Mr. T. B. Hibbet.

57958. The tenant does not employ any more labour than the eleven months' man?—The eleven months' man has no other interest in the land. He is only grazing it, and gets all he can out of it.

57959. About this 2,000 acres?—Well, I might not have anything to do with that land in six months time, or two hours time.

57960. Mr. Bryce.—You seem to be surprised at Sir John Colomb's suggestion that the Government might wish to buy you out?—No, not at all surprised; but I was surprised at him asking me what would be the value of the land—the official value of land which I have bought under the 1903 Act, and which I require for my family.

57961. You do not see any distinction as between yourself, as regards this eighty-five acres, and any other landlord?—Well, it is a small division compared with what is to be had.

57962. You think anything about eighty-five acres might be overlooked?—Well, I would say as much, and it would not be large when it came to the point of dividing it if the change were pushed so far.

57963. It is only a question of degree. If a man has 2,000 acres he ought to be bought out, but if he has only 100 acres he ought not?—Certainly, you cannot have uniformity.

Mr. Martin Finnerty examined.

Mr. Martin Finnerty.

57964. Chairman.—Where do you live?—About seven miles from Athenry.

57965. Are you a farmer?—Yes.

57966. What size is your farm?—About sixty acres.

57967. What sort of farm is it?—A grass and tillage farm. It is good land—fair enough land.

57968. Do you till it or not?—We till some of it.

57969. How much?—Sometimes four acres and sometimes three.

57970. Out of how many acres?—Sixty.

57971. And you only till three or four acres?—Yes.

57972. What do you do with the rest?—We graze with it.

57973. Do you breed your own cattle?—Yes; and rear calves, and sell them when they come up to two and three years old.

57974. Now, what do you want to tell us?—I am Secretary of the East Galway Executive of the United Irish League. I was also Secretary of the Dunsandle Estate Committee. While a great deal has been done by the Estates Commissioners in the district, thousands of tenants settled, and tens of thousands of untenanted lands purchased and distributed, still a great deal remains to be done, and I believe a proper settlement of the country cannot be effected without compulsory purchase. It is not reasonable to expect that tenants who are deprived of the benefits of the Land Act through the obstinacy and unreasonableness of their landlords can ever be satisfied until they too have purchased their holdings, and get their share of the untenanted land, and are placed in the same position as their more fortunate neighbours. I believe, therefore, that compulsory powers are necessary in dealing with landlords of the type of Lord Ashtown and Lord Clanricarde. The lot of the small farmers was never an enviable one, but still they struggled on from year's end to year's end, no matter how hard set, never knowing in times gone by that a better one was in store for them, the children's only ambition to keep the roof-tree over their aged parents, and the parents' ambition to rear up their children for the emigrant ship. But this is not the case with people now. They know their rights and are prepared to struggle for them. They also feel that their position can be improved. They feel that what was possible on the Dunsandle and other estates may be possible on theirs. As one who knows the country fairly well, I do say that feeling will run higher and higher until something is done to allay the terrible discontent prevailing at present. No proper settlement of a district can be made where a landlord stands out, here and there. Different estates in the same neighbourhood should be purchased and dealt with. At the same time, in order to do the work satisfactorily, where estates are being sold, the Commissioners should have the power to buy out an unreasonable landlord for the common good. The people are sorely in need of all the grazing lands of the country, but it is one thing to get the land, and another thing to get it at the proper value. In many cases, landlords who are even willing to sell, expect prices entirely too high for their grazing lands, because these lands have been set at competitive prices, which in some cases were enormous. These prices have, in most cases, been paid by rich shopkeepers and others who derived their incomes from other sources, and have wrought their own ruin, in many instances, by their dealings in the ranches of which they did not know the proper value. If, when the people get the lands, they do not get them at the proper value, the last state of affairs will be worse than the first. I think I have in my time done a man's part in the movement of the people for the land, and I yield to no man in my desire to see the land purchased and divided; but I would far prefer that it were never purchased than purchased too dear. If you give tenants land at its fair value, you lay the foundation of future prosperity and content. If, on the other hand, you give tenants land at excessive prices, you sow the seeds of further discontent and trouble. As far as I can gather, the Estates Commissioners have been, generally speaking, fairly successful in winning the confidence of the people, and the tenants are quite willing to leave the question of price and purchase in their hands. This is more than I can say for the Congested Districts Board Their transactions in this part of the country have not won the approval of the public or the tenants interested, but have bred suspicion and mistrust. However much the landlords may like them—and I believe, owing to the price, they have good reason to do so—the tenants in this neighbourhood will be very slow to have any dealings with them in future. This body purchased the Benmore Estate over the heads of the tenants, without consulting the latter as to price, paid the landlord three years' purchase more than the tenants offered the landlord, or ever intended to give, grazed the lands for three years in opposition to the wishes of the tenants. At last there was an end to the wrangle, and nobody seemed satisfied, except the landlord. I made an inspection of these holdings, and I have no hesitation in saying that the holdings on this property are entirely too dear, and that the tenants will find difficulty in meeting their engagements, and adverse times may very likely force them into bankruptcy, and if public rumour is correct, on the Kenny and Longworth Estates, prices are even higher than in Benmore. The people are anxious and willing to meet their engagements, and will strain every nerve to do so, but no Government or public authority should impose obligations on tenants which it is impossible to meet. The importance of this question of price cannot be over-estimated. The tenant should get fair value. The credit of the country and the future of the tenants is at stake, and the Government should be careful about the men in whose hands the purchasing of these lands is placed, as we cannot afford to have a repetition of Benmore. Now, let me turn to the O'Farrell-Doon Estate, purchased by the Estates Commissioners. Within six months the land was divided, the houses built, the tenants taken out of their wretched holdings in the congested village of Cahernagarry, and given good compact holdings, and decent houses on the untenanted lands. Their old holdings, which were in wretched bits and scraps, here and there, miles apart, were divided amongst the tenants who remained in Cahernagarry village, the old holdings there were resettled in such a way that it would be difficult to say whether the tenants who went out or those who remained got the greater benefit. It was a real pleasure to me to go amongst them and see the face of the country changed. Would that I could live to see that vast and desolate tract between Portumna and Ballinasloe with such houses, and the long and uninterrupted silence of these vast plains again broken by the sounds of busy men and women. If the whole face of the country there is to be transformed, one can only picture to himself what it would be like by paying a visit to the new village of Doon. The tenants expressed themselves thoroughly satisfied, and felt ex-

remely grateful for what has been done for them, and their hopes for a good future are high. This is the sort of work we want to have done in the country. I see no other means of keeping the best young men we have from the emigrant ship, except by providing them with new holdings, and while the necessity of making uneconomic holdings economic is a matter of very great urgency, it would be well that deserving sons of tenants should be also settled down in the land of their birth. I find here and there through the country vast acres of low-lying lands, very much in need of drainage. There are also large tracts of cutaway bog and mountain, at present almost valueless that should be planted. I believe both would more than repay the outlay, while at the same time giving employment, and helping to keep the people at home. I have also been asked to lay before this Commission a statement of facts and circumstances on behalf of the tenants on the Tyaquinn and Colmanstown Estates. Both these estates are adjoining the Dunsandle Estate, and both were purchased under the Ashbourne Act, the tenants having purchased the grass lands on the other. In Tyaquinn, a Mr. Richardson of Dublin divided all the grass lands amongst his three sons for the purpose of a purchase. In Colmanstowns, about 900 Irish acres have been purchased by the Smyth Brothers of Cootehill, Co. Cavan. All the lands in both cases are in the hands of absentee owners, who do not live there or expend any money in the locality. Mr. Richardson would be willing to sell, but declares himself unable to do so until special legislation is enacted to facilitate the sale and purchase of such lands as these, on which there is an annuity payable to the Irish Land Commission. The Smyth Brothers also hold 300 acres of grazing land at Dunmore, and also hold vast tracts in Co. Cavan. The tenants on the Colmanstown Estate are nearly all confined to patches of cutaway bog. On the Tyaquinn Estate the condition of the tenants there is even worse. There are other estates adjoining Colmanstown the tenants of which have no hope of an enlargement to their holdings except a division of the Colmanstown lands. I may state that, last though not least, if anything should lend importance to my evidence before this Commission, it ought to be the fact that I have been appointed by the tenantry of a noble lord, the last man, I believe, in Ireland to-day who would be entrusted to do justice to the fair fame of the Irish nation. I have been appointed by these tenants to lay before you a truthful and unvarnished report, not of the grievances from Ireland, but the grievances from Woodlawn. Recently he pretended he was prepared to sell, but as was stated to you at Loughrea, he called his tenants to meet him, only to trifle with them. He holds, outside his demesne lands, and in the vicinity of Woodlawn, 3,000 Irish acres of grazing land, and his demesne consists of about 1,000 acres more. Lord Ashtown boasted recently that these grazing lands were of ancient standing. I have been instructed to say that within the memory of men living at present there were 160 evictions on the property.

57975. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—When?—Within the memory of middle-aged men—men of about sixty years of age—who could give a list of the families evicted. This was given to me to contradict Lord Ashtown's boast that his grazing lands were of ancient standing. Later on there were seven evictions, of which six were recent evictions. In regard to the other squabble of Lord Ashtown and his graziers, we have nothing to say to any difference that may crop up between himself and the graziers that were deprived of their grazing lands. He has taken grazing land from them, but we do not quarrel with him in that respect at all. Of these 160 families that were driven from the Woodlawn property, they were taken in in the neighbourhood by Lord Clancarty. This estate was sold recently, and owing to these people having been taken on to it in former times there were no grazing lands left on the property for the enlargement of the tenants' miserable holdings. We hold that not alone should these vast ranches on Lord Ashtown's estate be acquired for his own tenants who are much in need of them, but we hold also that the tenantry on the adjoining estate of Lord Clancarty, who were thrown out, should get a portion of these 3,000 acres.

57976. CHAIRMAN.—Do you say these holdings on the Clancarty Estate are uneconomic?—Yes, most of them.

57977. What size are they?—From £7 to £8 valuation. The holdings are not sufficiently large even at £10 valuation, where the land is not good.

57978. They are not large enough to support a family?—They would not be regarded in any part of the country as sufficient to support a family, unless the tenant got help from America or England. On the estate of Lord Ashtown there are forty-seven tenants whose Poor Law valuation is less than £150. Thirty-eight of these are under £10 valuation, and seventeen whose valuation does not exceed £5. All these tenants' holdings are within the ambit of Lord Ashtown's game preserves, and they find it utterly impossible to protect their crops, which are yearly destroyed by his game.

57979. What sort of game?—Game of every description—rabbits and pheasants.

57980. Rabbits are not game?—Well, bog vermin.

57981. What sort of game?—Hares and pheasants.

57982. Hares and pheasants are things which the tenant can kill?—But they find it impossible. This game comes in at night. Suppose a man is watching his farm all day, he may chance to kill a few of them, but they come in at night and do the damage.

57983. I should have thought that an Irishman would not lack the power to kill rabbits if he wanted to. In England they can do it?—On the other hand, the people for other reasons have not got that spirit of independence about them, because they know the killing of his lordship's game would cause his anger. There would be other reasons also why they would not. However, the thing goes on, and their crops are destroyed. There are only fourteen families, any member of which gives his labour to Lord Ashtown. And these, with the exception of a few tradesmen, work for ten shillings a week. We mention this in order to contradict Lord Ashtown's statement that his tenants derive very great benefit on account of the great amount of labour he gives.

57984. How many do you say?—Fourteen. Out of forty-seven under £15 valuation we take what we consider uneconomic tenants, and only fourteen out of these get employment from Lord Ashtown.

57985. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Let me just understand that. You do not deny that Lord Ashtown does largely employ the sons of tenants, but what you want the Commission to understand is that out of the families on uneconomic holdings, only the number you give out of these unwelcome holdings is employed by him?—Yes.

57986. But you do not deny Lord Ashtown's statement, generally, that the labour is found by tenants' sons?—No. Of course he employs others outside his tenants, but only fourteen of the forty-seven tenants who are holders of uneconomic holdings are employed. Of course the balance of the forty-seven tenants live, and have to live upon these little farms, the produce of which is destroyed yearly by game. It matters very little to them even if he employed them in still greater numbers, so long as they get no benefit from their labour.

57987. You say only fourteen of the sons of forty-seven holders of uneconomic holdings?—Yes.

57987A. How many sons of an age to labour are on these forty-seven uneconomic holdings?—I did not calculate that. I simply got that statement that only fourteen persons off these holdings were employed to work for Lord Ashtown.

57988. Are you prepared to say that there are twenty sons old enough to work out of the forty-seven holdings. I do not press you, but I only ask you?—I did not go into it.

57989. CHAIRMAN.—The holders themselves could work. It need not be their sons. I mean the small farmer who has got an uneconomic holding would have time to labour as well as looking after his holding?—Supposing a man was married and had a wife and family, don't you think he would have enough to do to work his little holding, and wouldn't he require to employ a man to work with him instead of giving his labour to Lord Ashtown?

57990. That is just the point. Does it take a man's whole labour to till one of these small farms, or has he got time to spend in labouring for somebody else?—In order to get fair farming out of what we would call an economic holding, that would cost, say, £500, a man would want to give not alone his whole time to it, but he would want to be a good man. He would want to use his scythe, and be able to lead a horse, and he would want another man sometimes.

Oct. 1, 1907.

Mr. Martin Finnerty.

57991. You do not understand. I do not want to know what would be the state of affairs when he had an economic holding. I want to know the state of affairs when he has only an uneconomic holding. Lord Ashtown's point was this, as I understand, that these small men were better off by having small holdings, and labouring on his estate as well, than they would be if they had economic holdings and did not labour. That was his point. Do you agree with that?—Well, it would be like tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee. A man cannot be the owner of an uneconomic holding and do that with any hope of improving his condition. He would be equally good by being a labourer altogether. He would be, in fact, no better off than a labourer. His position under Lord Ashtown would be very uncertain. He is one of those men that you might have labour from to-day and none to-morrow. Your position would be very insecure, when Lord Ashtown's gamekeeper can come along, and passing your door, can level his gun and shoot the poor cat at your door. I think myself I would prefer the poorhouse to such a condition of things as that.

57992. Is this your position—that although a man might be as well off if he had a small holding and laboured it, on the other hand, if he had a holding which might be considered an economic holding, his livelihood would be far more secure than it is under the present conditions. Is that your point?—Yes.

57993. The point that you made to Sir John Colomb just now is that out of the forty-seven uneconomic holders on this estate only fourteen were employed as labourers?—Yes. Just to show you how insecure their position is, these fourteen tenants who are in Lord Ashtown's employment at this wage of 10*s.* were ordered to pay up the hanging gale—every tenant owes a hanging gale, as you may be aware—or be instantly dismissed. By this and similar threats nearly all the tenants have had to pay the hanging gale during the first few years; and the result is that on Lord Ashtown's Estate the tenants owe no hanging gale. All the tenants are in fear and dread of him, and have to keep him paid to the last penny, because, in any case, if he found it possible, he might deprive them of their ownership. Seeing that he has been dismissing so many of the people who have been there in times gone by, the moment they begin to feel their position insecure, they never know the minute they may have to leave the place altogether. To help the tenants to pay rents his lordship, quite close to Woodlawn Mansion, has built a concrete wall across the principal river flowing through the estate, with the result that eight of the tenants' holdings, on account of the back-water, are constantly flooded, and rendered almost valueless. All the valuable posts in Woodlawn are filled by strangers, mostly English and Scotch men, the religious persuasions of those who held the positions a few years ago having, seemingly, interfered to the detriment of those who could not see their way to alter them. All the lands around Woodlawn are poisoned, and sometimes the people's swine and dogs and cats get poisoned. Where the domestic animals escape the poison they are sometimes shot by his gamekeepers. On this point I will give you an instance of how things are worked in Woodlawn. A gamekeeper was passing along by a tenant's house. There was a cat at the poor man's door. The gamekeeper shot at the cat, cut the tail off it, and put it in his pocket, and brought it home to show his skill with the gun.

57994. Who did this?—One of the gamekeepers.

57995. You heard Mr. Hibbet's evidence?—I did.

57996. Do you agree with him that all the land in this district is capable of cultivation?—I do.

57997. You do not think there is anything in the theory put forward by some people, that a certain amount of this land is too heavy to cultivate?—It is all nonsense. I do not say this heavy land is as good for tillage as some other qualities. There may be better land found for tillage, but I say you could not cut out a holding out of any of these places that would not be fairly suitable for tillage. Even if it was not the best for a certain thing, it would grow other crops. A farm may be very good for tillage, and yet there may be one or two crops which won't grow on it very well. In these times, when people have opportunity for spraying potatoes, I think, by attending properly to spraying, you can raise a fairly good crop of potatoes on almost any land. Then, on the other hand, you can, by fair attention, raise a good crop on almost any side around here. There may be a difference, you know.

57998. Is your opinion that all this land would be more profitable under tillage than it would be under grass?—Oh, yes; far more profitable.

57999. Then, if that is so, why do you not till a larger proportion of your own holding?—Well, my own land is particularly good for grazing. We have not all this land so very long.

58000. How long?—Thirty acres always, and we got thirty more when the lands were being divided for a brother of mine.

58001. So you have increased your holding by double. How much did you till of the original thirty acres?—About four, and sometimes five acres.

58002. That is more than you till of the sixty?—I think you do not understand me, sir. Generally the man with fifteen acres may till as much as the man with sixty acres, when the labour is not in the country.

58003. Is the labour not in the country?—Not in this particular locality that I am in.

58004. What are all those people—the balance of the forty-seven uneconomic holders on the Woodlawn estate—what are they doing?—They work their own land.

58005. But if it is a grievance that they do not work for Lord Ashtown, might they not be employed on some of the grass land that you have got, for instance?—I live seven miles away from them.

58006. But there must be others like you?—I made the point that they could not afford to go anywhere. What they want is to have their holdings made economic. In fact, when Lord Ashtown called his tenants up, including those who gave him their labour—and when he asked those who gave him their labour whether they preferred labour to purchase, they all, thinking that they were going to be instantly dismissed, told him directly that they wanted the land. They are employed to him at 10*s.* a week, but broken time brings it down to 7*s.* a week. No man would prefer a wage of that kind to an economic holding, or a fairly economic holding, leaving the question of independence out altogether.

58007. How does it happen that on the one side, as you tell us, there are a lot of young men who have nothing to do except to emigrate, and who therefore want land, and on the other side there is so little labour in the country that you cannot get men to till your land. How do you reconcile these two statements?—I do so this way. Suppose a man becomes a general labourer in these districts, he gets five people to ask him at one time or to seek his labour for a few months of the year, and gets no one to employ him during the remainder. He is idle during the winter months. No man could settle down in the country as a labouring man under those circumstances. Three months employment in the year at 10*s.* a week would not be sufficient inducement to a man to remain in the country and settle down and get married.

58008. Your reason why you do not till any more land is because you cannot get labour?—It is my intention to till more. I admit I am wrong in not tilling more.

58009. It does seem extraordinary while you hold such strong opinions. With regard to the value of tillage, you do not till more?—By making the holdings economic, a man who could not succeed in tilling very much of it would also live. There are other methods that could be employed in the management of these economic holdings that would enable him to live if he is a good man.

58010. Well, we do not want to labour that. Now, on the next point. Suppose a fair price was offered by the Estates Commissioners for these grass lands, who would you like to see placed upon them—what class of men?—Well, I would be of opinion that selections should be made locally. He should be a man able and willing to lead a horse, to be able to handle a scythe, to work a farm properly, to make a cock of hay properly so that it would not take the rain. It is only locally the selections ought to be made and then the men ought to have it at a fair price.

58011. I want to know for the moment who are the men you want to put on the land. Would you suggest that the first claim for that land would be the people who have not got economic holdings in the district?—Yes, they should be enlarged first.

58012. And when you have satisfied those people who would you give the balance of the land to?—Well, personally, I would not mind so much, but I think there would be a tendency to oppose the intrusion of outsiders.

58013. You would not like to see any migrants coming in?—Well, there is scarcely any room with the exception of the stretch of grazing country between Portumna and Ballinasloe. On the grazing land there is very little room for migrants after supplying local needs.

58014. What do you mean by supplying local needs?—I mean after enlarging the holdings.

58015. Do you mean to say that in this district where there is so much grass land, that in your opinion, after satisfying the needs of local uneconomic people, there would not be any balance left over?—Yes, that is my opinion. I saw on the Sandford-Hills estate, where they had only five or six acres left, after enlarging the small holders.

58016. Supposing there was some over, would you be opposed to the Estates Commissioners bringing in men from Connemara, for instance, and putting them there?—Personally, I would not, unless I knew they were men who knew how to work the land properly, and were experienced in working similar holdings. I would like to be satisfied they were men who were in the habit of working similar land. The man, say, who had spent part of his time fishing or other pursuits, such as men are employed at along the seaboard in Donegal, is not a suitable tenant to take and put into Connaught.

58017. There are a great many people there who do not have the opportunity of fishing?—Well, such a man might make a good tenant.

58018. Would you like to have some of these men?—Well, a tenant of that kind is very much handicapped coming into a strange place, and, in fact, I must say, that it would be much easier to help a man to get a start in the world on one of these uneconomic holdings who, while he is making that start, lives in a house in his locality, and is helped by his brothers to make a beginning on one of these new holdings. A man coming a long distance, especially into a hostile territory, will be very much handicapped.

58019. Hostile territory? One end of Galway is considered hostile territory to the people of the other end?—Precisely. I would not advocate the principle, but I would be afraid it would be by others.

58020. Will you tell me this. If it is to be regarded as hostile territory, tell me, in your opinion, how these unfortunate people, who have such very poor holdings in the west of Galway, are to be helped. Or perhaps you do not care about them much?—They have my sympathy certainly.

58021. If they have your sympathy, will you tell me how their holdings are to be enlarged, or how they are to be helped out of their present poverty, if this part of Galway is to be regarded as hostile territory?—Well, really something would have to be done.

58022. I know; but what would have to be done?—It is very difficult to say.

58023. Would you advocate the emigrant ship for them?—Certainly not.

58024. Well, if you do not advocate the emigrant ship, what do you suggest?—Well, there are men who have made a study of this. I have simply made a study of my own surroundings. I am not able to give an answer.

58025. If it was pointed out that the only possible way these poor people could be helped—really helped—was to take some of them out of the miserable conditions in which they live now, and put them down on the good land in East Galway, do you think the people in this district would be so selfish as to oppose their introduction?—Well, you would find a number of selfish people. I would not form that opinion of the people around here, but of course there are a number of selfish people everywhere you go.

58026. There are, of course, always; but do you think the Estates Commissioners would be prevented, or the Congested Districts Board would be prevented from carrying out a great policy of benefiting these poor people by selfish opponents?—What I mean is that, where you have, after enlarging the holdings, only a farm left here and there, say one or two holdings to be left for migrants, there is one man there already with five or six sons; four of them will have to go to America, and they have as good a claim as anyone.

58027. I know; but would that feeling be sufficient to prevent the Estates Commissioners or Congested Districts Board trying to relieve these poor people in the western areas by bringing them on to that land?—Well, really now, telling what I think, I could hardly say. In one district it may; in another it may not.

58028. These young men that you would like to give holdings to now in the locality—if they are given land, they will marry and have families. When their sons grow up, what is to happen in their case. There will not be land for them?—No, there will not be land for them.

58029. What will they have to do?—Well, the country, against that time, should be very much improved. Of course a large number of them may have to emigrate still; but we will have an improved state of things in the country. We will have made a great charge forward. When the land question is settled I think everyone who loves his country will advocate the starting of industries, to enable us to be a self-supporting nation, and to produce all for ourselves. By the time their sons will be reared I think we will have made very little progress if there are not more factories and other works than there are at present.

58030. But, at any rate, you realise that if these men are to be employed in the country, it will be at industries or something apart from the land?—I look at it in another way—that there should be greater openings for the people to get the land at a fair value. If not I am afraid there will be very little progress made.

58031. At any rate you do realise that this is only a temporary solution, and that if you give land to young men now, their sons will have to look for some other employment. You cannot go on indefinitely finding land for the sons of tenants, so that you are putting the young men of the present generation in a peculiar position, which their sons cannot possibly claim—you realise that?—I do; but I believe that the improved state of things in the country, and owing to the general prosperity of the country, there will be greater openings for young men. For instance, a farmer then might apprentice his son to a trade; and, with our shopkeepers prospering, and all classes prospering, there would be an opening for that tradesman when he acquired that trade and a prospect of getting employment in our small towns, where the townspeople now have not sufficient money to support him. But it might be different in twenty years' time, when things have improved.

58032. This demand for breaking up the grass lands is generally justified, is it not, on account of the poverty of the uneconomic holdings?—Yes.

58033. You hear of people saying that the grass lands should be divided up, in order that the uneconomic people should be given larger holdings?—Everyone who takes a fair view of things must agree to that.

58034. That is the great argument. Don't you think that is rather a dishonest argument?—I do not.

58035. As a matter of fact, you do not want to do that. You do not want to break up the grass lands in order to give land to uneconomic people. You want to break up the grass lands for people who have no land at all?—I would give it to uneconomic people first, and then to young people—local people. You cannot enlarge all.

58036. Don't you think it is unfair to advocate the breaking up of grass lands in Galway for the purpose of enlarging the uneconomic holdings in Galway, when a great many of the uneconomic holders in West Galway are not to be given any enlargement?—Personally I would not be for drawing any line.

58037. Would you be prepared to do this? Would you be prepared to say that the poor people who have economic holdings, no matter where they are to be found, in East Galway or West Galway, or anywhere else, must be attended to first, and after that, if there is any land left, then you would be for giving it to the deserving sons of tenants? Would you be prepared to put all the small holders and the poor uneconomic holders before the claims of men who have not got any land at all?—Oh yes; all the uneconomic small holders.

Oct. 1, 1907.

Mr. Martin Finnerty.

58038. You would be prepared to say that?—I would.

58039. And therefore you would be prepared to resist any tendency to shut out uneconomic holders anywhere they are to be found? You would not condemn these poor people in West Galway to live for ever in their wretched holdings?—I would not condemn them, but it is very hard to condemn the man who would condemn them, supposing he has an interest in it.

58040. That is rather a weak position to take up, isn't it?—I don't think so.

58040A. You said that compulsion was absolutely necessary?—Yes.

58041. Suppose there was compulsory purchase. What price do you think should be given? Do you think a man's land ought to be taken, wherever it is, by compulsion, and that he should be left in a worse position financially than he was before? Would that be fair?—I think the land should be acquired for the tenants at a fair price, whether the landlord is left in a worse position financially or not. I think that the landlord should realise that that day is coming, and the sooner they do it the better for themselves.

58042. Isn't it a question of purchase—a question of bargaining?—Yes.

58043. Are not you inclined rather to look only on one side of the bargain?—You should get the land at a fair price.

58044. Do you think it is fair that the Government should go to a man who happens to have his property in land and say to him: "We will compel you to sell your land whether you like it or not, and we will compel you by that process to lose £400 or £500 a year"?—The people are there, and the situation is this. The people say they must get the land. Of course the landlord there is in the position that this state of things cannot be changed, and to give the land at a fair price the landlord would have to bear a certain loss.

58045. Suppose there was a war, and that horses were wanted to mount cavalry, and you had a farm and young horses, do you think it would be fair for the Government to say to you: "For the purpose of our war, to mount cavalry we will have to take some of your horses compulsorily, and we will take them and give you ten shillings or a pound a-piece"; do you think that would be fair?—Well, I think myself that the land can be secured at a fair price without the landlord suffering loss.

58046. That is a further point that can be dealt with afterwards. I want to know what you would be prepared to do as far as the landlord is concerned: supposing that the Government came to you and said: "We want your horses for the purposes of the country as a whole, and we are going to take your horse and pay you ten shillings for it." Would that be fair to you?—I think it would be hardly fair.

58047. Then why is it fair for the Government to go to a man whose property is in land and say: "We will take your land and pay you, not the real value, but the value to us"?—But, on the other hand, it is unfair not only to the tenant, but to the country, to see the landlords walking away with more than their net income.

58048. But this is a fair price he is getting; not more than he ought to get, or more than he had before. I am not suggesting that he should get more than he had; I am suggesting that it may be unfair to leave him with less than he had?—By getting a fair price for the land he would not be left with less than he had before. A fair price can be arrived at by making a proper calculation.

58049. In your opinion it would not be fair to leave him with less than he had before?—I would not go the length of saying that it would.

58050. How is it to be done without injustice?—Well, you have to calculate it according to the number of years' purchase that would bring him a fair income.

58051. Well, now, will you tell us a little about this Benmore Estate: what happened on the Benmore Estate?—The holdings are entirely too dear; I made an inspection of them, and they are entirely too dear.

58052. Who bought the Benmore Estate?—The Congested Districts Board.

58053. Did they buy with the approval of the tenants?—Decidedly not.

58054. Did not the tenants wish the estate to be sold to the Congested Districts Board?—No, the tenants were bargaining direct with the landlord, and they offered him a certain number of years' purchase; the landlord wanted a certain number of years' purchase, and the difference between them was three years. Without consulting the tenants the Board gave the landlord his figure, that was three years more on the agricultural holdings alone than the tenants were prepared to give themselves. It is to be seen by any person that not alone did they give this price on agricultural holdings, but on grazing lands also, an exorbitant price was paid. Accoording to what I can see, there is mismanagement in the dividing of the lands. In one case a man has to pay £23 for what would be only worth little more than half that for the enlargement of an uneconomic holding. I would not regard it as a suitable holding for a man to live on at any price.

58055. Was that estate a very poor one, with a lot of small holdings—uneconomic holdings?—There were a number of uneconomic holdings, but not a great lot; there was room for new buildings.

58056. But it was a poor estate?—There was a number of uneconomic holdings.

58057. Did the Board improve some of the holdings?—After a fight with the Board on the part of the local people they did, but only after a fight. They held the land for years, and grazed it in opposition to these people.

58058. Did the Board re-stripe holdings and increase them?—They have increased them, but they increased the cost to the tenants; they are charged nearly £2 an acre for land not worth much more than half that price; they are 30 per cent. too dear.

58059. The difference, you say, was three years' purchase between the tenants and the landlord. After the Board spent money and improved that estate the difference was made up; the annuities the tenants were paying were based on improved holdings rather than on unimproved holdings?—The landlord got the extra three years' purchase, and they improved the holdings at the tenants' expense.

58060. Is that to your knowledge?—I understood they did.

58061. If the estate originally had been in the same condition as that which resulted to the tenants, after being improved by the Board, would not the tenants have been willing to give an extra three years?—They did not improve the home holdings of the tenants, on which the three years' purchase has to be paid; there is no improvement on the home holdings.

58062. How do you mean home holdings?—I mean the holdings on which they lived. This is an estate where I complain the prices are too high on the grazing farms.

58063. On the tenanted portion you don't object to the annuities—they were fair?—Of course they would not be so extravagant, but three years' purchase over and above is dear. It doesn't matter how it was mismanaged so long as the tenants have to pay too much for the divided untenanted land.

58064. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You gave some information to the Commission about uneconomic holdings on the Ashtown Estate, and told us that the wages Lord Ashtown paid for agricultural labour was 7*s.* a week?—That is taking the broken time into account. He pays 10*s.*, with the exception of a few, but taking into account broken time and holidays, it would average about 7*s.*, I am told.

58065. Do you know that of your own knowledge?—I take the tenants' statements.

58066. Lord Ashtown has handed in,* and it will be printed and published, a statement with regard to employment of labour on his estate, and I can find in it nothing to justify your statement that he only pays 7*s.* a week. Am I to take it that you are giving information as to what you have heard, not what you know yourself?—I believe it. There were several here yesterday to corroborate my statements; several tenants came to corroborate my statements.

58067. Are we to take it as your statement of what you believe to be true, because you heard it from other people. Do you know of your own knowledge that he only pays 7*s.* a week?—I agree that he pays 10*s.*, but a man will be very successful if he earns a full week.

58068. That is if a man doesn't go to work he doesn't get paid?—Yes, in wet, broken weather, I suppose.

* See p. 285, Table B.

58069. You don't think evicted tenants have any claim before uneconomic holders?—I do; I put evicted tenants first, and I put Plan-of-Campaign evicted tenants, who went out on principle, first.

58070. Was not there an estate called the Woodford Estate?—Yes.

58071. Was there a scheme to bring in evicted tenants there?—Yes.

58072. Were they strangers, the evicted tenants to be brought in—were they from another part of the country?—It is from the Clanricarde Estate the evicted tenants were evicted, and, so far as I know, I am not aware of opposition; I am not aware of the tenants having any opposition to fear in any quarter they are sent to.

58073. On the Woodford Estate was there a proposal to fix up evicted tenants?—I am not aware.

58074. You don't know anything about it?—Do you mean Lord Ashtown's Woodlawn Estate?

58075. I mean the Woodford Estate?—I am not aware. The tenants sought to get back to their holdings, and they would be glad to get back, but I understand Lord Clanricarde refused to allow them back.

58076. Then you know nothing about Woodford Estate?—I know there are evicted tenants there.

58077. There is no difficulty about their settlement?—There must be some—there must be very much difficulty; they are out yet.

58078. Do you know about the Woodford Estate?—Yes; I know the Woodford Estate belongs to Lord Clanricarde.

58079. Was there a proposal to settle evicted tenants on the Woodford Estate?—Yes.

58080. Were there objections by the people on the Woodford Estate to their coming there?—Yes, by the planters, I suppose.

58081. And in that case local opposition, local feeling, was against bringing men in, although they were evicted tenants?—Yes, amongst the planters of course.

58082. And now, to see that I thoroughly understand your view with reference to Lord Dudley's question, you agree that uneconomic holdings are to be enlarged first; he put you a question as to the balance of the land, and you said you thought there would be some objection to migrants from Connemara coming to the balance of the land?—Yes; but I may be right and I may be wrong.

58083. Would that objection be from the farmers' sons in the locality who wanted land themselves?—Very naturally.

58084. Do you think farmers' sons in the locality would be hostile to Connemara tenants coming in unless the farmers' sons were satisfied?—The feeling would be in the locality that farmers' sons should be first.

58085. In the case of migrants from Connemara, with farmers' sons' unallocated land, the feeling would not be one of warm welcome to the migrants from Connemara?—To say the very least, it would not be a warm welcome.

58086. What estate do you live on yourself?—The Dunsandle Estate.

58087. Is that near the Woodford Estate?—No; it is far from it.

58088. There was no difficulty on the Dunsandle estate?—The arrangement was to have it divided; there was no difficulty; the arrangements were carried out according to arrangements between the tenants and the landlord.

58089. Mr. KAVANAGH.—What position would you take up yourself supposing migrants were to be brought into these lands?—I would not be for drawing the boundary anywhere.

58090. You would welcome yourself migrants from any part of Galway?—I would not go to the extent of saying I would welcome them, but I would not be for drawing lines.

58091. Would you assist in making them welcome there—would you assist to make local opinion welcome them?—Provided they did not come in numbers so great, and that the needs of the people locally were fairly satisfied.

58092. The tenants of uneconomic holdings?—Yes.

58093. If they were first satisfied would you be in favour, and would you assist local opinion in favour of other migrants coming to the locality?—So far as would be reasonable.

58094. What do you call reasonable?—Suppose that the needs locally were fairly attended to—but there is this difficulty, that the Congested Districts Board where they come and buy, have an objection, and I believe they find some difficulty according to law in providing for local people, and it was after a stiff fight any local people were provided for in Benmore, and the price went so high that it made the whole thing ridiculous.

58095. The Congested Districts Board cannot enlarge holdings of over £5 valuation?—That is the difficulty.

58096. You consider that too low?—Far too low. It is a great hardship on the people who are holders of uneconomic holdings that their cases are made different from their neighbours'—their neighbours whose property was bought by the Estates Commissioners, who had the advantage of getting their holdings made economic—and that that amount of land is kept for men who have economic holdings.

58097. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Was there ever a proposal to bring evicted tenants from another estate to the Dunsandle Estate?—No; never.

58098. Was there any question of appropriating land to evicted tenants on that estate?—No; never.

58099. Nor on the Woodford Estate?—The Woodford Estate is far away; it is not sold at all; it is in the hands of Lord Clanricarde.

58100. Mr. BRYCE.—Suppose the Congested Districts Board got over the difficulty that hampers them from enlarging uneconomic holdings to the extent which it is desirable they should; supposing the £5 limit be removed, and they were able to satisfy local claims as regards uneconomic holdings, would you consider it reasonable that they should straightaway migrate from poor districts in the West?—I would not be for having them. They have lost the confidence of the people in regard to their transactions here. The price they pay is exorbitant.

58101. There are circumstances which are not understood here with regard to the purchase of these estates. Some in South Galway, where we have had evidence, they were bought because they were part of a bargain with regard to the purchase of lands in other parts of the country; they were bought because they could not buy the other estates in the other parts of the country without buying these estates in South Galway, and they had to pay a larger price than if they were buying separately—that is the fact?—Yes.

58102. The evidence from other parts of the country, not, as you say, on the part of landlords only, but of everybody, is that they have done business well in other parts of the country. They have not worked much in South Galway, but they have worked largely in Mayo and other counties, and the satisfaction in these counties is just as great with them as it is here with the Estates Commissioners?—Very likely in these districts the people are not judges of the land.

58103. I think they are quite able to judge the land; I do not think there is a monopoly of that knowledge here?—That would be the opinion I formed. There is a great greed for land in Mayo, where people are confined to an acre or two, and herd their cows on the road-side; they don't know the value of land, and they appreciate the worth of the Board more than people who know it.

58104. There is no doubt that in poor parts of the country there is great competition for the holdings; but at the same time you have got a pretty good notion of the value of land everywhere in Ireland, and knowledge of that kind is not confined to this part of the country. But the point is, you said you had sympathy with the poor holders everywhere in Ireland, not merely confined to the poor holders here, and I want to get at this, whether it is the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board—you would rather see the Estates Commisioners?—Yes.

58105. But whichever Board it is, don't you think that the claims of uneconomic holders in any part of Ireland should be considered before the claims of anyone else?—I would not go in for drawing the line very much.

58106. You entirely agree with the view expressed by members of the Commission on that point, and I gather from your answers to Mr. Kavanagh that you would be prepared provided the action of the Estates Commissioners or of the Board was reasonable—you would be prepared to get over the hostility which you say exists in the minds of some people to migrants from other parts—you

Oct. 1, 1907.
Mr. Martin Finnerty.

would exercise your influence to get over that?—Yes, so far as their action is reasonable.

58107. What is reasonable; I must press you about that; what would you consider unreasonable?—I would consider that at best there is no room for them except in small numbers—one or two.

58108. I am supposing that there is room. So long as there is room would you consider that they ought to have it first, and be satisfied before the sons of tenants, or before the claims of the sons of tenants were entertained—that's the point?—I think I would.

58109. And you would do your best to get over the feeling to the contrary?—I think I would.

Mr. Leslie Edmonds re-examined.*

Mr. Leslie Edmonds

58110. Chairman.—You are the Land Inspector of the Congested Districts Board in this locality?—Yes, acting under general instructions.

58111. You have heard the evidence given at the various places?—Yes.

58112. And you would wish to make some remarks with reference to the evidence?—Yes; there is a misapprehension in some of the statements made. First of all, take the instance of Benmore. That estate was bought as part of a bargain, as you have said. The landlord refused to sell the estate in Mayo unless we bought his Galway estate. The Board did so. They sold that estate for exactly the same as they paid for for it, and the money spent was from the Board's own funds. The estate was taken possession of in May of 1904. We started to make use of the farms at once, and encountered opposition offered by the tenants to grazing being put on, which, under the rules still existent, prevented us from dealing with the estate at once. They would not get priority of treatment owing to that. But when I met the tenants I told them that every tenant on the estate—and there were only two under £5—would be enlarged to £25, and the remainder of the land would be used for migrants. This was vehemently opposed, and the result was that the estate remained a long time, and nothing was done, and finally a certain class of tenants were promised holdings.

58113. Benmore is a scheduled area?—No.

58114. Under the law as it stands, if the Congested Districts Board buys grass land outside a scheduled area, it can only do so for the benefit of a poor estate in a scheduled area?—But it does not apply to the Board's own tenants. Benmore is the only case in South Galway, except three tenants on Dr. Kenny's estate, that we have acquired tenanted land for. The reason that a great deal of blame attached to the Board in South Galway for its very slow work is that it is impossible to carry on migration unless you have certain conditions, and one of them is that you must have control of the estate or area from which you migrate tenants. Failing that, if it is in the hands of the landlord, as where the Board did migrate from Derrybrown, which is a very poor congested estate, held in rundale, belonging to Lord Clanricarde, in order to get these people the full benefit of their occupying interest one had to get cash fines from their neighbours, which is an unsatisfactory way of dealing with it, and then to amalgamate the holdings, and get the landlord to do so.

58115. The point is this, that although there may have been one or two attempts, by hook or by crook, to move men from an estate which had not been sold, speaking generally, as a matter of practice, the Board found itself unable to move migrants unless it had in its possession the estate on which the evil exists as well as the estate where the remedy exists?—That is exactly the case, and that in other parts we have had, but here we have not.

58116. The delay in South Galway is to a certain extent to be attributed to the fact that when you have purchased grass lands you have not had control and possession of tenanted slum estates in other parts from which to remove people?—Yes, and the other evil is the fact that in conjunction with that you have the local needs to satisfy. In Oatfield there are tenant purchasers, and the Board has no power to enlarge a tenant purchaser over £5, and the surrounding farmers, whether large or small, are all expecting to get land.

58117. It is necessary for the Board, if it wishes to carry out a policy of migration, to obtain land in as near proximity to the tenanted land from which it proposes to move people as possible?—That would be desirable, but not essential. If you had control at both ends it would not matter. A distance between certain points of twenty miles or so would not matter very much.

Rev. Thomas J. Reidy examined.

Rev. Thomas J. Reidy.

58118. Chairman.—You have some information to give us, Father Reidy?—Yes. I wish to give you a few facts, which will disclose as unsatisfactory a condition of things as can be found in the Western province. I might say our plight is unique; it is a case of starvation in the midst of plenty.

58119. Where is your district?—No. 2 Rural District of Roscommon, quite adjacant to Ballinasloe, within five English miles of Ballinasloe, the extreme south of Co. Roscommon.

58120. Mr. Bryce.—Is it south of Ballinasloe?—South-east of Ballinasloe, lying on the Suck and the Shannon.

58121. Towards Shannon Bridge?—Yes, and north of that. There are two or three things I want to point out. Few districts in Connaught present such an appalling contrast of wealth and poverty as the district of Moore, in County Roscommon, and without legislation of a compulsory character, and that, too, of no milk and water type, the present congestion cannot be remedied. I have had communications with large land holders in the district, which will, I hope, conveniently prove this statement. I also wish to say that the Congested Districts Board, as at present equipped, seems unequal to the task of doing hardly anything for us. I should like to add incidentally that my sympathies are very much with the Congested Districts Board, because they have done a great deal for me elsewhere, and I recognise the amount of good done by it in Connaught; but I wish to show you that in the southern part of Roscommon, in this special district where I am, which contains the only congested district in South Roscommon, we have great reason to complain—we are overlooked and neglected. As to the first point, the parish contains about 400 families. There is one electoral division scheduled as congested. It is, I think, the only congested district in South Roscommon. The other divisions of the parish should be scheduled, and would, were it not for the many grass farms scattered through them. There are 106 tenants under £5 valuation and 190 between £5 and £10 valuation. Some of the tenants pay a rent of £2 5*s*, some pay £1 5*s*., and there are others who pay nothing, and I think they are not asked for anything. Nearly all these people are living among the sandhills and flats, which were once expansions of the Shannon. There are three gentlemen who own more acres of land in the parish than are occupied by the 400 tenants. One of these, Mr. Mather, who has six or seven farms where he has his home in Scotland, has several large farms, almost all of them in my parish, comprising over 3,163 acres, and along with these he grazes about 1,600 acres beyond the Suck, only five or six miles from the series of ranches that are in my parish, extending from Ballinasloe to the banks of the Shannon. He lives a couple of months in a small farm house on one of the farms, but for the most part he lives in Scotland. These farms are Cappantogher, 179 acres, valuation, £50; Coolderry, 228 acres, valuation, £81 5*s*.; Coulderry again, 140 acres; valuation, £46 15*s*; Rathpeak, 550 acres, valuation, £178 10*s*.; Hill's End, 71 acres, valuation, £28 10*s*.; Failte, 548 acres, valuation, £257 12*s*.; Cloonburren, 864 acres, valuation, £353 10*s*.; another place, about 80 acres; Cloonabrack, 81 acres, valuation, £42;

* For former examination, see p. 18.

and at another place, called America because I think people were driven to America a few years ago from it. Here there are 290 acres, and the valuation is £76 5s.; Rooty, 132 acres, valuation, £66. Total, 3,163 acres. I wrote to this gentleman some time ago. (He has only seventeen tenants among all these farms, and the average valuation is only a shade over £5. I have their rental here, to put in if necessary.) I asked him to sell a section of these ranches to the Congested Districts Board or to the Estates Commissioners—anyhow to sell it. He writes back to me—I think I may read it, it is not marked private, I have had to read it for the tenants already. He says: "In regard to the other question of the land, I hardly know what answer to give you"—I am not surprised at that—"I am afraid that in trying to remedy one wrong I might be incurring another, because, if we were breaking up Rathpeak and Coulderry, we would have to dismiss some of the men there." He employs only twenty-two or twenty-three labourers at 9s. a week. The letter continues: "However, nothing can be done, I presume, this year, as the place is fully stocked just now and the crops are down. I may say that it would be a difficult problem to arrive at the value of an estate like Rathpeak and Coulderry, as we have laid out thousands in improvements, and we have both the landlord's interest and the tenants' rights to be compensated for. If my own tenants were coming individually to me and stating exactly what they want I might try to arrange some way of enlarging their holdings, but none of them have even hinted such a thing to me, though I have no doubt they have been talking to you on the subject." Further correspondence passed, and I have his last letter, which is not even as encouraging as that. He says: "In regard to the other part of your letter I cannot give you a definite answer. It is a large and vital question. It would disarrange all our plans. The working of all those places now in connection with the various farms we hold in this country that are so dovetailed in the management into one another would cause us considerable loss to so rearrange matters, and would take a long time. But this is too wide a question to bother you with." That's the way he gets out of it. I should mention with regard to this gentleman that the farms he holds are, I understand, held in fee, they were once old demesnes, but for the most part occupied by tenants, who were evicted under circumstances of exceptional cruelty sixty or seventy years ago. In this parish there were 800 families sixty or seventy years ago; now there are about 400. Between these farms there are seventeen tenants, with an average valuation of only over £5. I pass now to another gentleman. He is Mr. Potts, of Correen. He has seven farms in the parish and six outside of it. I also wrote to this gentleman to see if I could get him to do something, and I shall give you his reply. In the parish he has—Correen demesne, 300 acres; Kilbegley, about 200; Culliaghmore, 180; Culliaghbeg, 80; Cloonfad, 50; Raherabeg, 50; Creggan, 90. All these are occupied by himself, except Kilbegley. They total nearly 1,000 acres. Outside, he has in Moate, County Westmeath, 160; Drum, County Roscommon, 200; Scregg, County Roscommon, 400; Belfield, County Roscommon, 300; Cloonascragh, County Galway, 200; Clooncannon, County Galway, 500. Those total 1,760 acres, and most of them are in his own possession. Altogether he owns about 2,810 acres. I wrote a polite letter to this gentleman; and he wrote me a very brief one, which I should like to put in evidence. He said: "As far as I can gather from your letter, *re* the tenants on the townlands round here"—I wrote to ask if he would sell to the tenants, and added that it would be absurd for us to buy except through the Congested Districts Board, as the tenants were very poor, unless he threw in some of the outlying farms—he says, "I have no intention of selling any lands that I farm myself. If all the tenants agree to buy their present holdings, with a certain amount of turbary, I will then go into the matter, and let you know my terms of sale." That reply stopped the arrangements. This gentleman's tenants are very poor. He has sixty tenants, and of these twenty-four pay under £5 in rent. In thirteen cases out of the twenty-four, the valuation is under £5. Of the above there are eleven who pay from £1 to £3 in rent, and there are five who pay no rent, so miserable are their little places. They live along the banks of the Suck some of them. He, Mr. Potts, tills from sixteen to twenty acres, and employs about from twenty-five to thirty labourers at an average wage of 7s. or 8s. a week. Now I respectfully submit that these replies from Mr. Mathers and Mr. Potts go to prove that without a very severe measure of compulsion you cannot get land from such men—for, to use a horsy phrase, "they have stuck their feet into the ground."

58122. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I understand about compulsion, but I don't understand very severe compulsion. What do you mean by very severe compulsion?—I mean compulsion that will give absolute power to the Estates Commissioners, the Congested Districts Board, or whatever Board may survive this Commission—that will give absolute power to deal with men of that kind. It is my opinion that it is criminal to allow Mr. Mathers, in the present condition of things in Connaught, to occupy such an enormous amount of land. He has six or seven farms. I have it on the best authority, in Scotland, and he seems to have a mania for acquiring farms. My view is that any legislation that will not deal with men of that sort and prevent this huge amalgamation, will not settle the unrest in the country. The breaking up of those large ranches is absolutely necessary. Secondly, our lands, which are low-lying and in places only ten or fifteen feet above the Shannon, require arterial drainage, and new roads to be made to make them accessible. As to the third point. In connection with the Congested Districts Board, I should be sorry to say a word against them. They have done a great deal of good, but we have reason to be dissatisfied with them in this district. It may not be the fault of the Board. They are crippled for some reason; I suppose they have not the money. I arranged for the tenants to purchase on the Lowe Estate and the Kyle Estate, which is altogether a congested district, and I thought when the terms of purchase were settled—one was eighteen years' purchase on first-term rents and on the other nineteen years' purchase—when I thought it was settled, and asked them to take over the estates, they said they could purchase no land. I had caused to be offered for sale to them the Maberly Estate, with six tenants—one holding 800 acres, who is a year-to-year tenant. He cultivates——

58123. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Is that Mr. Harty?—Yes; he cultivates a comparatively small quantity; sets part in conacre, and takes in grazing cattle. I opened communications at the request of the people with the agent, and his representative came to see me; the result was that they offered the estate for sale to the Congested Districts Board; and, curiously enough, the Board shelved the purchase of the estate. We have to complain about that. That is practically all I have to say, except that the Board should take up these lands at once. I could have gone to the Estates Commissioners, but I had more experience of the Congested Districts Board. They take a good deal of pains, and I had little or no experience of the others. But now I shall have to fall back on the Estates Commissioners, though it is probable they may not deal with the congested district for me. The Congested Districts Board, I understand, got a large amount of money recently from the Treasury——

58124. CHAIRMAN.—You know that pending the report of this Commission the Congested Districts Board are not in a position to spend money on the acquisition of estates?—I understand they got a certain sum of money, which they have resolved to spend in Roscommon.

58125. CHAIRMAN.—I don't know where they got it?—They have got it, I learned, from a member of the Board; I am told they are authorised to purchase grass lands in County Roscommon, but not elsewhere.

58126. CHAIRMAN.—I believe that is so?—I have a letter from the Secretary to that effect. I am in the County Roscommon, and yet they won't purchase these grass lands. There are 800 acres of grass lands on the Maberly Estate—I have gone to considerable trouble to get these lands offered to the Board; and it is too bad that the Board cannot avail of this splendid opportunity, because of insufficient funds. We don't object to Mr. Harty living in the

Oct. 1, 1907.

Rev. Thomas J. Reidy.

house with a suitable share of this land; and the Congested Districts Board or the Estates Commissioners will deal fairly with him, and recognise his claim for consideration. I am anxious to get the Congested Districts Board in for the reason that the rundale system obtains very much in this district. It is an unfortunate system—the people cannot get along well while it exists. I want arterial drains for the bogs and low-lying lands; and I would also suggest that the Congested Districts Board ought to acquire the abandoned fortress at Shannon Bridge for some industry.

58127. Mr. BRYCE.—In reference to the drainage question, a great deal of money has been spent on the Suck already?—I believe there was in years gone by. I am not there very long.

58128. I understand a large amount of that expenditure was unproductive, that it cost something like £200,000, that a grant was given by the Government of £50,000, and that the tenants and landlords are objecting to pay any further, and say that the expense of the assessment made on them for the purpose of obtaining the drainage, compared with the cost and sinking fund and interest, is preventing the transfer of the land. Under those circumstances do you think it likely that the Government, finding it very difficult to get the assessment agreed on, paid, that it will spend more money?—I am certain there is no objection to pay whatever was assessed in the district. I have never heard of any objection being raised. Whatever drainage was effected could be of very little use to us. The Suck is near the Shannon, and you cannot drain it any lower, as the larger river is not sunk. The drainage I want would be arterial drainage, leading towards the Shannon and Suck from the swampy slopes to the North and West of these rivers.

58129. But through the Suck?—No, into the Shannon from the West—into the Suck from the North. You will require to go through the country to see what is to be done.

58130. Are the congested people in your parish in a very bad way?—Well, from the fact that there are 106 under £5 valuation, you can well infer how poor they must necessarily be.

58131. Are they much in debt?—I don't think they are; they are hard-working and thrifty. In conclusion the witness said he was sure the Commissioners would see that these landlords to whom I referred were an impossible kind of people—to use a mild word—and if the legislation of the future be not of the most sweeping character, he failed to see how the Congested Districts Board or Estates Commissioners could acquire land for the relief of the appalling congestion side by side with these huge ranches. Although the most peaceable people might be disposed to protest more than vehemently against these injustices, yet they were of the most peaceable and law-abiding character—there not being a police barrack in the whole district. Some people, perhaps, might be disposed to think that this fact was scarcely to their credit.

Mr. THOMAS REILLY examined.

Mr. Thomas Reilly.

58132. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Where do you reside?—At Lismakeague, Kiltormer. I want to give a short statement of some estates in the parish I live in to show the necessity of giving land to those who require it. The first is the Quansbury Estate of Lord Clonbrock. On this estate there are 77 uneconomic holdings with rent from 6s. to £15. There are five grazing farms, two of which are occupied by the landlord and three by grazing tenants. These farms contain 700 acres of land. The landlord has offered to sell the grazing lands to the Estates Commissioners, provided the agricultural tenants make direct bargains for their holdings at 23 years' purchase of their present rents with one or two years' arrears included when same is due. Three of these farms are convenient to the small holdings. Two are not so convenient. About 300 acres of bog or turbary are badly in need of drainage on this estate, which would be a useful public work, and give much needed employment. The next estate is that of John Smyth at Gartymadden. This was sold to the tenants, seven in number, five years ago, at 18 years' purchase of the valuation. All these holdings are uneconomic. About 200 acres on the same estate are occupied by Smyth as a grazing farm, the exclusion from which is a great hardship on the small tenants. The next is the Adragole, Ryan, Estate, which adjoins Lord Clonbrock's, and contains 300 acres. It is at present in Judge Ross's Court. Adjoining estates were sold under the Ashbourne Act at from 14 to 17 years' purchase. The Dillon-Brown Estate, which was purchased under the same Act, has two uneconomic holdings. About 70 acres of the fat of the land was sold to the grazier then in possession at 18 years' purchase. Next is the Trench Estate, with five uneconomic holdings. The Drumatubber grazing lands contain about 350 acres. A road is required to be made. There is one evicted tenant on this estate. There are five uneconomic holdings on the O'Sullivan Estate. The grazing farm just referred to is most convenient. The population of the district is 579. About three-fourths of these live partly on remittances from America and elsewhere. There is in the parish of Mulla 2,780 acres of grazing lands, with 134 uneconomic holdings and about 450 acres of bog land which require drainage and road convenience.

Mr. THOMAS CAHILL examined.

Mr. Thomas Cahill.

58133. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Are you a farmer?—No. I live at Cloonahinch, Woodlawn. I am one of Lord Ashtown's victims of eviction. I have practical experience of farming and agriculture, and even of horticulture.

58134. What is your present business?—I am living as a commission agent since Lord Ashtown evicted me.

58135. Were you evicted for non-payment of rent?—No. I was evicted like a great many others from Lord Ashtown's estate from a religious prejudice that he got into his head, so that he dismissed all his Catholic employees.

58136. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Were you a tenant of his?—No. I was a herd in his employment, and a lot of the management of the farming and the estate in the absence of the head management devolved on me.

58137. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You were a herd and bailiff?—No. I was herd and estate manager.

58138. Tell the Commission what you wish them to know?—I am president of the New Inn Branch of the United Irish League, a member of the Ballinasloe Board of Guardians, and a member of the Ballinasloe No. I District Council, and am well acquainted with the condition of the small farmers in this district. I represent Killaan Electoral Division at the meetings of the above-mentioned Board and know that the population of Killaan has dwindled down to half what it was during the past twenty years, principally owing to emigration, brought on first and above all by the curse of landlordism—maintained and supported by previous Governments—not only in Killaan Electoral Division, but in the entire Union of Ballinasloe, which statistics taken from the rate books can show. In saying that, I have witnessed scenes of eviction on the Woodlawn Estate that were very sad. There was one in particular that was carried out by Lord Ashtown, when a family of eleven and the father and mother were evicted while some of the children were lying in bed with the whooping cough. The father of this family asked Lord Ashtown for compensation for damage done by rabbits on his farm. The answer was, "You must go away; you won't come here and annoy me again; you won't be there next season." He brought the sheriff there and pitched that family out on the roadside, and that night they had nothing to cover them but the canopy of heaven.

58139. Was the head of this family a tenant under the Act of 1881?—No, he was the herd of a grazier, and Lord Ashtown threatened that if he did not dismiss

nd evict the herd he would take the farm from him. Ve have also a dearth of labour and no industries of ny sort whatever. We have, within this small elec- oral division of Killaan, forty holdings of £5 and nder £5 valuation, and twenty-five holdings of over 5 and under £10 valuation, while there are 3,557 cres of splendid grass lands, almost all of which re owned and occupied by Lord Ashtown. These ands are principally stocked with rabbits and there re but very few cattle and sheep and not one acre f tillage on them, and over 100 young men in this ivision have no prospect before them but emigration o America or elsewhere. With all this grass land vailable a great many families in the neighbourhood re compelled to buy tins of condensed milk during he greater part of the year because they cannot get he grass of a cow or the milk to buy. Compulsory owers of purchase and that alone is essential to medy this terrible state of affairs. Lord Ashtown s the only employer of labour in this district and lmost his whole staff is brought over from Scotland, ngland and elsewhere, while I often witnessed the elancholy scene of the stalwart young men of this istrict taking leave of home and friends at the oodlawn Railway Station on their way to foreign ountries. The twenty electoral divisions in Bal- nasloe Rural District have exactly the same sad tory as Killaan, as will be seen from the appended tatistics:—Number of holdings of £5 and under £5 aluation in union, 1,041; number of holdings over 5 and under £10 valuation in union, 806; acreage f grass lands in the union, 50,983 acres; popula- ion in 1841, 46,811; population in 1901, 19,279; nhabited houses in union in 1841, 7,646; inhabited ouses in union in 1901, 3,412; valuation of union n 1851, £64,817; valuation of union in 1901, 77,851; valuation of union in 1906, £79,469. There as a time indeed when Lord Ashtown was very opular in Woodlawn, and he had as fine a staff of oung Irishmen as could be got in any other part of eland, and he took a great interest in cricket and ther games and he had those men with him, but ome sudden change came over his lordship and he nt them all away and replaced them by strangers, nd he has kept up the whole thing still. There is nother matter that I want to bring before you, and hat is the sale of Charles O. Trench's property. hat sale was nearly completed. The game rights lone were in dispute between Charles O. Trench and is tenants. While the sale was pending Lord Ash- own stepped in and bought over the heads of the enants and gave an enormous price, for, it is sup- osed, the express purpose of defeating that sale. The reason I mention that is, it disturbed the peace of the district around Woodlawn and brought a lot of odium on Lord Ashtown for his action. Then when he got those tenants over, there was one man —a most respectable man—living on 60 acres of land, who, through some technical error in the law, had not got what you call a perfect tenant-right, and when Lord Ashtown got this place the very first man he took in hands was poor Dolan. It was a most notorious case all over the country and created great disturbance. He dispossessed him of all except one acre of marshy callow that would grow nothing. That man's wife died and he had eleven orphan children on his hands, and there he is to-day.

58140. Is that the same man with eleven children that you mentioned previously?—This is another man. Glynn I mentioned previously.

58141. Both had eleven children?—Yes. This case created a lot of discontent among the people. Everybody was anxious for fair treatment for poor Dolan except Lord Ashtown. I carried him on my back in childhood and I would not like to see him place himself in the position he is in to-day before the public and before the world, and I would really say that some influence has been brought to bear on Lord Ashtown that he really could not escape. The employment Lord Ashtown gives is really not to his tenants. He had a very old tenant. He was employed by Lord Ashtown, himself and his three sons. He ran into arrears for about three years. Lord Ashtown processed him. His friends helped him to pay the rent. There was a very poor living on this uneconomic holding in a bog. Lord Ashtown said, "Give up that land to me; you are not able to pay the rent; I will give you a house and an acre, and I will give you employment for yourself and your sons, and if you don't do that I will sack you on the spot." "I won't give up my land," said the man. "I will sack you on the spot," said Lord Ashtown, and he sacked that man and his sons, and when he had paid up through the assistance of his friends he processed him for the hanging gale and took it out of him.

58142. Was that man a tenant under the Act of 1881?—Yes.

58143. He fell into three years' arrears?—Yes.

58144. Is the history of the case that Lord Ashtown, instead of turning him out as he was entitled to, offered to give him a house?—"A house and an acre, and if you don't do that I will sack you." "I won't do it," said he. He dismissed himself and his sons and persecuted them for five years after.

Mr. James H. Rafferty examined.

58145. Sir John Colomb.—You are a farmer, land aluer, and shopkeeper, and live in Athlone?—Yes.

58146. Have you got a licence?—Yes. The follow- ng sales have been made by me on behalf of the ten- nts. Waitman's Estate, three separate estates, 21½ ears, all arrears of rent wiped out. It was an aver- ge of 1½ years rent. That would bring down the rice to about 20 years. Sproule and O'Malley Es- ate, 19¼ years' purchase, all arrears wiped out. In hat case the average was about 2 years, which would ring the estate down to about 17¼ years.

58147. The Commission cannot go into details of articular estates. Tell the Commission what it is ou advocate?—I have been acting on behalf of ten- nts of different estates to buy these estates from the andlords.

58148. You cannot go into particulars of particular states. We have not the time?—I have been trying o buy two other estates, Major Lloyd's and a eparate estate of Mr. Waitman and Mr. Levinge nd I have failed, as those men refused to sell at what I considered a fair value. The difference be- ween the prices asked by those landlords and what was accepted by neighbouring landlords under the Ashbourne Act would range from 25 to 100 per cent. There are a large number of small holders, so small hat even with industries they can scarcely live on hem, and it would be a great matter if those hold- ngs can be increased in size. The sons of many of hose small farmers can find no occupation and must herefore emigrate. It would be very desirable if mall farms could be provided for those young men.

58149. You want to have land purchased compulsorily from landlords and split up among those young men?—If those young men got fair sized holdings the entire family could live on them. They live on very small holdings, the average size being 2½ acres.

58150. Do you mean that the father should have his holding enlarged and that in addition the son should get a new holding?—I mean that those people should be migrated to the grass land in order to give them fair-sized holdings.

58151. Farmers' sons?—The family.

58152. And the old people to give up the land?—Have it for their lives and give it to the sons then.

58153. So that the sons would have the land?—No. The son and father would migrate to the grass lands.

58154. If there is a small uneconomic holding the son is to be given a farm?—The family.

58155. Are they to give up the old holding?—If the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board desire to migrate them from where they live, then those holdings could be divided among the neighbours to relieve congestion in the congested villages. The only industry in this country is lime and turf. They go long journeys with lime to sell it in the market. It is the only way they have of living. Labour is very scarce. They can only find labour for a couple of months in the year at very small wages. In my opinion this district should be scheduled as congested. In order to applot the lands the Congested Districts Board should have power to

Oct. 1, 1907.

Mr. James H. Rafferty.

buy and remodel this district, and migrate from the congested portion to the grass lands.

58156. Do you mean that congests from Connemara should come here?—I mean the congests from the district of Athlone Number 2.

58157. Would you keep the land to be divided among the people in that district, or allow anybody else to come in here?—There is not quite enough land for the people who live in the district, even though it was all divided among them. There is a very large population of small holders between £1 and £5 valuation. There could be a lot of local industries established such as peat, brick-making, iron ore, quarries, mills, especially flour mills, breweries, and distilleries. There were formerly weaving and tannery businesses, but all that has gone away out of this district. In fact there is no employment and no local industries at all at present. The War Office have a bog which they use as a rifle range, and the people in the locality are afraid that if it is not drained it will move next winter for want of drainage. The Shannon also requires drainage, as the people in some districts have to migrate to Athlone every winter with the floods, which cover nearly all their lands. The people are willing to migrate, provided they know the lands they are going to, and their annuities to the Estates Commissioners. The inspectors gave the people no information, although they visited the district, but it seems to me that the money is not forthcoming to purchase the grass lands. The farmers must always be prepared for the opening of the ports to Canadian and Argentine store cattle, which will cause a drop of about 33 per cent. In purchasing farmers should keep this in view as if they buy too dear they will be unable to meet their annuities, the value of the land will drop in proportion to the reduced price of store cattle, and the ratepayers will be liable to the State. The grass lands in this district amount to 10,872 acres, and there are 1,665 holdings under £5 valuation.

Mr. William Hardy examined.

Mr. William Hardy.

58158. Sir John Colomb.—Where do you reside?—At Dromalgagh, Ballinasloe. I wish to make a short statement about the holding that I have on Colonel Maberley's estate. Father Reidy stated that I hold 800 acres of grass lands in the parish of Moore, and that I conacred hay and took in grazing cattle, leaving the inference to be drawn that that was my usual custom of working the lands. On May 1st a report was circulated that I wished to let all the grass on the place, and I was deluged with applications from the surrounding neighbourhood to take in cattle, which I refused. I took in eight to oblige my poorer neighbours, who came and begged me to do so, and the price I charge, which I hand in, will show that I did not do it for profit.

58159. Those charges you made to the people who asked you to let them graze their cattle?—Yes. I took up about fifty acres for meadow for my own use, but was asked by several neighbours to set them some meadow, and as I had about forty tons of hay left over from last year, I consented and set eighteen acres. After the wet weather the hay and corn came in together. I could not manage both. I had seven acres left which I was keeping for myself, and they came and asked me to let them have this, which I did. I never conacred any before this year, and I never intend doing so again. I did it merely to oblige people.

58160. What is the acreage of your holding?—800 statute. There are about 300 acres of second-class grazing in the centre of the farm, 100 acres of plantation, 200 acres of rough moor and bog grazing, and about 100 acres of bog.

58161. Out of the 800 acres there are only 300 acres of tillage land?—About 300 or 350. A fair rent was fixed on the place in 1899, and the Commission estimated the carrying capacity of the place as 125 collops.

Mr. Philip Chevenix Trench examined.

Mr. Philip Chevenix Trench.

58162. Sir John Colomb.—You wish to make a statement in reference to Lord Ashtown's property?—Yes. I understood Father Pelly to state yesterday that Grady, Feeny, and Sheridan were evicted. Sheridan was evicted. He owed eight years' rent. Grady is there still. He is in possession of Feeney's holding, whom we bought out. We paid Feeney for going out. There were not 160 evictions in the Famine times. I have books going back to that date, to 1840, and as far as I can make out there are only about thirty names that appear to have gone in that period. There are notes put to nearly all of them that they were assisted to emigrate, and in some cases the actual sums of money are put down that they got; £60 was given to one. Except Sheridan, there have been no recent evictions. Everyone who has gone lately we have bought out, paying sums of money to buy out their interest. The wages at Woodlawn are ten shillings and fifteen shillings, and up to £1 a week.

58163. Mr. Bryce.—Is that all through the year?—Whenever they come to work.

58164. Do you give them steady employment at those rates?—Very nearly; whenever they come. Of course they go home occasionally to their own farms. Thirty-three tenants and their sons are employed instead of fourteen.

58165. We were given fourteen out of forty-seven uneconomic holders—the evidence did not refer to the whole body of tenants, but only to the uneconomic tenants?—There would be twenty of that lot. The proportion of the labourers at Woodlawn is about seventeen Catholics to one Protestant.

58166. Sir John Colomb.—That is in reference to the statement of religion entering into the matter?—It was stated that nearly all Protestants were employed.

58167. Mr. Bryce.—You mean the whole labour all over the estate?—It averages about seventeen to one. This man Dolan we were told about was an eleven months' grazing tenant under a grazing agreement. He broke up the farm and tilled in contravention of his agreement.

Mr. Dolan.—I had full permission to till the farm from the former tenant, Mr. Trench.

Witness.—It was one of the farms we bought from Mr. O'Hara Trench. I saw the agreement. There was nothing in it allowing him (Dolan) to till. Whether he had a private arrangement with Mr. O'Hara Trench or not I cannot say.

The Commission adjourned.

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH PUBLIC SITTING.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2ND, 1907.

AT 11.0 O'CLOCK, A.M.,

In the Courthouse, Castlerea, County Roscommon.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (Chairman); The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; The Right Hon. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL, G.C.S.I.; JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esq., M.P.; CONOR O'KELLY, Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.; ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esq.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Mr. JOHN P. HAYDEN examined.

Oct. 2, 1907.

Mr. John P. Hayden.

58168. CHAIRMAN.—Have we got your description; you are well known, of course?—My business is that of a newspaper proprietor. I live in Westmeath, but I am a native of Roscommon, and represent the Southern Division of this county in Parliament. I have been asked by the Rural District Council of Roscommon to give evidence on their behalf. I prepared some figures with regard to the population of the county at different periods. The periods I have taken are from 1841 to 1901, and I wish to hand the figures in (*figures handed in*).* It will be seen from these figures that the population of the Co. Roscommon in 1841 was 260,000, and in 1901 it had fallen to slightly over 100,000, and I believe the present estimate is under 100,000. The figures which I have handed in were prepared at the County Council office, and taken from the rate books and Census returns. These show that the decrease of population has been in every part of the county, but more particularly in those places where the land is good. I have taken a couple of instances. The returns are in Poor Law Electoral Divisions. I take as an instance of the good land the Electoral Division of Castleteehan in Castlerea Rural District. There the land is valued at 16s. per statute acre, and the population has fallen eighty per cent. Where there were five people there is now only one. As a contrast, I take the Electoral Division of Artagh North, on the west side of Castlereagh. There the land is valued at 6s. 6d. per acre, and the population has fallen only three per cent. I take that as showing that the people have gone away from the good lands, not through any motive of their own, but because they had to. Another of the returns which I have had prepared shows the extent of the small holdings in the county. For instance, of the total number of agricultural holdings in the Co. Roscommon, sixty per cent are under £5 valuation, and eighty-five per cent. are under £12 valuation, which scarcely reaches the economic standard; ninety-four per cent. are under £25 valuation and ninety-seven per cent. under £50 valuation, leaving only three per cent. of the agricultural holdings over £50 valuation. This three per cent. represents 160,000 acres, and is practically all composed of large grazing farms, the number of ordinary worked farms of over £50 valuation in the County Roscommon being very small. These 160,000 acres, one-third of the arable land in the County Roscommon, are occupied by three per cent. of the agricultural population of the county. Then, with regard to the small portion of the population still left in the good lands, and comprised in these returns prepared for me, they are to a large extent composed of herds and the families of herds. I have made a calculation that if all the people of Roscommon were supplied with land to the same extent as the three per cent. are supplied, it would take seven counties each as large as Roscommon to give them land in the same proportion as the three per cent. hold it. The remedy for this, in my opinion, and that of the people—and it is one which the law now apparently sanctions—is that this congestion should be relieved by purchasing the good untenanted land, enlarging the existing holdings, and migrating the people from the poorer districts to the grazing ranches. In my opinion the powers of any public authority entrusted with these operations should be greatly increased. The first essential is that either the limit with regard to scheduling congested districts should be either removed or greatly enlarged. I would enlarge it to comprise at least the whole of Connaught. My reason for that is: you cannot treat a great problem like this in small areas. You must take the place where the disease exists and where the remedy for the disease also exists to be applied. The powers of the existing authorities are greatly limited by reason of the absence of compulsion. Compulsion is required for many reasons. The Congested Districts Board or the Estates Commissioners, or whatever else may be the authority, may, and in some cases have, purchased land, and in the immediate districts of that land there is other land, perhaps in small quantities, perhaps in large, which is necessary for carrying out the scheme, and the owner of that land refuses to sell it or demands an excessive price, and compulsion is necessary both for acquiring the land and for arriving at a fair price. Then, priority ought to be given in the transactions in regard to all estates which require re-settlement—that is in regard to an estate which has to be dealt with other than by the transfer of the ownership from the landlord to the occupier. Where the holdings have to be enlarged or distributed priority ought to be given in any part of the country to estates of that character.

58170. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You mean estates of that character should be first dealt with in the area of operations?—Yes. Estates which require any kind of treatment other than the mere transfer of ownership should get priority over all other estates in the country, because the problem with regard to these is more urgent.

58171. Mr. BRYCE.—Perhaps you will explain that, Mr. Hayden?—I mean if the Estates Commissioners have a number of estates in regard to which agreements have been arrived at between landlords and tenants, or between the landlord and the Estates Commissioners, that the Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board should deal first with the estate upon which there are uneconomic holdings, or upon which there is untenanted land.

58172. That is, supposing there are twenty or thirty landlords selling, you propose that the purchase of these estates should be first carried through, and the work of distribution taken on hand as being the most important item, as it were?—Yes. There are really two sides to the land question. One is, an estate which requires simply to be purchased by the occupying tenants, and the other is an estate which requires the holdings to be enlarged and distributed. I would give priority to the latter class of estate.

58173 Irrespective of the date the agreement had been arrived at?—Yes. Then, another of the difficulties which I have come across in this question is the delay which exists in carrying out negotiations after landlords and tenants have agreed to a price, or after a landlord has agreed to sell his untenanted land.

* See p. 288.

Oct. 2, 1907.

Mr. John P. Hayden.

Sometimes an immense delay, extending into years, takes place before an agreement between the Commissioners or the Board and the landlord can take place. I know a case myself in which untenanted land has been offered by the owners to the Commissioners or the Board, and it has been a matter of years sometimes before negotiations have been completed, that is, before they have arrived at the period when a distinct offer is made. I think the public authority ought to be placed, as nearly as possible as it is for a public body to be placed in, in the position of a private purchaser. If the transaction be between two private persons it is very quickly carried out. The intending purchaser arrives very quickly at his estimate of the value. He makes his offer, and there is cash down at once. One of the great drawbacks to present transactions is that no public authority is in a position to go to the owner and plank money down at once, and I think there ought to be some arrangements by which the Board or Commissioners would be in a position to make an offer and plank down the money immediately. Another great drawback in this county, and, as I think, in most counties, is that the owners of land, and I am speaking particularly of untenanted land, when wishing to sell and get the money immediately they make an offer to the Commissioners, and then if they have to wait some years for it—a thing they don't want to do—put it up to public auction. When sold by public auction it is a matter of years before the land can again come into the market. In all these cases there ought to be a power of pre-emption given to the public authority in regard to this matter, so as to prevent any of the untenanted land required for public purposes to pass away for years, or for ever, from the use that the public require it for. There are cases in point in this county. There was the case where Lord Trimblesden had a grazing farm of, I think, 180 acres. An offer was made by the Estates Commissioners, and Lord Trimblesden desired to get the money immediately. Finding he could not get it he put the land up to public auction. Mr. Fitzgibbon appeared at the auction and bought the land, and it has since been sold by him to the Estates Commissioners, who divided it, and it is now in the hands of a number of young men, who work it. If Mr. Fitzgibbon had not appeared and bought the land—and I believe he bought it at a less amount than the offer of the Estates Commissioners—it would have gone to a grazier who would keep it for a number of years until, in the course of time, he would probably get broken and would have to sell it. In a case like that the Commissioners should have a power of pre-emption. There was another case of a somewhat different class at Tonlagee, near Fourmile House, in the Rural District of Roscommon. This was a grazing farm upon which there had been tenants occupying it in the owner's interest. The occupier had bought it, I think, under the Ashbourne Act, and there was an annuity on it. It was put up for sale, and was bought by a business man in the town of Ballinasloe, about twenty miles distant. It was bought at a public auction. As the law now stands, I understand that no loan can be advanced in respect of land upon which a loan had been previously had until that loan is redeemed.

58174. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you mean a loan for the purchase of land?—Yes, where a tenant has bought out the land—purchased the landlord's interests—as the law stands that tenant, who has been converted into an owner, cannot sell to the Estates Commissioners his interest in that land until he redeems the loan already advanced. I think there ought to be a change in that respect, at least in regard to land that is required for the creation of new holdings, or the enlargement of uneconomic holdings. In the case of Tonlagee the land was purchased by a man living at a distance of twenty miles, who already holds a large amount of similar land in Roscommon and Galway, and who simply grazes it and gives no employment. It was the cause of a great amount of unpleasantness in the whole County of Roscommon. As a matter of fact it gave rise to the first case of cattle-driving in the County Roscommon, or I think in Ireland. In that case, if the law were different this unpleasantness and violation of the law, the presence of a large force of extra police in the county, prosecutions, and so forth, would have been avoided, because it was exactly the class of land suitable for the purpose of the Commissioners or Board for the enlargement of small holdings. It was just in the centre of a large amount of that class of land, and on the verge of it were a number of small holdings actually upon the estate of which it formed portion before the sale. There is a large number of uneconomic holdings, and the people were expecting to see this land, once it was for sale, divided amongst them, and, finding it was not, very naturally the limit of endurance was reached.

58175. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Who bought the farm?—It was bought by a gentleman named Beirne, in Ballinasloe. Ballinasloe is at least twenty miles distant.

58176. Were the small holders whose farms, in your opinion, ought to have been enlarged, living upon the estate?—Yes. Until this farm had become an estate in itself.

58177. It had been purchased under the Land Acts?—Yes.

58178. Were the small holders on the estate or on an adjoining estate?—They were not on that farm, but on the estate of which that farm formerly formed a portion, and these small holdings were purchased by the occupiers at the same time as the former occupier purchased the farm in question.

58179. You are aware that, under the law as it at present stands, the Congested Districts Board would not be able to enlarge the uneconomic holdings in its vicinity?—Yes.

58180. Most properly, you desire that the law in that respect should be altered?—Yes. An increase in the scheduled districts would meet that.

58181. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—In giving your illustrations you spoke about auctions. Auction of the fee simple of land is not common in this part of the country, is it?—Not common; but they are becoming so now since the working of the Land Purchase Acts.

58182. The sale of fee simple?—Yes. This was a sale of fee simple, subject to an annuity under the Land Act. Since the operations of the various Purchase Acts, of course these cases of auctions of fee simple are becoming more common, because a good many people who purchase are selling. Lord Trimblesden's case was a case of fee simple subject to no annuity. Tonlagee case was a case of fee simple subject to annuities under the Purchase Acts.

58183. Mr. BRYCE.—In the Tonlagee case would not the difficulty have been met at once had there been compulsion? Could it not always be got, if wanted, by the exercise of compulsion?—I am not quite clear that it could. I do not know whether it is by an operation of law or not the Land Commissioners are debarred from making advances in respect of holdings on which an advance has already been made. So that in a case like Tonlagee you would require two changes—one empowering the Land Commission to use its discretion in cases of the sort, and one giving the power of compulsion or pre-emption. I want to deal with two classes of cases—the case where the old owner who has not bought under the Acts wishes to sell, and where the owner created by the Purchase Acts wishes to sell.

58184. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Do I understand you to say that the new purchaser cannot re-sell to the Estates Commissioners?—Not until he redeems the amount advanced to him.

58185. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Would not your point be met if there was an arrangement whereby the first loan would be redeemed by the Estates Commissioners by the advance of purchase money which the Commissioners are prepared to make? It would be merely a book transaction?—Yes; as a matter of fact I believe it is done by some round-about method of book-keeping at present.

58186. Well, it is done, at all events. On the day in which the transaction is to be carried through the Estates Commissioners redeem the annuity by taking credit for the amount of money they are going to advance?—Yes; I think it is informally done in that way at present, and I do not see why it should not be the recognised custom. Then, again, in the sale of some estates in this county, I find that some land that is required for the use of the public is sold back to the landlord.

58187. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—By whom?—By the Estates Commissioners. I wish to refer to the case of the Bermingham Estate, close to the town of Roscommon. This estate consisted mainly of untenanted land. The whole of it was sold to the

Estates Commissioners. The Commissioners then re-sold over ninety acres of it to the owner, who is a clergyman living in the County Meath. I was informed by the Chief Secretary, in the House of Commons, that the reason the Commissioners re-sold it was that it was demesne land, and there was a residence. Well, I know the place all my life, and I was rather surprised to hear that it was a demesne and residence. There is no residence, as a matter of fact. There is an ordinary herd's house, which the Commission can see for itself. It is occupied by a herd, and was never occupied by anybody else. In no sense has it any of the characteristics of a demesne. The owner is not living there, never has lived there, and never can live there unless he builds a house upon it. The Rural District Council of Roscommon, some time ago, wished to take a portion of this land for the purpose of the Labourers Acts, and Mr. Bermingham demanded a price for it that was £25 an acre more than that for which it was re-sold to him by the Commission. I think there ought to be a provision that no land should be sold back to the former owner unless it is strictly demesne or strictly home farm.

58188. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You don't raise any point over the re-purchase by the owner of the demesne or home farm?—I raise no point against the re-selling of demesne or home farm, but I want demesne or home farm to be more strictly defined than it seems to be when transactions like this can take place. Another case I wish to bring under your notice is the Estate of Lord Essex. This estate comprises most of the town of Roscommon, and a very considerable portion of the rural district. The landlord is an absentee. I do not think Lord Essex was ever seen on his Roscommon property, except once, when he spent a day going through it. His agent lives in the County Meath, and never visits the district, except twice a year, when he arrives in the morning to collect rents, and leaves in the evening. In that case I am not sure if the tenants have applied to the landlord, but they have applied to the agent for terms; but, inasmuch as they never see the landlord, and the agent only for a few minutes when they are paying him rent, there is great difficulty in dealing with it.

58189. CHAIRMAN.—Has Lord Essex any property outside the town of Roscommon?—Yes.

58190 Has he got agricultural land in Roscommon?—Yes, a considerable quantity, both agricultural and urban. The tenants have applied to the agent for terms of sale, and the agent has said that Lord Essex is willing to sell; but they cannot get at either the agent or Lord Essex. There is no responsible representative of the landlord in the district at all. That brings me to another point, which is, that the powers to advance money in respect of tenancies in rural towns ought to be clearly defined. The public authority should have the power to purchase, or to advance money in respect of towns such as Roscommon.

58191. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you mean that where there is an estate with a town upon it, and where that estate is sold for re-settlement, that the Commissioners should have more power than they now have for the re-settlement of, and sale to, town tenants?—Yes. Where the Land Commission do not consider that the security of the houses would be sufficient for the advance to tenants, they are willing to supplement the amount which would be advanced by the Commission. Another obstacle we have met in this county in regard to acquiring untenanted land, is the recent creation of leases for the grass lands. For instance, there is a case not very far from here, at Ballintubber, where a farm on the Hughes Estate was let on the eleven months' system for many years past. A few months ago a lease was made to a man named Payne. Now, Mr. Payne has either paid nothing for this, or if he has, it is a small sum. I regard, rightly or wrongly, Mr. Payne as a speculator in this matter. Some time ago he acquired an interest on a farm on another estate. This farm was purchased by the Commissioners, and Mr. Payne received £1,000 for his interest in the land—an interest which was created simply by the lease granted to him; and that £1,000 did not in the least diminish the amount which was paid to the landlord. It simply meant making a present of £1,000 to Mr. Payne, which the new owners of the land have to pay back in instalments.

58192. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You raised that question with the object of illustrating the point you now make. You don't refer to Payne's taking the lease of the Ballintubber farm as anything exceptional?—Oh, no.

58193. The lease would have been given to somebody else if he had not taken it?—It probably would.

58194. If Mr. Payne held the farm ten or twelve years the necessity of compensation would be more apparent, would it not?—I really don't think it would.

58195. If he held the farm a long time, and if it was to be taken from him because the Congested Districts Board or the Commissioners wanted to get hold of it, would you not admit he would have some claim to compensation?—I would not. I would think that his interest in it might be judged by the amount which he paid for the interest. In this case I take it that it was a friendly arrangement between the owner or the owner's agent and Mr. Payne.

58196. If a man is given a lease for thirty years, and he holds it for ten years, he has a beneficial interest in it for the balance of twenty years?—I think one would have to examine into the circumstances of each case. If it were a *bona fide* business transaction I would agree with that proposition, but if it were apparent from the circumstances that it was a mere matter of speculation, even if he held it for a number of years, I think it would weigh very much with me in the matter.

58197. A speculation on his part?—Yes.

58198. I suppose that is really the motive which induces a number of graziers to take farms, but business is more or less a speculation, with the hope of making profit?—I think there is a big difference between the man who in the ordinary course carries on business by which he makes a living, and the man who speculates in the sense of gambling. I take it that this is more of a gamble than a business transaction.

58199. Mr. BRYCE.—You think there is evidence, there was collusion between him and the landlord in this case?—Well, collusion is rather a harsh word.

58200. A desire to do him a good turn?—Yes, exactly. This case has been the cause of a great deal of bitterness and trouble in County Roscommon. To begin with the farm has been occupied by a very large force of police owing to the irritation caused amongst the people by the granting of this lease. The people feel that once the lease was given that the land was taken away from them absolutely. Whilst it was let on the eleven months' system they had some hope that some time or other it would be sold to them. The lease looked like taking it away from them absolutely, and not unnaturally they were rather irritated at it, and they expressed their impatience in various ways. The place has been occupied by a very large force of police, estimated from 80 to 300. I believe at some periods there were as many as 300.

58201. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Oh, no. That was only during the trials at Ballintubber?—There is still a considerable extra force. The number does not affect my point except in regard to expense. For a considerable time the force was close on 100. A number of people were prosecuted and imprisoned, and even this day four women are being released from Castlebar Jail after spending a month in prison in connection with this farm. I think that for the sake of public peace that transactions such as these Mr. Payne has entered into ought to be prevented by law, and that all such leases entered into, at least since the passage of the Act of 1903, ought to be void. In any future legislation these leases should be declared void. There are a couple of farms on this estate. One is held by Payne, and another by his brother-in-law. Between them they have 500 acres of untenanted land, simply used for grazing by non-residents.

58202. CHAIRMAN.—Do you assume that if machinery is to be given to any body to acquire land for the relief of congestion that that power should be confined to untenanted land?—No.

58203. Would not your point be automatically met in that way?—I don't quite follow.

58204. I mean you would not exclude lease-holders or even purchasers from the operation of any compulsory clause?—No.

58205. In a case of this kind it would be perfectly feasible?—Yes. I want to see the law such that the purchasing authority could, by compulsion, take land of this character, but in regard to all transactions such as these, I want slightly more than that. A man such as that should not be paid anything for

Oct. 2, 1907.

Mr. John P. Hayden.

his interest. I want to clear him out without any compensation whatever, inasmuch as he has no real interest.

58206. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—In regard to the whole transaction, as the law at present stands, was it not a clear, plain transaction. Mr. Hughes was the owner of certain property in Ballintubber. He desired to let a certain portion of that property on lease. He offered to execute a lease in favour of a certain person. They could not come to terms, and Mr. Payne made a better offer, and the lease was then executed in his favour. As the law stands that was a perfectly legitimate transaction. Then, when Mr. Payne went into possession certain illegalities were committed, and the people who committed these illegalities were prosecuted before the Courts, the offences were proved, judgment was passed against them, and they have purged their offence. They refused to give security to keep the peace, and they went to jail. If the owners are not allowed to lease their lands before they are bought there is an end to all law and order. If people break the law they must take the consequences?—I do not think the people who have been punished have complained. These people were well aware that they were violating the law as it now stands, but they have learned the lesson that the only way in Ireland to change the law is to break it.

58207. We are proceeding to purchase grass lands as fast as we can. It is the declared object of the Government to purchase grass lands for the relief of congestion. We have not the money, and you know as well as we do how difficult it is to raise money. Disorder will not inflate Consols, and if the law is broken in the way you mention the capacity of the Government to raise money on favourable terms will not be promoted. The only people who suffer are these poor people who break the law?—These people knew they were breaking the law, and they have done it with their eyes open. They do not complain that they have been punished, but they do know that in undergoing punishment they are helping to bring about an alteration in the law.

58208. They are certainly forcing an open door so far as the purchase of grass lands in Connaught is concerned?—Well, not in cases such as that upon this estate.

58209. CHAIRMAN.—Are not we deviating a little?—With regard to one remark of Sir Antony's. There is a precedent in the Act of 1903 which prevents advances in respect of holdings of tenancies created for a certain number of years before the passage of the Act. The date fixed, I think, was 1900.

58210. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You mean judicial rents fixed then?—No, but where tenancies were created. The Act of 1903 was promised in the King's speech of, I think, 1901, and after that promise the landlords and a certain class of tenants, foreseeing what might happen, created tenancies for a certain number of these large grazing farms, and the Act of 1903 contains a clause preventing any advance in respect of holdings created since 1900. The clause said that no advance exceeding £500 should be made, except in the case of small holdings, and I think that is not a bad precedent for such an alteration in the law as I now propose.

58211. It is just a question of *bona fides*?—Yes. I refer to a case such as Ballintubber simply because I believe it is a matter of speculation or gambling, and not a *bona fide* transaction

58212. Mr. BRYCE.—I do not very well see how you are going to distinguish at first blush, without any inquiry. There is nothing to go upon as to whether the thing is a matter of ordinary business or a matter of speculation?—I think the evidence might be found in the amount of money which passed in regard to it.

58213. Looking at the thing as a business man, the landlord has got land and he wants to lease it out, and he does not know whether he is going to sell his property, and he makes a lease out. It is only when a row arises that anyone knows anything about it. How is the thing to come before the public authority?—It will come before the public authority if the public authority in possession of compulsory powers proceed to purchase that land, and the different parties come forward to give evidence of their interest.

58214. I quite understand that; but I thought you were making a suggestion of compulsory purchase, and that a separate piece of legislation should be introduced forbidding transactions of that kind?—Well, so I have; but these transactions will become known only to the public authority when it comes to investigate the cases. The public authority will know it when the question of purchase arises—either voluntary or compulsory.

58215. Once you have got compulsory powers, you must have a note to the effect that leases created since a certain date should be examined as to whether they are genuine transactions?—That would suffice—that an instruction under compulsory purchase should be made that in all cases of untenanted land inquiry should be made as to whether the leases are genuine.

58216. CHAIRMAN.—Would it not be difficult to prove whether a lease of that kind was genuine or not?—I think it could be proved by examining the amount of consideration which passed for the leases.

58217. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You represent to the Commission your view that towns such as you have mentioned should be brought within the general influence in the arrangement of the land, and now assuming that such legislation has been carried into effect, an enterprising shopkeeper, as a speculation, goes to the landowner, and says: "If you give me a lease, I will pay so much for so many years." That is a speculation, and the landlord grants him the lease. Am I to understand, if your proposition is carried out, that that arrangement would be declared void?—Oh, no. You mean, Sir John, land in towns. I am referring to leases for grazing lands.

58218. You are not laying down a general principle, but representing to the Commission that that should be done in the case of grazing lands only?—Yes.

58219. Therefore you are going to apply to grazing lands what you cannot apply to other things?—No. The instance you give, though it is a speculation, is an ordinary every-day business transaction, a transaction which greatly helps in the development of towns, whereas the other is a gambling speculation, maybe sometimes the result of collusion between certain parties, in order to do some of these parties a good turn.

58220. At all events, you are in favour of the application of principles in the case of grass lands that you would not apply to other classes of business?—Yes. There is another class of case, and it is this; where the occupying tenant of a grazing farm has a small interest in it. It may be that he is a yearly tenant, or has a few years of an ordinary *bona fide* lease unexpired. If he is unwilling to sell, it is a very great obstacle to purchase of the whole estate, and it is very often a menace to the peace of the district. Such a case occurred on the Crichton Estate, near Fourmilehouse. Mr. Crichton is willing to sell his entire estate, which consists of tenanted and untenanted lands. On it is a farm held by a shopkeeper in the town of Strokestown, about six miles away. The shopkeeper is not willing to sell his interest. Some years ago he bought, for a nominal sum, the lease from a former occupier, and that lease, as I understand, has only one or two years to run. The people have no desire to do him any injustice, and they are willing that he should be paid for his interest. The sale of the whole estate is blocked by the attitude of the tenant of this grazing farm of about 100 acres. The result there is the same as in the Ballintubber case. It has not been the scene of disorder on the part of the people, but it has been the scene of considerable disorder on the part of the police. A public meeting was called regarding this farm, and I was invited as one of the County members. When a contingent of the people were peacefully passing from Strokestown to their homes they were savagely batoned by the police. That happened at the time they were passing by this farm, and the police may have taken it into their heads that they were going to intimidate somebody, but there was no one on the farm. The owner was miles away. As a matter of fact, they had just come from the town where the owner lived, when the inspector of the police ordered the baton charge. There was very considerable ill-feeling over the matter, and the place has since been occupied by a large force of police. At the meeting at Fourmilehouse, not far from this place, I was asked by the people in the district to attend a meeting there, and I found 80 armed policemen there, most of them armed with revolvers and bayonets, at this meeting. I have no objection to policemen getting a pleasant holiday by attending a meeting like that on a fine day, provided the people of the county have not to pay for it.

58221. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Did you ever know of an instance of cattle driving immediately following a meeting of the sort you are describing?—No, not one.

58222. They have occurred, and the Government is bound to see that cattle drives should be prevented as far as possible, and that incitements to cattle driving should not be carried into effect by the actual execution of the drive?—Well, I don't think there has been a single case of cattle driving in the county, either on the day of the meeting or immediately after the day of the meeting, as far as I can recollect.

58223. I am here in a dual capacity, and I don't like to complicate my functions as a member of the Commission with what I know as an executive officer of the Irish administration, and therefore I won't cross-examine you on the point. It would be beyond our province. All I would say, Mr. Hayden, is that it is possible to give reasons to justify the Executive Government in the action which they have taken in these cases?—I think I know all the cases in this county, and so far as I can recollect, I do not think there was any drive following a meeting. Do you know any case yourself?

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—I do not like to enter into a discussion at all on the point.

58225. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The shopkeeper is not willing to sell?—The owner is willing to sell the entire estate, tenanted and untenanted, and he is willing to sell the particular farm held by this shopkeeper, but the shopkeeper is not willing to part with his interest in it. That is an instance of a very common obstacle to the acquisition of that class of land. I would have compulsory power in respect of land of that class.

58226. I understand the shopkeeper is one of several tenants on the property?—Yes.

58227. You have given the name of the landlord. Can you give the name of the shopkeeper?—Yes, Mr. Owens.

58228. Is it your opinion that being a minority of one he bars the operations of the Congested Districts Board?—It is not a case which the Congested Districts Board can deal with, because it is outside the scheduled area, and therefore it is a case for the Estates Commissioners. There is no power, so far as I know, under the existing law to deal with a minority.

58229. Assuming that the Estates Commissioners have the power of dealing with this property, aren't you aware that there is an existing law by which a minority can be prevented from blocking the sale?—I think, Sir John, we are at different points. The power to which you refer is, I think, that if three-fourths agree to purchase, the one-fourth are deemed to have purchased. I don't want to have this man to be deemed to have purchased. What I want is power to compel him to clear out.

58230. MR. BRYCE.—This man is not a tenant at all; he is only a leaseholder?—This man is a non-resident tenant with an expired or almost expired lease. He holds as a yearly tenant, and his tenancy can be terminated at any time, I believe, by the landlord. If the landlord is not willing to terminate his tenancy I want power to be conferred on a public authority to terminate it. If he possesses any substantial interest in it he should be compensated for that interest, but I don't want him to purchase.

58231. The Congested Districts Board have certainly got authority in the case you mention, because we had a case before us in connection with the purchase by the Congested Districts Board of the Kane Estate?—Oh, yes, if this were in a scheduled district, and if the Congested Districts Board bought it they would have power.

58232. They could give him notice to quit and then compensate him?—Yes. I want the same power applied in this case.

58233. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You want the same power applied to this district as applies in the congested districts?—Yes. Another point I want to bring under the notice of the Commissioners is in regard to drainage. There is a very considerable amount of land which could be vastly improved by drainage, and a good many holdings that now are uneconomic in my opinion could be made economic without enlargement if a system of drainage were carried out. I have some statements here dealing with the importance of drainage in two electoral divisions in Roscommon. These districts adjoin the Shannon, and the holdings are mostly small, and a good many of them are uneconomic. The remedy for this, so far as their immediate district is concerned, does not exist by the presence of large quantities of untenanted land. If certain small rivers running into the Shannon were drained the holdings would be very considerably improved, and in most cases made economic. Whilst I am on that point I would like to mention a matter in connection with the River Suck drainage. The Suck is an extensive river running between this county and Galway, and some years ago very considerable sums were spent on the drainage of the Suck district. The drainage was undertaken by the landlords of the district, and the money was advanced by the Drainage Board. After a very considerable amount of money was wasted, the original estimate was found, like most estimates, to be insufficient, in this case very insufficient, and a considerable grant, I think it was £50,000, was procured from the Treasury.

58234. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—A free grant?—Yes. The tenants who according to Act of Parliament were to bear their share of the expenditure were not consulted at all.

58235. Were not their representatives on the Board?—I am coming to that point. The tenants had not been consulted at all in the matter, but when the Bill was going through Parliament in connection with this free grant, advantage was taken of the Bill to secure a representation for the tenants, and then, after many thousands of pounds had been wasted, the tenants got a representation on the Drainage Board. When the assessment came to be made the principle upon which it was made was this—that there was to be so much put upon the tenants as representing the actual value of the improvements made upon their respective holdings, and the balance fell on the riparian proprietors. So far as the tenants are concerned the grievance exists in regard to the allocation of the amount. They hold that an excessive value was placed on the improvements made. There is no doubt that improvements were affected, but the difference arises as to the value of these improvements. In many cases the assessment on the tenants for improvements exceeds, and in some cases greatly exceeds, the amount of their rent, and there are cases of very great hardship in connection with it. Considerable harm has been done to the prospects of drainage in this county and in Galway by the fact that the tenants along the banks of the Suck are so heavily burdened. It has made other tenants chary about joining together for the purpose of carrying out drainage works which are an absolute necessity. I think that the Commission would do well to examine into the facts of the River Suck drainage. I would suggest that if they can that they would make some recommendation by which this burden would be lessened, either by having a portion of it wiped out or by an extension of the period of repayment. In addition to the bad effect it has had on public opinion it impedes the work of purchase very much, because both the landlords and tenants hesitate. The landlords have to redeem the portion thrown upon them, and the tenants do not like to buy while they have a large burden still upon them, and the whole work of maintenance will be thrown upon them too.

58236. You will admit, I presume, that for the excessive expenditure upon the Suck drainage the Irish Government is in no way responsible?—I don't quite admit that the Government was not responsible. The Irish Government may not have been.

58237. Am I not right in this, that the landlords formed a Drainage Committee, and that they made through the engineer whom they had appointed estimates for the drainage of the Suck?—I beg your pardon. They made it from plans, and these plans were submitted to the Government and the Board of Works.

58238. The Board of Works took no responsibility for the plans. They saw, broadly speaking, they were such as might be passed. They did not take any responsibility for the professional accuracy or professional character of the plans. They then said they would advance the money, and did so on certificates of work done. It came to pass that the work on the Suck drainage was very often suspended for a series of years, and work which had been done had to be redone, so that if the work had been properly carried out by the engineers, whom the landlords' committee

Oct. 2, 1907.

Mr. John P. Hayden.

engaged, the expenditure would be very much less than it was. The responsibility of the Board of Works consisted in paying out sums of money for work actually done. The Irish Government did not take any responsibility for the efficiency of the schemes?—I do not question your account of it.

58239. I think you will find it correct?—Yes; but I imagine that the Board of Works submits plans of this character to experts or to their engineers.

58240. They take no responsibility for that?—I think they ought to. I think they are very much to blame if they advance public money in that way.

58241. I quite agree with you. I think the system is entirely bad, and must be altered and re-modelled; but this work was done under the statutes regulating; but I quite agree with you that the whole system ought to be remodelled?—I think a Board of Works engineer visited the district.

58242. Yes; but they only saw that the work for which the certificates were signed was actually done?—If the Board of Works engineer did not visit the place before the plans were sanctioned they were greatly at fault. However, I am not speaking for the landlords of the district; I am speaking for the tenants along that place, and my point is that, whoever else was consulted, whether the Government was or was not, that the tenants were not consulted until a wasteful expenditure had been incurred, and there was a dead loss, and until the point was reached when a free grant had become an absolute necessity, if the money already spent was not to be entirely thrown away, and the co-operation of the tenants' representatives in Parliament was necessary to secure this free grant. As a price for their co-operation, they were given a representation on the Board for the first time, and since that there has been very little charge of wasteful expenditure; and that is the point I wish to make as a plea for some mitigation of the burdens the tenants have to bear. I have been at some amount of pains in connection with this matter. Their claim is not a repudiation of the tax at all, but that the period of repayment should be extended as long as possible in order to lessen the annual burden.

58243. Mr. Sutherland.—As to this question of improper expenditure, are you prepared to say that the works have been of great good in the district?—I think so.

58244. Are they being maintained in a state of efficiency now?—Yes.

58245. Do you know generally what the nature of the works is?—Keeping the river dredged, and keeping the drains going into the river open—just maintaining the drainage work which had been done.

58246. Does that consist in deepening the river at certain places?—Yes.

58247. And that work is not completed, as I understand?—The work now carried on does not consist in deepening.

58248. But when being carried out?—Yes.

58249. Chairman.—Does the Drainage Board levy the rate?—Yes.

58250. And do they collect it?—They collect it through a collector appointed by themselves.

58251. They levy and collect the rate for maintenance, and the rate for repayment?—Certainly, for maintenance, and the Board of Works collects the amount for repayment.

58252. Then the Drainage Board has nothing to do with the repayment of the original money?—No.

58253. Sir John Colomb.—The Board of Works collects the rate for capital expenditure and the Drainage Board the rate levied for maintenance?—Yes.

58254. What you want is relief in the rate for capital expenditure?—Yes; relief by way of extension of the period for repayment. It should be made smaller, and the period for repayment the same as under the Land Act.

58255. Mr. Bryce.—What is the period for repayment of the capital sum?—I think it varies from twenty to twenty-five years.

58256. What is the rate of interest charged on the sinking fund?—I do not know, but I can ascertain for the Commission. The total amount expended was £160,000, of which £50,000 was a free grant; £60,000 was borne by the landlords and £50,000 by the tenants. Eleven years have gone, and that leaves about three-fourths still to pay; perhaps rather less than three-fourths. Of the capital expended, about £70,000 was really ineffective. With regard to the relations between the Congested Districts Board, the Estates Commissioners, and the Agricultural Department, I agree in general with the evidence given on that head by Mr. T. W. Russell. As I understand his evidence, it is to the effect that the Estates Commissioners ought to be the sole purchasing authority, and that it should be the duty of the Estates Commissioners, immediately upon the purchase of any estate requiring re-settlement, to hand over such estate at once to the Congested Districts Board, and that the work of re-settling it, splitting up grazing farms, carrying out drainage work, and so forth, should be done solely by the Board. The work of agricultural education should be entrusted solely to the Agricultural Department, and there should be no clashing of authority between any of these three bodies. Each should have its work clearly defined, and there should be some method of consultation between the three, if necessary. Then, in respect of the composition of the Congested Districts Board, in my opinion, there ought to be a popular element upon that; that is, there ought to be certain members on the Board who would not only be in touch with the people, but who would also be responsible to them. There ought to be persons on the Board put there either by direct election by the people, or by selection by the County Councils of each county; and I think there ought to be at least one member of the Board who would be a paid member, upon whom would be thrown a certain amount of defined authority, and who would be responsible between the meetings of the Board. In making this suggestion, I follow the precedent that exists on the Board of Commissioners of National Education. Further, I think the meetings of the Board ought to be more frequent than they are, and whenever they are called for the purpose of dealing with a particular district in which the operations of the Board are carried out, they ought to be held in that district if at all possible.

58258. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—More frequent than once a month?—Yes.

58259. Would you be satisfied with special meetings of the Board as the occasion arises?—When it is an unpaid Board, more than once a month would be very hard. Special meetings, I think, would suffice.

58260. That is the way at present?—But, as between the meetings, there ought to be a member of the Board who should have a certain authority, and who ought to be paid.

58261. Sir John Colomb.—Can you give me any concrete instance of where loss or inefficient work has resulted from what you call the clashing of the three authorities?—I cannot.

58262. I asked Mr. Russell that, and he could not tell me?—No; but there is a general feeling of dissatisfaction; sometimes it exists with the landlords, and sometimes with the tenants, and it is particularly in regard to purchase—that there are two purchasing authorities in the same district, and that there is a spirit of rivalry.

58263. May I ask you this? Take your programme. The Board is dealing with a block of estates. The Estates Commissioners are to purchase. Then comes in the Congested Districts Board, and then comes the Agricultural Department for instruction and development; and therefore, even on your system—even on the same estate—you will have three different authorities?—The Estates Commissioners would, of course, be very temporary, and the Congested Districts Board I would regard as temporary also. The Estates Commissioners would clear out the moment the purchase agreement had been made with the landlord, and the Congested Districts Board would be cleared out as soon as they had completed the work of re-settling the land upon that estate, and the Department would remain as long as the law leaves them in existence.

58264. Then you mean that the operation should extend all over Ireland?—No. I would have the Congested Districts Board operate in the Province of Connaught, and Donegal, Clare, and Kerry. I would confer upon the Estates Commissioners similar powers in regard to congested districts in any other part of Ireland.

58265. I can follow the general principle. Outside Connaught and the scheduled area, the Estates Commissioners would be not only the purchasing, but the settling authorities?—Yes. My reason for that is

that although there are estates of the class existing in Connaught, in other counties they are more easily dealt with, whereas the question operates here over a very large area, practically over the entire province, and some other counties.

58266. CHAIRMAN.—What is your reason for thinking that within the counties you have just named as being the field for the Congested Districts Board that benefit would arise from giving the purchasing power in these counties to the Estates Commissioners?—I have no instance in my mind, but dissatisfaction exists on the part of landlords and tenants. I think it is a bad principle to have two public authorities in apparent rivalry with each other in carrying out the same business.

58267. I can quite understand that, but supposing by any means the price at which land was transferred became as far as possible stereotyped by agencies other than those exercised by either purchasing body, then would you have the same feeling that one body was better than the other?—No. I have no feeling that one body is better than the other.

58268. You speak of compulsion. Now, isn't it your opinion that if compulsion is to be resorted to, it must be very clearly laid down on what basis compulsion is to be applied. If the result of compulsion is to lay down a fixed standard at which compulsion would be applied, then I say won't that bring in an agency for fixing price outside the functions of either purchasing body?—Well, I presume the purchasing body would arrange the machinery by which the compulsory price would be arrived at.

58269. Take the Evicted Tenants Bill of last year. An appeal in that case was granted, and I presume, as a matter of argument, that if compulsory powers were extended that the right of appeal would be given with that extension?—Yes, if you take the precedent of the Evicted Tenants Bill.

58270. I do not know whether it is proper for me to say so, but personally I cannot conceive that Parliament would consent to allow either the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board to compulsorily purchase land, when they themselves are the purchasing body, fixing the price of the land. I assume, for the sake of argument, where compulsion is applied that there would be an appeal to some other body, as in the case of the Evicted Tenants Bill. If that is so, would not that mean that the judge, or other body to whom the appeal would be referred, sooner or later, lay down pretty clearly what was the basis of price on which compulsion was to be exercised?—Yes, I assume that.

58271. If that is so, does it matter whether that purchase is carried out by the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board?—Well, I think it would. In my opinion the Congested Districts Board has its hands pretty well full in carrying out the work of improvement, without adding to its labours the duty of negotiating, because even under compulsion, there will be negotiations.

58272. I mean, isn't it certain that if you have compulsion, and if under compulsion the price is more or less stereotyped, as I suggest it would be, the private negotiations would cease unless they brought the price up to what would rule under compulsion. What landlord is going to sell at a price lower than he knows he can get on appeal?—If there was an actual stereotyped basis fixed, then no landlord would sell voluntarily unless he got the higher price; but there is always uncertainty in going to law, and, of course, the application of compulsion would mean going to law.

58273. As a matter of fact, will there be uncertainty about going to law?—Take the cases of compulsory purchase in England under the Land Clauses, and is it not a fact that by the operation of time and the number of cases brought into Court, the people know pretty well what price they will get, and that the same thing will happen in Ireland?—The operation of time results in certain principles being laid down, that under a certain set of circumstances a man may get a certain price, and we find by the operation of compulsory law in England that numerous cases are arranged without going into Court at all, in order to avoid the uncertainties of the law Courts.

58274. I suggest to you that the reason the cases are settled out of Court is that the operation of the Court is so well known that the people arrive at the prices which they would get?—There are elements in connection with fixing price which would prevent one stereotyped arrangement. There may be a certain number of general principles, as for instance where good land might produce from the Court a higher price than bad land. But there is land which has never been in Court at all, there is untenanted land which has never been subjected to any kind of judicial procedure. You cannot have a stereotyped arrangement to meet all the cases. It would certainly take a considerable time before the different principles were laid down.

58275. At any rate, without discussing that point, for it is not one we can discuss at the moment, may I take it that your reason for pressing that the Estates Commissioners should be given the purchasing power for the whole of Ireland is chiefly because in your opinion the Estates Commissioners have hitherto been able to purchase land at a more reasonable rate than the Congested Districts Board?—No. As a matter of fact, I have no opinion whatsoever on that point, and I have no means of arriving at an opinion. I have heard opinions expressed by others, but I attach no weight to such opinions, because I have heard people who ought to be authorities express contrary opinions. My reason is that there ought not to be two public authorities doing exactly the same work in the same district, and that the effect of having two such authorities must produce rivalry, and a waste of time and money.

58276. If you have no feeling that one Board has purchased at a lower price than another Board, if all you wish to bring about is a cessation of rivalry between the two Boards, in other words, as you say, that the two Boards should not continue to do purchasing transactions in the same locality, would not your point be met if the Board were to be the sole purchasing authority?—Well, I have one further objection, which is, that the Congested Districts Board ought to be left as free as it is possible to leave them to the very large work of improving, and that they ought to be left absolutely free from the larger work of negotiating prices and carrying out purchase transactions. I have two reasons—one to prevent rivalry and waste, and the other to relieve the Congested Districts Board as much as possible from one class of work, in order that they may more thoroughly devote themselves to another class of work.

58277. Your point is that rivalry would be avoided by an allocation of areas?—No, not an allocation of areas, but of duties.

58278. Your point as to rivalry in purchasing would be met by an allocation of areas?—It would, certainly.

58279. If you gave the Estates Commissioners purchasing powers for Ireland generally, and the Congested Districts Board for the counties you mentioned, would that meet your point?—Not in the way I desire.

58280. It would meet your first point?—Yes.

58281. Your second point is that the Board should not be given the responsibility of purchasing, because they have other work to do?—Yes.

58282. Now, as to that, does it not seem to you that there would be a danger of friction if the Board were to be the authority, and, as a consequence, would have to fix the annuities upon estates purchased by a different authority?—Yes; there would be a danger of course, that is, on the assumption that the Estates Commissioners did not take the same economic interest in the purchase transactions in what I may call the congested districts.

58283. What you suggest is that the Estates Commissioners buy an estate say, in Roscommon, and having bought it hand it over to the Congested Districts Board to be re-striped and improved, and re-settled upon annuities fixed by the Congested Districts Board. Supposing there was discontent would not the Board say, "It is not our fault. We had to fix annuities on estates over which we had no voice in the purchase." And would not the Estates Commissioners say, "No, it is your fault. You squandered money on improving"?—I think I would run all the risk of it. I think the advantage would be more than counterbalanced by the disadvantage.

58284. As a matter of fact, would not the work of purchase possibly be more rapid under a division such as I suggest, because if you get the two Boards on the same principle, isn't it more likely to be rapid if the Board has its field over which it can act, and

Oct. 2, 1907.

Mr. John P. Hayden.

the Estates Commissioners its field, over which it can act. On the other hand, if the whole work is thrown on the Estates Commissioners they will at one time be asked to turn their attention, say, to Westmeath, and at the same time they will be asked to come down to Connaught. They cannot be everywhere at the same time, and therefore would not a division of purchasing labour affect rapidity of purchase rather than delay?—I hardly think so. I think that my chief point would be to prevent rivalry. I think that the other point may be met by an enlargement of the staff of the Board, but, personally, I would prefer to have their work limited to improving, but I would not lay very much emphasis on it. I see a certain disadvantage.

58285. Isn't this the case at present. The Estates Commissioners are a body constituted under statute, with all the organisation of a modern up-to-date Department, with their chief men in Dublin, organising and directing, and with able agents and inspectors going through the country, carrying out these orders and instructions. Under a system such as that is not the work likely to be more rapid than under a system such as you have on the Congested Districts Board, where Mr. Doran is expected to do practically the whole thing?—Yes.

58286. Is not any delay of the Congested Districts Board explained by the fact that Mr Doran has practically the dual responsibility of explaining the policy to the Board, and, at the same time, carrying it out in the country?—Well, I think that is the point I have been trying to make.

58287. Would not any delay of that kind be perfectly well met if you have one man responsible, say, in Dublin for policy, acting in connection with the Board, with men under him, as the Estates Commissioners have, for carrying out his instructions?—Well, of course, that is a matter of staffing.

58288. Is there any reason to think that under such an arrangement the Congested Districts Board would be slower than the Estates Commissioners?—I don't think so.

58289. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—The suggestion is that the Congested Districts Board at present is not as efficient a body in purchasing operations as the Estates Commissioners, and the Chairman says that it can be made as efficient a body as the Estates Commissioners by the appointment or engagement of more staff, so that is, in other words, the creation of an additional department to the many departments already existing in Ireland. Up to the present Mr. Doran performs, in a manner which is the admiration of us all, functions of a diverse sort, but under present arrangements the Congested Districts Board cannot carry out purchase operations as quickly or efficiently as the Estates Commissioners, which have a special up-to-date staff for the purpose of doing it. Therefore, in order to bring the Congested Districts Board up-to-date in this way, and to a state of equal efficiency, the creation of another staff is necessary?—I don't take it as the creation of another staff.

58290. Well, an enlargement. You suggest the employment of the Congested Districts Board for purchase operations in the congested districts and the Estates Commissioners outside?—Yes, as an alternative to my first suggestion.

58290A. Would not that be calculated to create a double standard of land value?—I don't think so. The standard in the congested districts would, of course, be different from that outside.

58291. There is much land in Connaught of the same character as outside Connaught. If the purchase operations were conducted by two independent bodies, would not that have the effect of creating two different standards of purchase price?—I think the altered circumstances would very much affect the price.

58292. Sir John Colomb.—Can you give an instance of a delay having occurred in purchasing that was directly attributable to the fact that the Congested Districts Board did not exercise its powers?—No.

58293. Mr. Kavanagh.—I think you said that there was not more untenanted land in Roscommon than would relieve congestion?—What I said was that if the whole agricultural population were allotted land at the rate in which it is held by 3 per cent. of the agricultural proprietors it would take seven counties as large as Roscommon. I have no means of arriving at the amount of untenanted land, but 160,000 acres are held by 3 per cent. of the population. In a rough and ready way, I reckon it out that not more than 60,000 acres of this are occupied by *bona fide* farmers.

58294. I take it from you that in the relief of congestion the bounds of the county ought not to be the limit to the relief of congestion in that county?—No.

58295. Therefore, you would not object to people being brought into Roscommon from other parts?—No; but I would first attend to the wants of the people of the county. I think that the people in need of land, who would be suitable workers of land, and living in the immediate neighbourhood of it, should have first claim.

58296. Would the young men have a greater claim than migrants from congested districts?—In my opinion they would, and I will give a reason for it. The ratepayers of the county are responsible under the law as it now stands, and as I presume it will stand, for the repayment of the purchase annuities, and therefore I think that the representatives of the ratepayers ought to have some voice as to the class of men who would be allotted land, and it is quite possible they might think that a young man living in their own part would be a more suitable, solvent, and reliable man than a migrant brought in from some other county.

58297. You are aware that some counties are not as rich as Roscommon, and what would happen to them if your scheme was carried?—Well, take, for instance, Kerry and Donegal In these districts there ought to be an effort made to relieve their position by the provision of industries suitable to the districts, and to effect improvements by drainage and soforth in preference to migration. Personally, I have no objection to men being brought from other counties into Roscommon after the Roscommon people have been provided with land.

58298. There will be very little margin after the sons of tenants are all provided with land?—Well, I think it would be very much better to provide them with land here than to have them go to America. They are the best workers, and the men most likely to develop the land.

58299. I may take it that it is your opinion that the sons of tenants in Roscommon have a greater claim than migrants from other counties?—Yes.

58300. Mr. Bryce.—Suppose you found there was no means to relieve congestion in the West except by giving up land in counties such as Roscommon?—I don't think it is the case. I have the opinion that all the men in this county who are fit to work a farm and need land ought to be provided with land in the county. They have a certain amount of natural right to it, inasmuch as very many of them are the descendants of men who formerly occupied that land.

58301. You are aware if you pursued that policy you would be only pushing the evil day off for another generation? In thirty years time you would have exactly the same question; meantime you would not have relieved congestion in the West of Ireland?—I think, indeed, that we may rest contented in trying to relieve the state of things as they exist now without considering extreme possibilities in regard to the future.

58302. I am putting the question on the hypothesis that if you pursue the policy you recommend you would not relieve congestion in the West of Ireland?—I do not admit that.

58303. There is one question I would like to ask you. Say, by-and-bye when this particular work was done, the Estates Commissioners and Congested Districts Board would disappear, and the only Department remaining after the question was settled would be the new Department of Agriculture. They have spent money in building houses and making drains out of State funds for which the ratepayers are responsible. After their disappearance, how are you going to provide for the maintenance of the work done, and seeing that the property does not deteriorate?—At present I don't think there is any machinery for that, but I think, speaking generally, that the incentive which occupiers will have to industry by the fact that their results will be all their own would meet the case. There would be exceptions, and there ought to be some provision made for at least inspecting the farms and seeing that the improvements are maintained. There is no such provision as far as I am aware now.

58304. I mean, take the case of drainage, such as on the Dillon Estate, or as regards the Suck drainage, if

that is allowed to sink down?—I do not think there is any provision just now to deal with cases of the kind. The Congested Districts Board cannot remain for ever on the Dillon Estate; they must proceed elsewhere, and there ought to be provision made for the maintenance of improvements that affect a whole district. Occupiers should be obliged to maintain the improvements on their own holdings so long as they are security to the State.

58305. CHAIRMAN.—In connection with the answer you gave Mr. Kavanagh, I understand from what you said that in your view you favour the claim of the sons of tenants over that of migrants on the ground that, as the county ratepayers are finally responsible for the property, that it was essential to choose the best and most likely men rather than men from the West, who had not perhaps the same principles of agricultural knowledge. But, as a matter of fact, does that danger arise? It is true that the rates have to bear the loss in the last instance, but, supposing you were to put a migrant upon the grass lands in Roscommon, and by bad husbandry he failed to pay, the Government, I think, then turns about and sells his holding, so that the son of the tenant would then have the chance of coming into the land?—If he had the ready money to pay for it.

58306. It is not a question of ready money?—The land is put up for auction, and the purchaser has to pay cash down for the tenant's right. In the meantime the arrears of the annuity will have been levied upon the local rates. Arrears have been levied this year. Once the rates are incurred at all they immediately fall upon the rates, although they are always collected from the occupier.

58307. When it is collected from the occupier there is no element of loss?—There is a certain amount of loss and inconvenience in this way, that the ratepayers are not only the guarantors, but they have also to lend the money. For instance, they have to pay this year the amount of arrears incurred up to the 31st March last year. By the 31st March next year this may be paid to the Government, and the county rates get credit for the amount paid. But in the meantime they have lent it to the Government. They have parted with their money, even though it has to be paid back. The great bulk of the ratepayers are very poor men; for instance, I have shown that sixty per cent. of the agricultural holdings are under £5 valuation.

58308. So long as the Government turned out the man for non-payment of the annuity within a reasonable time the sum that falls on the rates is very small. I believe that in itself would not be a very great objection to the policy of introducing migrants?—No, but the amount will necessarily grow with the larger operations.

58309. If there was anything like wholesale failures to meet annuities by men of that kind I think it might be a strong argument against the policy of migration. But would you not think that until that day would arrive, until it could be shown that these men failed to pay their annuities, that they should not be debarred the chance of showing what they are made of?—I do not think that this difficulty is nearly so great as some people, and I am afraid some members of the Commission, think. I am of opinion that the difficulty has been to some extent created, certainly exaggerated, by the extent to which it has been debated on this Commission and elsewhere. I do not believe the difficulty exists at all to the extent some people appear to think. It exists largely in people's imagination.

58310. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you believe that the difficulties of bringing migrants into Roscommon have been exaggerated?—The difficulties of bringing them from one district to another have. If ten or five years ago a large grass ranch was bought in the centre of the grass ranches of Roscommon, and if people from any place were put upon it there would have been no objection. Now there is a certain amount of objection. The feeling which creates the difficulty has grown by time, but I think it has been assisted in its growth by the extent to which it has been debated in this Commission.

58311. If there is a farm of grass land in Roscommon that has been cleared for the purpose of settlement, you say that if a migrant is brought in from another county and settled upon it, and he fails, the liability is on the ratepayers. On the other hand, if you put on a farmer's son, does the liability disappear?—I don't quite say that. The migrant might be quite as good and as solvent as the son of the tenant, but the presumption is that a strong, vigorous young man, who is prepared to go to America and shoulder his way through the world, is more liable to make good use of the land.

58312. Relatively, that the liability is likely to be less?—Yes.

58313. If a migrant who is brought in owes a year's annuity, and he is turned out—if anybody is turned out it is on the assumption that he fails to pay a year's annuity—I ask you, in that case, is it a real liability at all?—You must recollect that, once it is put up for sale, that it is the tenant's or occupier's interest that is put for sale. This interest, when sold, ought to be worth a good deal more than the amount of his debts due to the Government.

58314. Quite so; but is not that against your argument as to liability on the rates?—Supposing the liability was to be only one year's annuity, the ratepayers are greatly interested in one year's annuity. A year's annuity, if not paid by a considerable number of tenants, would be a very serious matter for the county. Even before the lands are sold the amount due will have been levied off the rates.

58315. The ratepayers would have found one year's annuity, which they would get recouped at the end of the next year. They would have to pay the annuity, and, on the land being bought by another tenant, they are repaid?—One has not to take one particular case. These occupiers will be numbered by the thousands, and if they all, or a considerable number fail, the ratepayers are liable.

58316. If you assume that, must you not assume that all the tenants failed?—Not necessarily. A number may fail this year, and a number the year after, and it might not break the ratepayers. Already the ratepayers, I think, have a pretty fair share of rates to bear.

58317. Does an annuity come on the rates the moment it is overdue?—Yes. This is the first year, I believe, in which it did come on. This year two years' arrears were collected, £70,000, having been stopped from the grants-in-relief of local rates. The arrears so far have been very small, so small apparently that the Government did not bother collecting them from the ratepayers until this year, when they were collecting from the ratepayers the loss incurred by flotation and soforth, and they added to that the amount of the arrears. In the accounts next year the ratepayers will be credited with the amount of arrears which have been paid.

58318. Your objection would cease altogether if the failure of annuity did not come on the rates until the Government actually failed to sell the holding?—It would not, sir. I think my reason for preference is that the son of the tenant would be a more likely man to develop his holding—that he would be a better occupier. That is one reason, and another is that some regard must be had to the popular feeling of the district if the scheme is to be successful. I do not like to take this parochial or county view of it. I would rather that it had not been raised, not from personal reasons, but because I think it is bad from the general public point of view. You cannot force a number of men from one district into another against the wishes of the people of the parish or county where you want to put them. A number of people occupy land which the people in that district need very much. They have been looking for it for years, and one must have some regard for the local feeling and the public peace of the district, otherwise the scheme cannot succeed.

58319. You admit, I suppose, that this Commission was appointed to inquire into congestion, and the methods of relieving congestion. In other words, the uneconomic holders of the West should have their lot improved. Therefore you will agree, I think, that on a question of this kind, a question that so intimately affects the relief of congestion, it would be improper to pass over any feeling which might prevent carrying out a policy for that relief?—Yes.

58320. Again, would you admit that hitherto the demand for the purchase and division of the grass lands put forward has been justified on the grounds that it would be the means of relieving congestion in the West?—Yes.

58321. Does it not therefore come to this, that if you are to say that you cannot force people into a

Oct. 2, 1907.
Mr. John P. Hayden.

locality where their presence is unwelcome, that the future acquisition and division of grass lands is to be defended not for the purpose of the relief of congestion in the West, but for the purpose of providing land for people who have no land at all?—Yes, to some extent

Lieut.-Colonel Wm. Hutcheson Poë, examined.

Lieut.-Colonel Wm. Hutcheson Poë.

58322. Chairman.—You want to make some remarks to the Commission regarding certain evidence already tendered?—Yes, my lord. It has reference to some evidence given at Cookstown and Newry by the Rev. Canon Quin, P.P., and Mr. John Doris.* Canon Quinn is a gentleman for whom I have great regard, and my only object in contradicting his evidence, so to speak, is to show that there are two sides to the question. I have here some tables showing the prices which have been given in the last four or five years by tenants on the estate of Mrs. M. A. Poë, and also cases in which I have exercised the right of pre-emption. The prices which I had to pay, and which were assessed by the Estates Commissioners, will be an answer to the argument put forward by Canon Quinn and Mr. Doris (*produces his tables*).†

58323. I don't suppose you wish to read these?—If I might be allowed I might say that the trend of Canon Quinn's evidence seemed directed towards showing that it was inequitable on the part of the landlord to ask the same number of years in the case of what he called bad land as for good land. I think that does not hold good, as everyone knows rents are fixed in proportion to the quality of the land, and I think the landlord is entitled to get the same number of years for land which has a rent fixed according to its quality as he is entitled to get for good land, that is to say, such a price as would bring in his second term net rental.

58324. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—That contention has been challenged. If a bad farm is allowed to remain out of cultivation for, say, three years, and if a good farm receives similar treatment it is far easier to get the good farm back into the condition in which it was before it was allowed to go out of cultivation. The inherent recuperative qualities of good land are much greater than that of bad land. Consequently a good farm is better than a bad farm even at rents which are relatively equitable?—I admit that. I want to call attention to a case of pre-emption exercised in the case of a bad farm which had been allowed to go into a very backward state. The mortgagee sold his interest, and I exercised the right of pre-emption. The Estate Commissioners came down, and fixed the price which I had to pay for that farm, which had been allowed to go into the most backward state, at 26 years' purchase. In another case I paid 44 years' purchase—for a very small holding, I admit; the rent was only £2 a year, but at the same time the principle applies.

58325. Was there any particular reason for that? Was it a town park or accommodation park?—No. I have given here (*referring to tables*) cases in the last five years where tenants have paid, one to the other, for the interest of their holdings, 25, 35, 42, 43, 44, 63, and 72½ years' purchase. They are not picked out; they are the only sales that have taken place in the last few years. These figures, showing what enormous sums the tenants are prepared to pay, speak for themselves. In this property the agent collects his rents without any trouble, and there has not been a single eviction in twenty years. In the face of those figures it is manifestly, I think, a rather forced argument to say that when we ask that we should be given 24½ years' purchase, such a price as will give the second term net rental, that it is an exorbitant price.

58326. Might I ask you whether those people who purchased at those very high rates were people in the neighbourhood or returned Americans?—No; but in the case of the man who bought at the highest number of years' purchase I know he had a large sum of money sent him from America.

58327. Chairman.—About the point raised by Sir Antony with regard to good and bad land, without going into a discussion as to whether a landlord should get his net income on good or bad land, would you be disposed to agree that the rate of capitalisation might vary? Would you be disposed to think that whereas it might be legitimate for a landlord selling good land to plead that his money should be capitalised at a low rate, say 3½ and that in the case of bad land a higher rate ought to be taken into consideration?—I would also be guided by the manner in which the rent was paid on that land. In this particular case the arrears were £1,600, and they have been reduced without any pressure to £400. In such a case I think the landlord is entitled to say, "My rental is secure, and I am entitled to get such a sum as will when invested, not in favoured securities, but reasonable securities, bring me in that rental."

58328. Now, leave out your property. Of course there are a good many slum holdings in Ireland where the price of tenant-right is really very high, and there are very good reasons for that; but in advances by the State for such land ought it not to be the principle that the money advanced should be based upon the agricultural value of the land, not upon the mere disposition of certain individuals to take the land at a certain price. To put it like this, what in your opinion should govern the security of the State, the inherent agricultural value of the land, which is a real security, or the personal security of a number of people who at a certain price may be prepared to take that land?—The security for the State would be the inherent value. The value of land, however, is determined by the price which it would take in the open market. If you had an open market for the sale of your land then you could see what its value would be.

58329. Is not the high price paid for tenant-right explained by the necessity which compels them to bid against each other for the land, because there is practically no other occupation to which they can turn. It happens to be for the moment that the best thing they can do is to get hold of land; but supposing you have industries starting in these areas might it not be the fashion then for people to devote themselves to industrial life rather than agricultural life. Might not the market for these slum holdings then very much collapse?—That probably would be the effect, but at the same time I think that under present conditions, when the value of the capital sum which the landlord is to receive is taken into consideration, you must be guided, not only by the judicial rent of the holding, but the consideration which one tenant is prepared to pay to another, and which in my opinion represents the true market value.

58330. When the amount to be paid to the landlord is being considered and the rate in which his money was going to be capitalised is being considered, don't you think it would be fair if the State said—You are selling good land, and we agree to give you a sum of money which shall be capitalised at a low rate of interest, which capitalisation shall give you your net income; and they might say to another landlord—You are selling land composed of slum holdings, which cannot be considered as of great agricultural value, and we shall give you a sum of money which shall be capitalised at a higher rate?—To a certain extent you must be influenced by the fact as to whether the rent is well or badly paid. If the rent was badly paid the landlord could not reasonably expect his net income.

58331. Supposing two men are selling land, one in Meath, land which brings him in a net income of £100 a year, and another man in Connemara land which also brings him £100 a year, don't you think it would be fair if they said that the Meath man should be capitalised at a lower rate of interest than the Connemara man?—Yes, I follow your argument, and I think there is something to be said for it.

58332. Sir John Colomb.—I want to know if you can give the rents and valuation in those cases you mentioned in which you exercised pre-emption?—One was a farm of which the valuation was £4 and the second term judicial rent was £2 8*s*. In 1900 I bought that at practically 44 years' purchase. In another case the valuation was £10 10*s*. and the rent £8 10*s*. second term. Pre-emption was exercised in

* See p. 17, q. 35323, and p. 98, q. 37916.
† See Table B., p. 291.

1905, and I had to pay 26 years' purchase. In that particular case about 40 acres were arable, but so badly cultivated that a great deal had gone back to a state of nature.

58333. Take the case of 26 years' purchase, and take the landlord's interest on the basis of 24½ years' purchase, that makes 50½ years' purchase as the dual interest, and in the other case cited by you 68 years' purchase. These illustrations go to show that the interest of the occupier appears to be greater than that of the landlord?—That is what it comes to.

58334. If the dual interest is represented by the landlord being both owner and occupier that illustrates the value of grazing land?—I should think so.

58335. Mr. O'Kelly.—Does a dual interest exist in untenanted land?—Yes, I should say so certainly, because in untenanted land the owner is both the occupier and owner.

58336. That is to say there is a tenant's interest on land on which there is no tenant?—The case I have in my mind is one that has been in the occupation of a tenant. In the lands I have bought I have bought out the tenants' interest.

58337. You, I understand, bought out the tenant's interest, and then the whole interest became one?—Yes.

58338. Chairman.—Then it is not to be deduced from that that where there has never been a tenant that there is a tenant's interest?—No.

Mr. John Fitzgibbon re-examined.*

Mr. John Fitzgibbon.

58339. Chairman.—You wish to supplement your previous evidence?—Yes, my lord, I have been nominated by the County Council. You have already on record my views as to the manner in which future legislation in connection with the settlement of the congested question and the general settlement of the Irish land question ought to proceed, so I do not intend to deal at any considerable length with them now, except the Commission intend to put me any questions pertinent to the evidence of previous witnesses. Mr. Hayden has already dealt with the desirability of having the ratepayers of the county having a voice in the selection of migrants, because the success of the scheme will depend on the class of tenants that are selected, and for that reason the holdings from which it is proposed to migrate them should bear evidence of the fitness of the migrants to manage the farms. I do not ask that the selection should be solely determined by the representatives of the county, but that they should share in the responsibility with the Congested Districts Board.

58340. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—You say that the ratepayers of the county should have a voice in the selection of migrants. How could they exercise an effective voice?—By having a nominated or elected representation from the county on the body responsible for selection.

58341. But what would they know about migrants from Galway?—It should be their business to know.

58342. The Congested Districts Board through its agents would have knowledge of everything concerning the congested districts of Galway. They would have all the information available, and how could a nominated member of the County Council gain any information on the point?—It would be open to him to ascertain.

58343. How could he proceed about it?—He could inquire into the character of the migrants.

58344. From those best able to give him information or by inspecting the holding from which he was to be taken? Supposing there were four or five hundred holdings he would go and make an inquisitorial investigation into each?—Yes.

58345. Do you mean that he should be responsible for the selection of the migrants from the congested districts?—He should share in the responsibility of the work of selection.

58346. Mr. Kavanagh.—And if he approves of them would you approve of them being brought into Roscommon?—Yes. After the needs of the county are settled.

58347. Chairman.—Supposing that there was a feeling of dissatisfaction in a particular county with regard to a policy of migration, and supposing that this feeling was largely owing or to a certain extent due to the ignorance of the people in the county as to the needs of congestion as a whole, don't you think that a strong representative of the county who was a member of the Board, and therefore was able to be fully acquainted with the problem as a whole, not as it affected his locality but as it affected the whole country, don't you think that that man would be more likely to come down and try to persuade his neighbours in his own locality to accept a policy of that kind even against their own prejudices than would be the case if that man was not a member of the Board?—There is a difference of opinion about that.

58348. I want your opinion?—One of the functions of a man nominated by the county on the Board would be, first, take Mayo, for instance, to see that the resources of Mayo were exhausted before migrants are introduced into Roscommon. The introduction of migrants into Roscommon before the resources of the county from which they were brought were exhausted would be resented.

58349. What I meant was this: supposing there was a man much respected and trusted in Roscommon, one upon the Board as a nominee of Roscommon, and supposing that he was aware that a good many of his neighbours were opposed to the introduction of migrants; supposing after his experience on the Board he saw that the relief of congestion as a whole could not be properly effected unless some grass lands in Roscommon were used for migrants, don't you think that man would be listened to by his neighbours if he came down and told them that undoubtedly congestion could only be relieved by looking at the subject from a broad point of view? Don't you think that he would be likely to have some effect with those who are disposed to take a narrow and parochial view?—Well, he might, but outside the Board his influence might be equally great.

58350. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—If you were a nominee?—You might leave that out, Sir Antony.

58351. Sir John Colomb.—Do I understand this, that if the grass lands of Roscommon are appropriated when you have provided for the uneconomic holdings that the balance of the land must be kept until you see whether the Congested Districts Board has exhausted its resources in the other counties—that the balance of land is not to be claimed by farmers' sons or others until it is ascertained whether in the congested counties the land is exhausted?—Yes, that might be done.

58352. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—What, in your opinion, might be done? What would be the policy you would recommend in that case? You are before us a representative of the County Council. Take the case of migrants. An estate in Roscommon on which there is a certain number of uneconomic holdings is bought. The first procedure after purchasing that estate would be to enlarge the uneconomic holdings up to a certain level. Would you then earmark the remainder of the land on that estate for the migrants of other counties?—No, sir. I would deal with the entire problem in Roscommon first. There are thousands of holdings in Roscommon under £5 valuation.

58353. Well, then, you would deal with the uneconomic holdings in Roscommon outside the estate which would be purchased?—Quite so.

58354. Therefore, you would deal with the uneconomic holdings in Roscommon whether scheduled or not?—Yes.

58355. If you had made provision for all the uneconomic holdings in Roscommon and there was spare land, would you ear-mark that land for the other counties? What would you do with that land?—I would hold it.

58356. You would not give it to the sons of tenants?—There are portions of Roscommon that migrants would be very reluctant to go to.

58357. You would not ear-mark that land for migrants?—No.

58358. Holdings up to £5 valuation can be enlarged by the Board when a neighbouring estate is purchased, and what you propose is an enlargement of the present system?—Yes. The Congested Districts Board and the Estates Commissioners should be vested

* For former examination see Appendix to the Fifth Report of the Commission [Cd. 3630, 1907], pp. 140 and 151.

Oct. 2, 1907.

Mr. John Fitzgibbon.

with discretionary powers to make additions to holdings in close proximity to or adjoining untenanted lands, in the case of holdings rated over £10, or even where the valuation exceeds £12 or £14. I know many cases where the area already rated does not exceed 16 statute acres. It is desirable that all congested townlands or districts should be similarly treated, where they have been sold to tenants, no matter what the form of purchase gone through, whether the sales had been effected under previous or recent Land Acts or by direct sale.

58359. CHAIRMAN.—I take it that you would propose to buy all the grass land you could get in Roscommon and hold it. Well, now, may I ask what would be the advantage of doing that if several years were to elapse before you would be in a position to find out how it should be apportioned? Would it not be better to buy grass land only as you wanted it for specific cases you had already decided on?—No.

58360. Just think for a moment. All these advances by the State for land purchase cost a good deal of money, and at present that falls on the ratepayers. Why, then, should you impose a burden on the ratepayers by acquiring more land than you could possibly deal with for several years?—I would purchase all the untenanted land I could get at a reasonable price. Take the Congested Districts Board; it has on hands at present a large quantity of untenanted land which accommodates many people from the congested districts for cattle, and gives them cheap hay, and the holding of that land does not, I am sure, entail loss through the flotation of stock.

58361. The loss on the flotation of stock is far greater than any other loss. Supposing you want £5,000,000 to buy the grass lands in Roscommon, the loss on the flotation of that stock would be very great. Why should you incur that loss on flotation before it is necessary?—Well that is a large sum.

58362. Do you admit that it would be wasteful for the State to go and purchase all the grass lands in Roscommon if they could not possibly deal with it?—If a pre-emption clause were put in in future legislation securing that land for the people, it would then be advisable to proceed with the purchase, and without risk of incurring any great loss to the country.

58363. I do not understand what you mean?—I mean that the land should not be sold except through the public body appointed for the purpose of purchasing these lands.

58364. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—If you had compulsory purchase, would not that be equivalent?—Yes.

58365. Do you recognise that it would not be advantageous to purchase the whole of the untenanted lands in Roscommon in six months?—As fast as you can get them you should purchase.

58366. The State has got to float stock, and the flotation of stock entails a great loss. What is the use of asking the State to incur all that expense, which falls finally on the ratepayers, when you have yet got to make out all this information about migrants, which must take a considerable time. The settlement of Roscommon, no matter how rapidly you go, will take at least five years?—I would say ten years.

58367. What is the use of having the land on your hands?—I would secure the land; you are not called upon to pay for estates the day you purchase them, or for long after. I differ from Mr. Hayden as to the mode of purchase—that is giving the Estates Commissioners the purchasing of the entire lands of Ireland. I would settle on the Congested Districts Board the responsibility of purchasing the land that they would have to deal with. From a business point of view, I think it would work better. It would be practically the same as a business man in purchasing stock. The man who buys it takes an interest in selling it. It would be the best way of dealing with the question, and a wholesome rivalry would be created without friction. The Estates Commissioners would be dealing with other classes of estates in the three other provinces, the Congested Districts Board having the province of Connaught and other congested counties, and there would be no clashing. I regret to have to differ from The O'Conor Don in parts of his evidence.* He put forward the dealings of his respected father with his tenants as a sample of what landlords in general have done. No one will dispute the fact that he was a kind and indulgent landlord, but he was an exception to the rule. When, however, he was disposing of his Clonalis Estate, if he wanted to be friendly to his tenants he should have sold it to the Congested Districts Board. It was the class of estate the Estates Commissioners should not have dealt with. Nothing has been done in the way of improving the position of the tenants, except migrating four of them. The O'Conor Don said that several of his tenants refused to migrate. It is true that some of the tenants refused to go, and for two reasons. First, the quantity of land offered to each was not considered sufficient in size; and, secondly, the annuity to be paid was considered much too high. To my own certain knowledge they were not encouraged by the Estates Commissioners' Inspectors, but, on the contrary, they were told they would get cheaper land if they waited. Some of them now occupy holdings on the Balffe Estate, 30 per cent. cheaper than those obtainable on the Belanagare Estate. They should not have been asked to migrate to the Belanagare Estate in the first instance, as there was on that estate a number of uneconomic holdings needing relief. Instead of migrating some of the small tenants to the untenanted lands there, instead of doing that and having houses erected for them, as the Congested Districts Board would have done, these tenants were helped to a few acres two miles apart from their holdings, with the result that these additional patches will be always grazed upon or used as meadow, as the transit of suitable manure from their homes will be troublesome and inconvenient.

58368. CHAIRMAN.—These questions, of course, are of local interest rather than of general application?—Well, you see it appears in the evidence of The O'Conor Don that the people in the congested districts are not so anxious to migrate, and this is the only opportunity of answering him. The O'Conor Don appears rather alarmed at the disappearance of the grazier. Several reasons can be given to show that his views are wrong in this respect. It will be universally admitted that the grass lands of this county are in need of cultivation. They are not producing within 30 per cent. of what they should, or what they did 30 or 40 years ago. They are rapidly deteriorating. He considers that the breeding of stock would be affected by the graziers not purchasing stores. A man with 20 acres of good Irish land can do with it what the grazier has not succeeded in doing. Some of the new tenants, migrants, have supplied the Castlerea butchers with beef, and one of these was a man who migrated from The O'Conor Don's Estate. The O'Conor Don mentioned that there would be no market for hay if the grazier disappears; but that would be rather a blessing than a misfortune, because when hay does not go to a good price the farmer does not as a rule take it to the market; he gives the land back its produce.

58369. If you break up these grass lands and put people on them how are you going to deal with the difficulty of a water supply? Speaking generally of Roscommon, would it be feasible to create 30 or 40 acre holdings with proper water facilities?—I think so. It is a difficulty, no doubt, in some places, but it is not looked upon as an unsurmountable one.

58370. How do you get over it where there is a great tract of land with only one well or river?—The Irwin Estate was divided among some tenants, and the Estates Commissioners made provision to have a pass for all the tenants to the one water place, and the same was done on the Balffe Estate. Of course one of the greatest difficulties is in regard to fuel. In fact, it is a very urgent question just now, because the Congested Districts Board has houses ready for the migrants, and it will be one of their difficulties to provide these people with fuel. The sooner a shortened route is made to Arigna Coal Mine the better. As a help to peopling the lands of Roscommon I would recommend also the establishment of the compressed peat fuel industry.

58371. Which do you think the better to run the new railway to Arigna or to start the compressed peat industry?—Well, I think both would be necessary. Peat would certainly be necessary. There are bogs in closer proximity.

58372. Carriage on peat would be greater than on coal?—Yes.

58373. It would be the cheapest thing in a grass

* See Appendix to the Seventh Report of the Commission [Cd 3785, 1907], p. 252, q. 41855 *et seq.*

country?—Well the people, of course, are more accustomed to the peat. Migrants, I am sure, would prefer using peat to coal.

58374. Have you ever thought that the increased cost on the carriage of peat would make it more than the price for coal?—No. I have been told that the price would work out the same if the access to the Arigna Coal Mines were easier than what it is. In the matter of drainage I entirely endorse what Mr. Hayden has said. I wish to hand in these figures dealing with the number of uneconomic holdings in certain local electoral divisions (*handed in*).* *Oct. 2, 1907.* Mr. John Fitzgibbon.

Mr. E. W. Sandford-Wills examined.

58375. Chairman.—You are nominated to give evidence on behalf of the landlords?—Yes. I live in a congested district. As regards the cutting up of the grass lands of the county, I think that this should be proceeded with with great caution, as it appears to me that great injury may be done to the small farmers in the congested parts of the county by a wholesale division of the grazing lands, for the following reasons:—The cattle trade may be divided into three stages—the calf stage, the store stock stage, and the fattening stage. The tenants of the tillage lands keep one or two cows and rear calves, in some cases buying calves for the purpose. I have even known cows bought to rear the calves. These calves the following year are put out to grass for the summer months, and in the autumn following are sold to the holders of store cattle lands, who keep them for a time, and then pass them on to the holders of fattening lands. Now, if these grass lands are cut up, and migrants from the congested area are planted on them, the result, it appears to me, will be that there will be an increase in the production of calves and a greatly restricted market for the store stock at eighteen months and two years old. There will also be a large number of young stock produced on the grass lands that are cut up. In this way not only will the existing market for store stock be cut off, but a rival factory will be instituted. The greater part of the grass lands of this county are not suited for carrying a close population, as they are not suitable for tillage, and are a long way from turf, besides being very poorly supplied with water. Even in the lands that are best suited for tillage, in the parts where tillage is now and has been carried on, and where the best crops are now grown, the tendency is to till less and less, and put the land more and more under grass. The natural expectation then would be that, on the stiffer lands, not so well adapted for cultivation or so easily worked, the method pursued would most likely be continual meadowing and the production of store stock. As a proof of the tendency to till less I would point to the market in Castlerea, where the amount of produce now sold is not half what it used to be some 25 years ago. There is no great desire among the people in the district in which I live to migrate to new holdings in the grass lands, and the introduction of migrants from more remote districts would be the cause of a great deal of ill-feeling and jealousy. One man said to me: "I hold 14 acres where I am, and I would not give it up for the best 40 acres of land in the county."

58376. Mr. Kavanagh.—But there is a difference between a holding of fourteen acres and one of five?—Yes.

58377. Supposing he had only five acres it would be a different matter with him?—Oh, well, perhaps. The cattle trade is one of the mainstays of the farming community, and has fallen into certain lines, which experience has pointed out as the best. It would, therefore, be doing a great injury to the country in general if any line of action which might throw that trade out of its natural course were entered upon hurriedly and without the most careful consideration. A great deal of good work has been, and is still being done, by the Parish Committees under the Congested Districts Board. In the parish in which I live there is a great improvement in buildings where the occupiers have had grants in aid, both in dwelling-houses and out-offices, new roofs being put on and new cow-houses and stables built, and other improvements made. I think that a good deal more might be done if the Board had more funds at its command to be dispensed by the Parish Committees, who, if they had the funds, could give grants in aid for the purpose of scouring existing main drains, and effecting other improvements. I think, however, if this were done it would be necessary to have legislation for the purpose of compelling the people benefited to maintain the drains when put in order. Otherwise I fear that in a great many cases the drains will in a few years' time become choked, and the trouble be as bad as ever. There is a case of that in my neighbourhood. A man would not do his share, and all the rest of the people had to suffer in consequence. I think it would be a great loss to the congested districts if the Board, which has done so much good work, were disestablished, and its work handed over to another Department. Giving the small farmer the means of improving his stock by putting within his reach good sires, bulls, horses, asses, boars, and, I may add, rams and goats, is conferring a great boon. There used to be a depot for them at Loughglynn. Good sires mean improved stock, and improved stock means increased wealth. In conclusion, I would again say go cautiously in the matter of breaking up the grass lands, and do all that can be done towards improving the existing state of the small farmer. I think migrants introduced to this side, where land is hard to work, would not resort to tillage. That is shown by what is done in the vicinity of Castlerea. In one townland divided into something like twenty-acre holdings over eighteen months ago there is practically no tillage. It is all grass wherever you go. Mr. E. W. Sandford-Wills.

53378. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—Is the restriction in tillage to which you refer due to paucity of labour or what?—I think it is not due to scarcity of labour, but to the fact that the occupiers of the holdings find that they can do better by less tillage. They are doing more in the way of cattle rearing and less in the way of tillage, because they find that they work their holdings in that way with very much less expense and trouble to themselves.

58379. Mr. Kavanagh.—Would you not say that the grass lands are getting worse and worse under the grazing system?—I do not think so.

58380. In parts of Galway I have seen it going back to nature?—In the heart of this county it is not so; the land is good. As to migration my experience is that while each man is quite ready that his neighbour should go he does not want to be transferred himself.

58381. Would they not go in colonies?—I could not say that; each man wants his neighbour to go, but not himself.

58382. But they emigrate without compulsion?—They emigrate because they have friends on the other side, who pay their fares and bring them out. In moving a tenant it will be necessary to make a complete move and not merely give a piece of grass land in addition to a holding already occupied, and also to provide against sub-division. Otherwise in the next generation there will be two holdings in place of one, and the cure will result in making the disease worse.

Mr. Martin Concannon examined.

58383. Chairman.—You are nominated by the Castlerea Rural District Council?—Yes. I have not much to say. Where I live is congested. Thirty-six families in the parish, numbering 136 people, live on 86 acres of bogland. Twelve other families live on fifty acres of a by-road, though this locality is not scheduled as congested. Some people seem to think that we in Roscommon are not congested at all. I have travelled a great part of Mayo and several other counties, and can say for a fact that there are many families living in Roscommon as poor as any in any other county. The twelve families Mr. Martin Concannon.

* See page 292.

Oct. 2, 1907.

Mr Martin Concannon.

to whom I have referred live together, as if they were in a block in a town, and hold their land in common. They have been repeatedly summoned because of their places being unsanitary. Their way of living is about the hardest of the hard, and if it was within your reach you should see this place.

58384. Mr. O'KELLY.—What is the name of the place?—Ballintubber

58385. It is not scheduled as congested, but it is congested as a matter of fact?—It is not scheduled.

58386. The reason it is not scheduled is because it is contiguous to a large number of grazing ranches?—There are hundreds of acres on each side of their houses, and they can only look at them.

58387. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Are you a farmer?—In a small way.

58388. What is your acreage?—15½ acres, valuation £14 10*s* On the 15 acres I have 3½ acres of arable land. I have eleven acres of bog which will not grow anything. I have spent £47 15*s*. for grass manures during the last thirteen years and glad I was to get it. Before that I was forced to go to three conacre fields when I had no one only myself. I used to have meadow here at the poor-house above.

58389. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Why would not you break up any of your land?—Because I would have nothing to feed my cow or my calf either in the winter time. Bog hay is not much good for animals. It may keep them from dying, but they won't improve on it.

58390. If you had a good holding of thirty acres what would you do?—I will tell you what I would do. First, I should tell you I should have a little capital. It would be a wrong thing to give me thirty acres with nothing to work it with. The first thing I would do if I had thirty acres would be to enclose four acres for tillage, for a start.

58391. Out of thirty?—For a start. The next thing I would do is enclose about that much more for meadow. I would pasture the rest. I have a great belief that we living in the country cannot live without tillage, but it is the worst of the land we have to till—and, I tell you the fair truth, for I have good experience, and I am a good age now, and I often had two acres of potatoes sown, and this very year I have them sown, and, thank God, this year they escaped the early summer frost, but many years I had the same complement, and it might happen to be in June or the early days of July the will of Providence that one little night's frost sweeps my two acres of potatoes away. All my class is living on the boglands, and we are asked why don't we till more. We have not the land to till. Why, I would sooner have to-morrow 16½ acres of the worst clay land under Heaven than all the bogland that I have, because you are not sure. You are toiling all your years, and even when you are successful the produce of what is in the bog is not up to much.

Mr. Cox Cotton examined.

Mr. Cox Cotton.

58392. CHAIRMAN.—I see from your precis that your first point is the reason why occupiers of land in Roscommon are graziers?—Yes. In almost all the leases and agreements between landlords and tenants penal clauses prevented the occupier from building, also from converting into tillage. Had it not been for these clauses houses would have been built and many of the farms have been tilled. Owing to these clauses graziers had in many instances to reside on very small farms. Grazing was looked on as a legitimate business and laws enacted to make agreements between landlords and tenants binding.

58393. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you mean clauses inserted in agreements between landlords and tenants?—In one of my agreements even where I reside I am bound not to till more than ten acres of land.

58394. CHAIRMAN.—I suppose that was because the landlords were afraid that if tillage was resorted to the rich pasture lands would be broken up?—Yes, and that they were more valuable as they were.

58395. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Why was there a clause against building?—It was presumed that these lands should be kept as grazing lands, and that if you went to build you would be likely to till.

58396. When were these leases made?—I have a lease of land that was made to my father in 1858. In that lease there are clauses preventing more than four acres being tilled and that for a herd's garden.

58397. Mr. BRYCE.—Four acres out of how many?—There were 252 Irish acres on the farm. Evidently the intention was not to allow him to till

58398. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—You say that laws were enacted to make such agreements binding: do you refer to Acts of Parliament?—Yes. There were Acts of Parliament that made all these leases and agreements binding, and these penal clauses were very frequently put into execution where the agreements were broken. Most of the good grazing land in the centre of South Roscommon is deep, cold clay, late in growth. The tillage on land of similar class in England had to be abandoned as uneconomic.

58399. Can you give us some of the localities in England where that occurred?—Take the deep clay of Leicestershire and other places where there is deep clay. I have not had much experience of England except going through from one place to another in the train, but I know it from reading of it. Some years ago I believe that some of the stiff lands in England could be got for very little.

58400. Mr. BRYCE.—In Essex, for instance?—I could not locate it, but I believe it is a fact.

Mr. SUTHERLAND.—I have heard of it for the first time, and I thought I knew the conditions in England pretty well that land has gone out of cultivation there for the same reasons that you assign as applying to Ireland.

58402. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—It is the case in Cheshire, Leicestershire, and a few other counties by reason of the soil being of the same nature?—Yes. In the district referred to there are not bogs and very bad water. The potatoes grown in the district are almost unfit for food. The oats neither fill nor ripen properly. I have been riding to hounds when the hounds ran through the green oats, coming towards Christmas, more than once.

58403. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—What particular part do you refer to in this neighbourhood? Is it between here and Athlone?—No. It would be within three miles of this town. I could make a parallelogram by the roads.

58404. As we passed along in the train we saw large fields of beautiful ripe oats?—Yes. That would be in the neighbourhood of Athlone, between Athlone and Roscommon. That is the best part of Roscommon for ripening land, and for crops, but beyond this, where Major Balfe lives, there is a road runs from that to Rathcroghan, where the Congested Districts Board have acquired a good deal of land.

58405. These were scattered fields in the middle of large grass fields?—In what district?

58406. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Between Ballymoe and Roscommon, passing by Donamon?—That part of the country and on the borders would be outside the square I speak of. It would be bounded in this way. Go three miles from this town, near Major Balfe's place, there are cross roads. The road runs straight by Rathmoyle until it goes to the cross roads of Rathcroghan, where the Congested Districts Board have acquired a good deal of land. It is bounded on the west and on the north by the road from Rathcroghan through the village of Tulsk to a place called Clashaganny. For the reasons that I have given the few resident occupiers and herds grow only very small patches of crops, finding it uneconomic to to so. My next point is relative to the tenure of land. On a great many estates leases were not given. There was an honourable understanding that so long as a tenant paid his rent he was left in possession. On this understanding farms have been held by the same families for over forty years and are still held. Had it been in the North of Ireland they would have come under the "Ulster Custom." Such lands are misnamed untenanted. When these estates are bought by either the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board, as the law at present stands the occupiers have to go without compensation, which, in many cases, will mean ruin to those who held the land during their lives. As an example, John L. Cotton, of Longford House, Castlerea, holds

a farm on the Pollock Estate for thirty-eight years. Since the expiration of his lease he is a yearly tenant. The agent on the estate has served him with notice to quit, writing to say he did so because the Estates Commissioners required the land. There is no mention of compensation for him, not even as much as would enable him to emigrate in his old age.

58407. Mr. O'KELLY.—Why should not the landlord compensate him and not the Estates Commissioners?—I don't suppose the man would have the slightest objection to the landlord compensating him, or you either.

58408. What claim had he on the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board?—He does not make any claim on them. I just put forward the case whether the Government think he should be put out without any compensation. I have here the letter of the agent in which he sends him notice to quit.

58409. CHAIRMAN.—These were what they call parole agreements?—No. The land was held under lease for twenty-one years. Since the lease expired the tenant was left on. He paid his rent, and the agent accepted it. There was nothing more about it until he got the letter—a rather friendly letter.

58410. Mr. O'KELLY.—Is not the whole thing between the landlord on the one hand and the tenant on the other. Suppose the landlord wished to evict Mr. Cotton, the Estates Commissioners not having interfered, could not he have done so?—Yes, but on his own telling he had no notion of evicting him if he had not sold to the State.

58411. He is making a better bargain with the Estates Commissioners?—What I claim is that these men have a right to be compensated.

58412. If the landlord is so very sympathetic with the man for having to do that let him translate his sympathy into something more substantial?—The landlord is not so sympathetic. The mortgagees are the landlords. The agent is acting for creditors. He writes:—"Dear Sir,—The notice of surrender sent herewith is in contemplation of the sale of the mortgagees' estate to the tenants through the Estates Commissioners under the new Land Act. Should we not be able to carry out the sale we shall be glad if you keep the lands as heretofore. Yours faithfully, John L. Lambert."

58413. CHAIRMAN.—You yourself are a grazier on a large scale?—Yes; a fairly large scale.

58414. How many acres do you graze?—Between 400 and 500 Irish acres.

58415. You hold them under the 11 months' system?—Not one inch, I am thankful to say. I have a judicial lease, and I have a farm of 120 statute acres which I purchased eighteen years ago under the Ashbourne Act, and where I reside. I have signed an agreement for it.

58416. You don't graze on the 11 months' system at all?—I hold no land on the 11 months' system. I am one of the oldest graziers, I suppose, in the county, and I know as much of the tenure of the land as anyone, and as much of the grazing land of the county as, I suppose, a horse could put a foot down on.

58417. Do you hold much land from year to year?—I hold no land only what I have under judicial lease or what I purchased 17½ years ago under the Ashbourne Act, and where I reside I have arranged for the purchase of it, and it is going through in the usual form at present, and there are some other large farms that I have a judicial lease of. As the law exists at present I am pretty safe, and for that reason I feel more for those who are not.

58418. Mr. O'KELLY.—How many acres are on the home farm?—Almost 100 Irish acres.

58419. Are the other two farms you hold under judicial lease close to the home farm?—One farm is only separated by a few hundred yards, though it is a couple of miles around by the road.

58420. How far away is the other farm from the home farm?—As the crow flies it would be four miles, but it is six or seven by the road.

58421. Do you stock the farm seven miles away yourself?—Yes. I stock all the lands.

58422. You would not like to hear it described as a non-residential farm?—It is. In many cases men who have held land during their lives have been induced by getting reductions in their rent to sign agreements which make them eleven months men. This system was the creation of solicitors and agents to deprive the occupier of the benefit of any Land Act that might be passed. My next point is compensation for disturbance. I suggest that your Commission should recommend that tenants whose leases have expired and held on since as yearly tenants, also those who held in the way I described as an honourable understanding and have been turned into eleven months' men, should get a portion of their land to buy and compensation for disturbance for what has been taken from them. The landlord is allowed to buy a portion of his estate, the agent is paid commission, and the herd very properly gets a portion of the land, and are the men who led useful lives, paying a large amount of the taxes of the county, to be left to end their lives in penury by an Act of the British Government? It has always been the practice of that Government when they abolish an office to compensate the holder. Even when abolishing slavery in the West Indies they compensated the slave owner to the amount of £20,000,000 sterling. I have no doubt if compensation is given and prompt payment of it, that it will tend to the peace of the country, as more land would be available for division without compulsion. If the State consider it for the benefit of the community to divide the land certainly the occupier should be compensated from the Treasury of the State. When fixing the compensation it should be taken into account that owing to the various causes brought about by the Act of 1903 there is no open market for the sale of land. The next matter is migration. Roscommon should not have migrants brought from other counties at least until residents in the county were first attended to. Each county should be made to relieve its own congestion. There is more grazing land in Mayo and Galway than in Roscommon. It is much more suitable for tillage, and fuel is more abundant. Migrants would have no chance of getting turf in this county. When Mr. Doran advocated migration to Roscommon on such a large scale I believe he was carried past his judgment by enthusiasm for the cause with which he is so closely identified. He certainly must not have compared the crops of the respective counties. I had a good opportunity of comparing the crops of Roscommon and Mayo, as in the year 1891 I was sent by the Land Commission to inspect and report on the potato crop of both counties and while so doing saw the other crops, and was astonished at the yield in Mayo compared to Roscommon. If a capable man is sent as an expert to compare the crops of these counties and give you his evidence, it would be a great assistance to you. The next question is would it be economic to break up all the grazing land? It would not. The quantity given is not sufficient to enable the occupier to hold on his young cattle for beef or for forward stores for the English or Scotch markets. It takes from four to five statute acres to feed a "sum" summer and winter, and from that it is evident that (even should the occupier not have to dispose of any of his flock to meet his engagements) unless food was bought he could not keep on his succession. Unless a number of the graziers remain to buy the young stock, and more particularly if Canadian stores are admitted, it will be impossible for the peasant proprietor to support his family and pay his instalments. The grazier and small holders have been a mutual benefit to each other, one rearing the cattle, the other buying and feeding them to an age when they were fit for fattening. Also the small holders had the use of the high-priced Roscommon rams owned by the graziers free of charge. Those sheep have now a world-wide reputation for improving other breeds and will be in danger of becoming extinct. Horse-breeding will also get a check, and the splendid hunters and army remounts will become very scarce, as without the grazier to buy the foals it will be uneconomic for small farmers to breed them, as it is necessary for young horses to have wide runs to develop them and make them active. The breeder always found a ready purchaser for his foal at the remunerative price of from twelve to twenty pounds each. So with the extinction of the grazier another great industry will suffer. Mr. Doran does not seem to have taken these facts into account when he tried to brand the grazier as a useless member of the community, who by his autocratic power should be cut down as a cumberer of the ground. We have not the full statistics showing how the prices of cattle ranged when the country was more populous, but as it happens, my father was a grazier in this county, and this (*produces book*)

Oct. 2, 1907.

Mr. Cox Cotton.

is a fair book which I have found in his papers. The date is May, 1850.

58423. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Does it give the prices at the fair?—Yes, the prices of cattle in May, 1850, at the fair of Strokestown. I found this in my father's desk. Cattle bought at the fair of Strokestown in May, 1850, for the farm of Carnagat: 25 two-year-old heifers at £4 each—and I may remark that he was a man who was always buying young cattle—1 three-year-old, £5. It goes on then to yearlings. The first yearlings he has down are: £1 7*s.*, £1 3*s.*, and two at £1 each. Then there is £1 10*s.* The highest price for yearlings evidently was £2. The lowest was £1. In other words, according to this, he bought 38 beasts at the fair of Strokestown for £121 6*s.* 6*d.* At the fair of Frenchpark, which was a more congested district, I find on the 21st of May, a few days afterwards, he bought 15 yearling bullocks. The highest price was £1 12*s.* 6*d.* He bought two at 17*s.* 6*d.* each. He bought the 15 for £19 16*s.*

58424. Did he buy any two-year-olds at Frenchpark?—Not according to this. The highest price for a beast was £5 for one three-year-old heifer. He often told me about these things. I hunted through his papers, and I found that this was all transferred to his ledger.

58425. Can you give us the price this year? Have you bought any two-year-olds this year?—Yes. Those prices are all collected by the Agricultural Department, and I happen to be the collector in the district. The statistics are all in the hands of the Government. Speaking from memory, the price of average two-year-old heifers at the fair of Strokestown to-day would be £11.

58426. At present?—In May last. We are speaking of May. They range from £12 10*s.* to £10 and £9 10*s.*, but the medium price would be about £11. The statistics of all these things have been collected for the last twenty years.

58427. What do you deduce from all that?—I was born in 1844, and was born a grazier and taken home from school very young to assist; and according to what my father told me frequently the upshot of this was that when the calves were dropped they were sold. There was scarcely a bullock calf over a year. They were sold at prices varying from 5*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*, which, of course, was more economic than to keep it for a year at these prices. That brought it up by degrees. The population then was so very large.

58428. Has the rent of grazing land increased proportionately?—The rent of the farm on which these cattle were fed at that time was about 28*s.* an Irish acre.

58429. What is it now?—It is now 32*s.* an Irish acre. That is an exceptional case. My father had that farm in 1858 when things began to rise. He gave the landlord £500, and the landlord gave him a long lease for a slight rise.

58430. Am I to infer that there has been no such rise in the price of land as there has been in the price of stock?—There was, because that farm I refer to has been a good part of the time £3, or perhaps more.

58431. The rents for some years past have been falling?—No. The rent fell off in 1878. The rent of these lands fell off in seven or eight years from these enormous prices to nearly half, and that has been pretty steady since 1882 or 1883.

58432. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—The graziers then must have made large fortunes if the price of land went up only 50 per cent., and the price of cattle went up 300 or 400 per cent.?—No, because the price of the store cattle went up so very much also in proportion. I went over fifteen years of the statistics some years ago in this witness-box. I was examined by Judge Fitzgerald in an appeal case, and I showed him that the year-old cattle were a good deal out of proportion to the price of the two-year-old now. I cannot carry it all in my head, but the statistics will show that that is so. I hold here in my hand the Small Holdings Allotment Act of 1907. A short paragraph states: When a labourer has been regularly employed on any land acquired by the County Council for small holdings, and has proved to the satisfaction of the County Council that the effect of the Act has deprived him of employment, and no employment of an equally beneficial character is available in the locality, the County Council may pay him such compensation as they think fit. In the same way a labourer who requires to be compensated may go to the County Council. I give that as a precedent.

58433. Mr. O'KELLY.—Suppose the landlord himself wished to terminate a tenancy, and the matter had no relation whatever to intervention by the Congested Districts Board or the Estates Commissioners, would you say that the tenant to be evicted should ask for compensation from the landlord?—In a great many of these cases there was an honourable understanding that as long as he paid the rent he was not to be disturbed. Even on the Pollock estate he acknowledged as much, because he said, "If the Estates Commissioners don't, but we will be glad to have you again."

58434. When a landlord finds it to his interest to dispose of the property, should not the honourable understanding take the form of compensation from the landlord for disturbance?—I think that neither landlord nor incoming tenant should lose. My idea, whatever it is worth, is that if it is for the benefit of the community the State should pay it.

58435. There is no compulsion in that matter?—There is in this way, that they say, "We want to buy this estate, but unless we get the grazing land we won't buy."

58436. It might be the other way round. The landlord might go to the Estates Commissioners and say, "I want to sell my property?"—I don't think even the United Irish League would deny that the grazier should be compensated. They don't think a man should be sent to the workhouse to be a charge on the rates.

58437. Would the United Irish League say that the compensation should be saddled on the annuities of the incoming tenants?—No. I don't say that. There should be a grant from the Treasury.

Mr. O'KELLY.—If you get it out of the Treasury, I don't object.

58438. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Taking Mr. O'Kelly's point that the landlord should pay compensation, would not that add to the total amount to be paid by the tenants in their purchase prices?—I would consider that it should be reasonable.

58439. May it not be possible that the objection of some landlords to sell means that if they sell at a purchase price to get their net income they are inflicting an injury on men with whom they have an honourable understanding?—I have not the slightest doubt of it. On plenty of these estates there was an honourable understanding between the landlord and tenant that as long as the tenant paid the rent he should not be disturbed.

Mr. PATRICK WEBB examined.

Mr. Patrick Webb.

58440. CHAIRMAN.—You live in Loughglynn?—Yes. I have a fair experience of living under the Board on the Dillon estate, seven years, and as far as the two Boards are concerned, I think that competition between them should be done away with. I have experience myself in the case of estates on the market where members of both Boards have approached men of influence so as to get the estates transferred to one or the other.

58441. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—What do you mean?—Men from the Congested Districts Board and the Estates Commissioners approached certain men to my own knowledge, such as county councillors, and men who took a prominent part in the agitation, myself included, so that they would sanction in one direction the Congested Districts Board, and in the other the Estates Commissioners.

58442. What sanction could they give?—Sanction them as purchasers. On these grounds it is my belief that the price of estates has been raised, particularly the price of the De Freyne estate.

58443. I have not yet got quite into my head what you mean. Take a concrete instance, say a particular estate that the Congested Districts Board wanted to buy. Do you mean to say that a member of the Congested Districts Board approached you in the particular case you mention with the object of inducing you to sanction the arrangement?—To use

my influence with the tenants to sanction the Congested Districts Board as purchasers.

58444. To use your influence with the tenants to apply to the Congested Districts Board to become purchasers?—Yes.

58445. That is to say, to memorialise the Congested Districts Board?—Yes.

58446. Then it would be a case in which the Congested Districts Board wished to buy, that the member of the Congested Districts Board applied to you with the view of your influencing the tenants to get up a memorial to present it to the Congested Districts Board in order to buy?—Yes.

58447. If the Congested Districts Board were forwarding the purchase, if they were actually engaged upon the purchase, what would be the advantage of such a proposal as that?—On the other hand a representative member of the Estates Commissioners also approached me for the same purpose.

58448. A member of the Estates Commissioners approached you with the object of your influencing the tenants to present a memorial that the estate should be purchased by the Estates Commissioners and not by the Congested Districts Board?—Yes.

58449. CHAIRMAN.—The same estate?—Yes, and our opinion is that, having this competition in the market for these estates raises the price of these estates in the market.

58450. Mr. BRYCE.—What estate was that?—The De Freyne estate, and the Murphy estate.

58451. Mr. O'KELLY.—Do you mean one of the Estates Commissioners or their representative?—I mean their representative.

58452. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Would you give the name?—I would not like to.

58453. Would you be surprised to hear that Lord De Freyne proposed to me to purchase his estate, and that Mr. Murphy proposed to me to purchase his estate?—I would not.

58454. Did I ever move you, Mr. Webb?—You never wrote me a scrawl.

58455. The purchase of the De Freyne estate and the purchase of the Murphy estate was negotiated through me?—Never a line, but a gentleman approached myself to try to get the estate sold.

58456. You make a very serious charge in those two cases, the De Freyne estate and the Murphy estate, and I think you are labouring under a very great misapprehension?—I don't think I am.

58457. Surely I am justified in asking you to mention names if you make this charge, because if you don't you expose yourself to the possibility of being doubted?—In that case if you give me a guarantee that there will be no injury to the officer I will name him.

58458. Mr. O'KELLY.—Did Mr. Doran ever ask you?—No.

58459. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Who is the official?—If it will not injure him I will name him.

58460. I cannot give you any guarantee?—In that case I would not name him. He is still under the Board, a prominent official.

58461. You have also mentioned that one of the Estates Commissioners approached you?—No, his representative.

58462. I really think if you knew all the facts you would find you are labouring under a misapprehension?—I am not. It is on these grounds that we want to have only one or other of the bodies.

58463. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Could you give us the dates on which you were definitely approached by someone in each case?—It would be between three and six months previous to the De Freyne case being carried through.

58464. What was your position then?—I was county councillor and a district councillor then, and one of the men who took a foremost part in the agitation.

58465. Mr. KAVANAGH.—What answer did you give these people?—The answer I gave was that I would not interfere one way or another.

58466. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Did they simultaneously approach you?—Yes.

58467. On the same day?—No. They knew Lord De Freyne made me an offer in behalf of the tenants, of 7*s.* in the £ on first, and 5*s.* on second term rents.

58468. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—The truth of the matter was that the De Freyne transaction, and the principles on which the De Freyne estate was bought, were settled by me with Lord De Freyne before any member of the Congested Districts Board, except certain members whom I consulted, knew anything at all about it, and before any of the officials of the Board knew anything at all about it?—Whether it was or not, a representative of the Congested Districts Board approached me.

58469. It was not Mr. Doran?—No.

58470. Mr. O'KELLY.—Did he come to Loughglinn?—Into my own house. I was offered purchase. The terms Lord De Freyne offered myself on behalf of the tenants——

58471. Did this gentleman come to you, and say, "I have been deputed by the Congested Districts Board to consult with you as to the sale of the De Freyne Estate"?—No.

58472. What did he say to you? Did he come as a plenipotentiary?—He said the Congested Districts Board were most anxious to purchase the De Freyne Estate, and had also got to learn that the Estates Commissioners were most anxious; and if I could induce the tenants to sanction the Congested Districts Board it would place him in a very responsible position.

58473. What year was that?—About three months previous to the announcement of the sale.

58474. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Did the same person ask you for both?—Not the same person.

58475. CHAIRMAN.—There seems to be a very keen market for land now?—Yes. That is why we want one purchasing body.

58476. In a keen market like that prices should be very good?—Yes. You will find that in the cattle trade it is the same.

58477. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—I think you will find that the person who approached you was really the fly on the wheel in all these transactions. He had as little influence with the Congested Districts Board as with the Estates Commissioners, and as little with the Estates Commissioners as with the Congested Districts Board?—That might be.

58478. Probably he would never venture to make a suggestion to either body. He would find himself in the wrong box if he did?—So much so indeed that he advocated persuading the tenants as well as we could, seeing the great improvements on the Dillon Estate, to sanction the Congested Districts Board. That is one of the reasons why I wish the Estates Commissioners as the purchasing body, to avoid competition; but I do not sanction the Congested Districts Board apportioning the land nor collecting the rents. I will give you my grounds. I would approve of the Estates Commissioners being the purchasers, fixing the annuities, and apportioning the lands, and leaving it to the Congested Districts Board to carry out improvements.

58479. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—How, possibly, could the land be distributed until it was improved? Take the case of an estate in rundale. How could it be distributed until the holdings had been consolidated and striped?—I would sanction the Estates Commissioners striping the lands, and letting the Congested Districts Board carry out the improvements.

58480. Mr. BRYCE.—Why do you make these distinctions?—I have cases I can point to on the Dillon Estate of people who, having from sixteen to twenty acres of land, have got seven acres of good land additional; while tenants holding only one, two, or three acres have got none.

58481. Your reason is you think that the Congested Districts Board officials are partial to certain people?—That is my opinion.

58482. That they have favoured certain rich tenants to the disadvantage of the poor tenants?—I will give you the names of the tenants.

58483. Of the favoured tenants?—Yes.

58484. And those who were made to suffer a disadvantage?—Yes.

58485. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do I understand you to say that you charge the Congested Districts Board officials with favouritism?—Yes.

58486. Distinctly?—Distinctly. I will give you the names if you wish.

58487. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Give the names and the lands?—Take the village of Aughalower. A gentleman there named Mr. Creighton held a double holding of about sixteen acres of the prime of the land of Aughalower. When the Congested Districts

Oct. 2, 1907.

Mr. Patrick Wobb.

Board came into Aughalower the farms were apportioned, and this gentleman was one of the first tenants to get land, and he got between six and seven acres, so that he got a good holding.

58488. In addition to the sixteen acres?—Yes. In the village of Loughglynn there are four tenants holding one acre of arable land and one acre of bog.

58489. Give their names?—Peter Gilligan, Michael Brady, Thomas Fitzpatrick, and Francis Duigenan

58490. You say they have been overlooked altogether?—Yes.

58491. Did Francis Duigenan get a holding?—Yes.

58492. Did he give the holding over to you?—No.

Mr. Doran.—Perhaps I will be allowed to answer these new cases afterwards?

58493. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Yes?—I have neither charge nor claim to the old holding he has.

58494. He did not give over to you the holding which he has got?—Never. We are now building a barrack in the town of Loughglynn. Father O'Hara passed not long ago, and wanted to know whether it was a workhouse or an asylum we were building. I suppose the present cost would be between £1,000 and £1,200.

58495. CHAIRMAN.—That has got nothing to do with us?—I was going to tell you the reason. There is still the old barrack, that could accommodate twelve or thirteen policemen in the troubled times, when they might be required. Why should this barrack be built now? This barrack is being built at the expense of the Board, and they have handed over the old mansion with twenty acres of land at the end of the demesne to one of the Board's officials.

58496. Who is the Board's official?—Mr O'Connor. It might be said he gave up land in return for the lands he is after getting under the Board, but that was a plot he grabbed in Loughglynn at the time of the eviction of Mr. Hussey. He just got the plot as an excuse to hand over in return for what he is getting. I hope you will inquire into this, so that you may see whether what I say is correct or not.

58497. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—It will be inquired into, as you mention. I know that the Board's money in building the police barrack is pretty well secured. We did not agree to spend it until this was done?—Neither you nor any member of this Commission blame me for bringing this forward. I had intended to bring it forward in the House of Commons if I was not heard here.

58498. Mr. BRYCE.—How far do you think you are expressing the opinion of the tenants in the district?—They have sent me here to express their opinion.

58499. Can you show any written authority from the tenants to represent them?—I am giving you the names of the tenants.

58500. Can you show me any authority?—I showed the authority of 1,400 people when I opposed the game question, and when I succeeded in winning the game question for the tenants on the Dillon Estate.

58501. That does not concern us here?—I hope the game will be vested in the tenants.

58502. What is the authority you have for speaking in the name of the tenants on the estate?—They sent me here.

58503. Can you refer me to any meeting of the tenants or show me any resolution appointing you?—Yes. I give you my word; I can forward it here. I could go into personal matters if your lordship wished to hear it, and you will find that I have got a grievance. I hold lands on the De Freyne Estate and the Dillon Estate. For the first year, 1902, I got the June reduction of 6*s.* 8*d.* in the £, as all the other tenants did. I did not ask for it for myself. I built some houses with my own money. There were four widow women, who thought they were badly treated by the Board, as far as the division of land is concerned. They came to me, and I wrote to Mr. Doran pointing out the grievance, as they stated it to me. Mr. Doran wrote back to say that there were sufficient officials to carry out the duties of the Board without my interference. I wrote back to say that it was not as an official I wrote but as a representative of the people, but that justice should be done.

58504. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Could you give me the names?—Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Rush, and Mrs. Duigenan. The other is dead—she was also a Mrs. Rush. The result was I wrote to Mr. Wyndham and wrote to the Board, and those poor women got land attached to their holdings afterwards. Then the reduction was refused to me which was given to all the other tenants.

58505. Was there any explanation given of the refusal?—Yes; and the Department can send it on to you if you wish.

58506. I will take your explanation for it?—I wrote to the secretary of the Board. He wrote me back. He said that owing to the attitude I took up against Mr. Doran on behalf of the people they could not see their way to interfere.

58507. Was that the explanation?—That was the explanation. I have it in writing. I will send it on to you. The result was that I refused to pay, and they served me with six processes of ejectment last October twelve months, in this Court, and decreed me for the whole amount. I put in some documentary evidence. Mr. Doran then said I refused to sign my purchase agreement. I put in some evidence. Here is one—that I signed the purchase agreement and could not find it, and Mr Doran said I refused to sign the purchase agreement. Here is the document which I did sign: one holding, the rent was £1 14*s.* a year; 18*s.* 2*d.* was the reduced rent. They cancelled that assignment, and processed me for the rent, and decreed me since continually, and charged me with the old rents, with the result that last week a carload of police came to my door, with Mr. M'Niffe, who had six processes of ejectment and a writ to the Superior Courts for rent—I have got four other holdings—at the full rent, simply because I demanded redress for the tenants; and notice to quit on another holding which I bought from the Board, and on which I expended over £300, simply because I asked for justice for the tenants and nothing for myself.

58508. Did you ever write to the Congested Districts Board, or to me, as carrying on the business of the Board in the intervals of its sittings, any statement of what you have said to the Commission to-day?—I approached the Board on two occasions, and never wrote to you. I wrote to the secretary, and I approached Mr. O'Connor, the Board's Solicitor. I went up two months ago, and paid my rent for the De Freyne Estate, according to the terms of arrangement. I offered a signed cheque to Mr. O'Connor to fill it in for my rent, minus the reduction that everybody was getting. Mr. O'Connor told me he could not; there was something at the bottom of it; but he would bring it before the next meeting of the Board; and that if the meeting would sanction the reduction that the people on the Dillon Estate were getting he would then fill in my cheque for the rent; with the result that my cheque was returned to me, and I got six processes of ejectment served on me and that writ.

58509. It comes to this, that you have declined to pay the demands which the Board have made on you because you did not get the reduction which other tenants got?—Yes, and I got it myself for two years.

58510. But you have not paid it up to date?—Yes; I have paid up. I was there last Friday with my cheque.

58511. Until that writ in the Superior Courts had been issued did you pay anything?—I paid two years ago the full rent.

58512. Minus the reductions?—Yes.

58513. Did you pay anything for the last two years on their demand?—I paid the De Freyne rent and the full rent, and I left a signed cheque for the other rent.

58514. Minus the reductions?—Yes.

58515. Your rents were in arrear to the Board to the extent of two years?—I owe them no rent. I paid £90 odd last week, costs and all.

58516. Not until the writ was issued?—I was up about six weeks ago, when I paid the rent on the De Freyne Estate.

58517. You only paid the rent demanded from you on the issue of the writ?—Yes.

58518. You would not have paid it only the writ was issued?—No. I think I am entitled to the same reduction as the other tenants.

58519. They say you are not entitled to the reduction; and as you did not pay them they sued you in the Superior Courts?—This will show you that I am entitled to a reduction (*produces paper*).

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—We are not going into that question now. That question will be looked into if you make application.

58520. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You were defendant in a number of Civil Bill ejectments for overholding;

were they all connected with this particular holding?—I hold nine or ten holdings.

58521. At all events, you have been referring to this holding?—Yes.

58522. You are now making a statement in connection with a case that is to be heard next Saturday?—No. I received a wire yesterday from the Board cashing my cheque at the full rent.

58523. You have got to appear on the 5th October in this case?—No.

58524. This summons is for the 5th October?—I was with the Board on Friday. I left a cheque with Mr. O'Connor on certain conditions. Yesterday I heard from the Board that the notice to quit was withdrawn, but that I should pay the old rent. I am showing the treatment I am getting.

58525. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—It is all contingent on whether or not you are entitled to the reduction?—Everybody on the estate got this reduction. I got it myself for two years until I brought this complaint.

58526. Excluding that point alone, there is nothing objectionable in the action of the Board. They demanded a certain sum from you; you refused to pay them because you say they ought to demand something less; the Board say, "No, we don't believe you are entitled to a reduction and you must pay." You refuse to pay; they issue a writ against you, and upon the issue of that writ you pay up. It now remains to be seen whether or not you are entitled to a reduction all through?—Yes, but they forced me to pay up or I would not have done it. They served me with notice to quit on another holding and they served me with that writ.

58527. That is a move in the game. You refused to pay?—I know, but it is a move that it is time to expose if one man is to be badly treated and singled out simply because he asked nothing for himself, but demanded justice for others.

58528. Mr. BRYCE.—How many holdings have you got?—I have one on the De Freyne and one on the Dillon Estate.

58529. I thought you spoke of ten now?—Yes.

58530. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Had you them all yourself?—I held them all myself. My wife got ill. I took a brother of mine home as I had no family. The Board refused to accept him as tenant, so he went back to Manchester and I had to take it up.

58531. Mr. BRYCE.—Did you inherit these holdings?—No. I purchased them all from the occupying tenants in the open market, and built the places myself. I built four houses in Loughglynn.

58532. Are you a farmer?—Yes, and a cattle dealer.

58533. And a shopkeeper?—Yes. I export a lot of cattle to England.

58534. Have you a licence?—Yes.

58535. Do you ever lend money to the people?—No.

58536. I suppose they sometimes owe you money?—Yes, as far as shop goods are concerned.

58537. Had the cost of these holdings which came into your possession anything to do with shop debts?—I am a farmer and cattle dealer, and it is only within the last few years I opened a shop.

58538. Had the cost of these holdings anything to do with your shop debts?—Nothing whatever.

58539. CHAIRMAN.—How long have you had your shop?—About eight years.

58540. Mr. BRYCE.—When did these holdings come into your hands?—Over twenty-three years ago.

58541. All of them?—All with the exception of one.

58542. That one?—That one I have about five or six years and I had portion of it thirty years.

58543. How did these tenants come to sell their holdings?—The tenants died and their relatives sold the holdings. The parish priest had one of them and a man named Mangan held others.

58544. Is it a usual thing for people to sell their holdings in that way?—Yes. I would sell them now if I got a fair price for them.

58545. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Are you now paying a purchase annuity on these holdings?—I am paying the old rent—Lord Dillon's rent.

58546. You are paying to the Government?—To the Congested Districts Board.

58547. There is nothing to prevent you from redeeming those holdings?—I cannot redeem them. I am paying Lord Dillon's rent.

58548. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You have not been vested yet with the proprietory rights?—They won't put my purchase agreement before me for three or four years simply because I asked for justice for others, and they compel me to pay the full rent and costs.

58549. Are there any other tenants on the Dillon Estate in the same position? I suggest to you that you have not been treated exceptionally. I know there is a considerable number of tenants who are not vested with their holdings for one reason or another, delays regarding clearing up title and so on. There are a few still remaining, of which you may be one?—I have asked about that. The judge last October threw out a suggestion that my purchase agreement should be perfected if I paid up. On that suggestion I went up to Dublin, and paid the rent on the De Freyne Estate. I offered a cheque for the rent according to the judge's suggestion. It would not be accepted, and six processes of ejectment and a writ were served a few days afterwards.

58550. Mr. BRYCE.—How do you work these seven holdings?—I farm them.

58551. You attend to it all yourself personally?—Yes.

58552. There is nobody living in the cottages on these seven holdings?—I have two or three tenants there.

58553. Under what charge are they to you?—I give them a good garden and a house for two shillings a week.

58554. What do you pay your workers?—12*s.* 6*d.* and 9*s.* a week and support. I keep thirteen or fourteen men working every day, winter and summer.

58555. The people on these holdings have no agreement with you. They are simply ordinary labourers?—Ordinary labourers. They are weekly tenants.

58556. You can turn them out at a moment's notice?—I will take very good care that I won't.

58557. You can do it?—If I wanted I could.

58558. These people are under your thumb. You could turn them out at a week's notice?—Yes, but I am not going to do it. I have offered to sell my houses to these persons and signed agreements to be sent on to the Board. One holding is enough for me. Even on the De Freyne Estate I am prepared to sell my lands to the Board if I get what I gave for them. I will produce a document as evidence of what I gave in the open market, and I will take that.

58558A. Meantime you are a small landlord?—No.

58559. You are a landlord in the sense that you have got tenants whom you can turn out at a moment's notice?—Yes, but I have signed agreements to sell to them and leave the valuation to the Board. So far as the cattle industry is concerned, I am a fair exporter of cattle, and I don't believe that any injury would result to the cattle trade if the better lands of Roscommon were divided up. I ship myself to all parts of England and Scotland, and I think myself instead of being an injury to the cattle industry it would be a great improvement; but I do differ from what Mr. Fitzgibbon contends as regards ear-marking the balance of the land after certain people are supplied. Another thing I differ in is that we should be very particular in selecting the tenants, because if we had to take that view in selecting tenants it would take until the Day of Judgment before all would be supplied. In my knowledge of the small farmers they are the best farmers I know, and anyone taking a broad view of things would say that whether a man comes from Connemara or the North of Ireland, let him be a Orangeman or Nationalist, if he was an agricultural tenant he should get a holding. I would not be for depriving any man of a home so long as he would be fairly well suited and understood the agricultural purposes of land, let him come from West, North, or South.

58560. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You would give a preference to men from congested tracts?—Yes.

58561. Mr. BRYCE.—Before the sons of tenants?—Yes. As far as tillage and the people in congested districts are concerned, I have a good knowledge of that. Take the little town of Loughglynn. I knew before the Dillon Estate was split up you would not get one bag of oats in the town. You would hardly get more than half an acre of potatoes. Take now that very village; all the farms split up around there have up to two, three, and four acres of tillage, with the good result that you have now thousands of

Oct. 2, 1907.

Mr. Patrick Webb.

barrels of oats coming into the village of Loughglynn, which I buy myself to a great extent, and those people who were in the habit of rearing only one or two pigs are now in the habit of rearing six or seven.

58562. This is on the Dillon Estate?—Yes.

58563. Do you say that there is more enterprise and activity on the Dillon Estate than there used to be?—Yes; I could prove it by my own knowledge. I am pretty largely, too, in the pig trade, with the good result that we have established a very good pig fair in the town of Loughglynn. Since the Dillon Estate came into the hands of the Board the amount of tillage has grown in the surrounding three or four miles, and we have a beautiful fair on the last Thursday of every month.

58564. Then it would be your opinion, barring the difficulties which you have yourself personally, that the transactions of the Board on the Dillon Estate have been successful?—Yes, but I think myself there are some tenants overlooked.

58565. On the whole, looking at the magnitude of the transaction, it has been a successful one, in your opinion?—I must give credit for that.

58566. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do these poor people deal in your shop?—They owe me nothing more than a few shillings or a few pounds, as a rule. Since I opened my shop I never had four processes in this court altogether.

58567. They are your customers?—What they require from me; they get a passbook from me. If I give them a bag of flour to-day I might get paid next week, or perhaps not for five years.

58568. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—How can you make up for lying out of your money? You must get it out of them some way?—They deal generally with me. You have it in groceries and other things. I never charge any interest, and I can produce my books.

58569. I suppose that these cases of very old debts are very few—the people are good payers?—They are getting to be good now since they got an extension of land after the Board came in. They were not so good before. As a rule the shopkeepers of Castlerea and Ballaghadereen bore with the tenants. Those who got an extension of land began to compete with their neighbours for the putting on of extra beasts on the land and the doing of extra tillage, and on these grounds the shopkeepers of Castlerea and Ballaghadereen bore with them as well as they could, and did not press for money until their little earnings came in, and they are now trying to pay off what they owed for the last four, five, or six years. I think there is a general improvement, and if the potato crop turns out any way favourable there will be the greatest improvement, as far as paying debts is concerned, on the Dillon Estate.

Mr. HENRY DORAN re-examined.

Mr Henry Doran.

58570. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You have heard Mr. Webb's evidence?—Yes.

58571. Have you made notes of the points that he took up?—Yes.

58572. Perhaps you will give an explanation to the Commission?—In regard to the first point, I hardly think it worth while going into it, because, as I understood Mr. Webb, he did not impute the conduct that he mentioned to any member of the Congested Districts Board or any member of the Estates Commissioners or to yourself, and as I understood the conduct complained of was imputed to some of your subordinates. I suggest, subject to his Lordship the Chairman, that it is hardly worth while looking into the question whether some unknown subordinate approached Mr. Webb. I don't doubt Mr. Webb, but we need not go into the question whether some unknown subordinate exceeded his duty?—Allow me to say that I never have spoken to Mr. Webb about the purchase of the De Freyne or any other estate.

58573. We will go on now to the next point, He complained strongly that a man named Creighton, of Aughalower, who had a large holding, got a substantial increase, while people who had small holdings did not get any increase?—He mentioned Creighton's name. Creighton happens to be a rival cattle dealer. That is the foundation of his complaint. Creighton's case is before the public in the Thirteenth Report published by the Congested Districts Board. On page 182, there is a list of all migrants up to date, with particulars of their old holdings and the new, and Creighton's name appears here over this red line that I have marked (*handing up Report*).

58574. This man obtained a new holding?—The man had a substantial holding in Aughalower, the rent of which was £16.

58575. £16?—That is Mr. Webb's figure. It is inaccurate.

58576. *Mr. Webb.*—As he says it is inaccurate, I hope you will inquire into that case very particularly.

Witness.—The area of Creighton's old holding was 25 statute acres, and the rent was £10 17*s.* 7*d.* We found it necessary to make a small alteration in his holding in connection with the striping of the adjacent ones. We enlarged his holding to the value of £15 12*s.*; so his present rent is only £15 12*s.*, and his old was £10 17*s.* 7*d.* He is one of the most respectable and hardworking men in the neighbourhood of Loughglynn.

58577. Why did you increase his holding?—We had to acquire portion of his holding in rearranging boundaries. We did not consider a £10 holding was sufficient for a man like him when we happened to have the land. We enlarged all the neighbouring holdings except one, which was occupied by a very old man, who had nobody living with him in the house.

58578. Your enlargement to £15 was in connection with the rearrangement of boundaries?—Yes, and also the requirements of the man himself. You could not have a more suitable man as tenant.

58579. Mr. BRYCE.—Did you enlarge the other holdings?—Yes, but not to the same extent. The other holdings were at £3, £4, and £5 rents, and were brought up to £10 and £12. He did not give the names of any others. The next complaint was that we did not give land to four tenants whom he named in the village of Loughglynn. One was Gilligan. That man was offered a division of land, and refused to take it. He was offered a division more than once, and still persists in not taking it, for this reason: he occupied on his brother's holding, about a mile distant from the village, a small portion of reclaimed bog. He had this bog on his brother's holding for a number of years. He and his brother were on very bad terms. Before we sold the holding to the brother we insisted on this Peter Gilligan giving up possession of the portion of the holding he occupied, the brother giving him compensation. I think the compensation was fixed at £10. The brother agreed to pay this money, but Gilligan declined to give possession until we had to proceed against him and put him out by legal means. He then refused to take any land. We still have a piece of land held over for him. Up to the present he has refused to take it. The man is very obstinate and foolish. That is the explanation of that case. The next man, Thomas Fitzpatrick, is an old man, over 80 years of age. He is deaf and partly blind. He was a blacksmith by trade, and was never a landholder. We built a new house for himself and his wife, who is also very old. They had been living in a wretched cabin, and we put them into this new house, but as he was unable to manage any land we did not give him any. Nobody lives with him but his wife, who is between 70 and 80. There is no member of his family living with him. In the case of Francis Duigenan, we gave him a parcel of land in the townland of Aughalower. After he had it for a month or two I found Webb's cattle on the place. I found out from Duigenan that he had arranged to hand over the land to Webb. As we wanted the land for other people much in need we immediately took up the land from Duigenan and gave it to another person, so if Duigenan complains of not getting land it is Mr. Webb who has deprived him of it. The fourth man, Michael Grady, was not a regular tenant. He was a postman at Loughglynn. We considered that his claim was not as strong as that of several others for whom we were providing land. We did not give him any additional land. We have a small portion of land still on hands which, if Gilligan does not take, we can give to this man. That disposes of the four cases.

58580. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—What about the

widows?—I cannot recognise the widows. I have no recollection of them, and I don't know what he is complaining of precisely. He did not say what was their valuation or townland.

Mr. Webb.—They are in the townland of Ballyglass, on the Dillon Estate, and the complaint is that when you were distributing the lands of Aughalower you left them out without any lands.

Witness.—In that case, my answer is this: to every person on the townland of Ballyglass who was able to manage land we gave an enlargement. There were two old women there who had no help. These may be the people.

Mr. Webb.—There are four or five in family—able sons and daughters.

Witness.—There was no person with a family in Ballyglass to whom we did not give an increase.

Mr. Webb.—Fitzpatrick has four in family. He has a son living in London.

Witness.—His son living in London is a man with one leg, who is in charge of a lavatory at Euston station. He is a pensioner on the railway. The next point is about the police barrack. He complained of a police barrack being built at Loughglynn, while a substantial house which has been used as a police barrack is going to be handed over to an official of the Board. The explanation of that is this: a man named Thomas O'Connor was a clerk to Lord Dillon for upwards of twenty-two years. He was living in a small house near Loughglynn village, and discharged his duty in the estate office every day during all that time. The Board took him on as rent-office clerk when they purchased the estate, as he was familiar with the rentals, and they have continued him in one capacity or another since then. Before disposing of the demesne of the Dillon Estate the members of the Board looked into his case very fully, with which I have no personal concern, and decided they would give Mr. O'Connor the building which had been formerly used as a police barrack. At that time the police were not living in it. They were occupying a house which Mr. Webb owned on the De Freyne Estate. They had moved from this to Mr. Webb's house, and this building was idle for three or four years, and was unoccupied at the time the Board decided to give it to Mr. O'Connor, with about twenty or more acres of land. The Board decided to do this in consideration of his long service and the fact that he had another house and some land that he was to give up to them. The house in which he lived, which was outside the village, was also taken up from him.

58581. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—He is charged an annuity for it?—Yes; to be sold at a price agreed on. That was the explanation of his getting the house. At the same time the police had notified the Board that they would not re-take the place for a police barrack, as it was too far from the village. As there were no police troubles in the neighbourhood except in connection with drunkenness, it was considered desirable to have the police barrack in the village near the publichouses, of which Mr. Patrick Webb's was the principal. The Board then negotiated with the Constabulary authorities for the erection of a barrack in the village. On the Constabulary authorities agreeing to take a lease for a period of thirty or forty years at an agreed rent they undertook to build a house according to an approved plan. That plan was approved of by the Board, and the Constabulary authorities and the rent was fixed before we began to build; and so Mr. Webb cannot fix any responsibility on me in connection with the matter. It is all done under a minute of the Board. With regard to Mr. Webb's complaint, that he has been exceptionally badly treated and singled out for persecution, and that I am at the bottom of it, he says that all he wants is to be sold his holdings, the same as every other tenant. We cannot sell the holdings to Mr. Patrick Webb, because he is not the tenant. He knows that this is the explanation. He has been told it more than once. In October, 1903, without the knowledge of the Board, Patrick Webb assigned to his brother, James Webb, in Manchester, the principal portion of the holdings he held in Loughglynn. I have here a copy of the assignment sent to the Board's solicitors by Messrs. Field and Cunningham, solicitors, of Manchester. Under this agreement or assignment Mr. Webb assigned to his brother James six out of the eleven holdings that he held in Loughglynn and neighbourhood.

58582. Mr. BRYCE.—He said he had only seven?—Quite lately he has got rid of two of them. Out of eleven holdings he held he assigned six to his brother, James, of Manchester, and two to his brother-in-law. The six were the most valuable, and included the publichouse in which he lives, and now carries on business under the name of Patrick Webb, and also a valuable agricultural holding adjacent to the village. Mr. Patrick Webb got the same terms as all the other tenants for the first two years, and the Board were unaware that he had made this assignment for a considerable time. Then the bankers required the approval of the Board to the assignment, and the Board declined to give their approval, because they feared that it was being done to evade the payment of debts. However, not having taken action, the assignment became valid, and then Mr. Webb refused to pay rent. Both he and his brother have refused to pay rent for the last three years, with the result that each year the Board has had to process upon them or serve writs. I have a file here to show all particulars.

58583. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—He says the reason he did not pay his rent was that he did not get the reduction given to the other tenants. Address yourself to that point?—Yes. The reduction was only given to tenants pending the fixing of the purchase price of their holdings. The purchase price of his holding was determined at the same time as that of the adjoining tenants. When the price was fixed he was applied to to come and sign his agreement the same as the others. He did not do so. This just happened to be about the time that he had assigned his holding to his brother. He did not give us any explanation, but he did not come forward to sign the agreement the same as the other tenants. The Board were perfectly willing to sell to him, but he did not sign the agreement when invited to do so. Then the Board sued him at quarter sessions for the full rent. Immediately after that we learned that he had made this assignment to his brother. He asked then to be allowed to sign his purchase agreement. The Board told him they could not allow him to sign the purchase agreement for a holding that he had assigned to his brother. Then the brother asked to be allowed to sign, and the Board had to say: "Your brother, Patrick, is in possession of the place; you are in Manchester; we cannot sell to you under the Land Purchase Acts any holding of which you are not in possession. If you come into possession of the holdings we will immediately sell to you." Then James Webb seems to have, in the most mysterious way, left all his business in Manchester behind him, and come to the village of Loughglynn. He went into possession of the publichouse and all that Patrick Webb semed to own there, and Patrick Webb retired to his villa residence known as "Farmhill," on the De Freyne Estate outside the village. Patrick Webb lived there for some time. James Webb after taking up his residence in the village requested to be allowed to sign his purchase agreement, and we said, "Yes, if you pay up the interest you owe." But meantime he and his brother seem to have fallen out, and the next thing we heard was that James was back in Manchester and Pat was back in the publichouse. So what are we to do? We don't know who is the owner. Then our solicitor was puzzled to know whom he was to sue for the rent, and he wrote to the bank people, and also wrote to Patrick Webb, and here is what Patrick Webb writes in reply. It is dated August last, and shows what a very offhand man he is. He says:—"All I want from the Board is fair play, and to buy my holding the same as the other tenants. James has nothing to do with any of my places in Loughglynn or about it. He would not live in Loughglynn; neither would his wife; neither did he give me any money for it, for my place there, nor I never gave him any possession or title of the place, so much so that he was buying Mrs. Flannery's place for a home when I would not give or sell him any of my places. He is now living in his own place in Manchester, there to remain." Our difficulty is this: We have notice from the bank in Manchester of the assignment. We have a copy of the registration of the assignment under which James Webb has paid Patrick Webb £1,050 on account of the purchase money. We really don't know

Oct. 2, 1907.

Mr. Henry Doran.

which of them is tenant. Patrick Webb has paid up every shilling of our demand, rent and costs, even though six of the holdings are legally assigned to his brother. So we really don't know where we are in the matter. If James Webb and Patrick Webb will go into occupation of the respective holdings they have a legal tenancy in, and pay the rent, the Board will sell to them, and was prepared to do so all through since the purchase prices were fixed.

58584. Mr. O'Kelly.—Had you any difficulty in accepting from Mr. Patrick Webb the rents for lands the property of James?—Not at all. We would take rent from anybody subject to issuing the receipt in the name of the tenant. This case, to my mind, assumes a serious aspect in this way. Mr. Webb has a considerable amount of influence with the people about Loughglynn. They are practically all in his books. You have recently heard some remarkable evidence about gombeen shopkeepers. I will tell you exactly how he got all these holdings.

58585. Chairman.—We are beginning to get a very long way from the subject of this inquiry. If this matter is to be considered further the Commission must consider in private what evidence they will receive. This is not a court of law. We do not want to hear details as to how Mr. Webb came into possession. The broad statement of the Board's position is sufficient. You have made clear, whatever may be the rights or the wrongs of the case, that the action of the Board is to a certain extent explainable by the fact of this doubt as to who is the actual tenant of these holdings?—It has been more than once suggested to the Commission that it is very desirable to prevent shopkeepers from acquiring tenants' interest in holdings through their business dealings with the landholders, and I can give instances where holdings have been acquired by playing the game of the spider and the fly, first inducing the people to contract debts, and then buying their holdings.

Chairman.—It is desirable that if statements are made here that they should be proved, but we are not in a position to ask for proof of these things, and therefore I think it better perhaps not to go into too great details.

Mr. Webb.—I ask your lordship and Sir Antony to allow me to explain, because it is evident, when Mr. Doran loses his temper, he is always ready to give me a prod in the back.

Mr. Doran.—I do it to your face. That is where I always hit.

Chairman.—The Commission will hear Mr. Webb in regard to the assignment.

Mr. Webb.—As far as the question of the assignment is concerned, I suppose you are aware that the great dispute on the De Freyne Estate was in full swing at the time, and myself and Mr. Redmond and Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Fitzgibbon and all were served with a writ for our share of £20,000 each, and it was suggested by a certain party that each member served with a writ should make an assignment of his place over to some relative belonging to him to save themselves from the consequences of the writ through the Tallow judgment being on. At the same time Mr. Doran applied to me——

58586. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—That is the explanation. Is it necessary to go any further?

Mr. Webb.—Yes, seeing the charges Mr. Doran has made.

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—The Commission have not allowed Mr. Doran to go into his charges.

Mr. O'Kelly.—Mr. Webb, I think, has gone absolutely far enough.

58587. Chairman (*to Mr. Webb*).—I understand you to say, in explanation of what has been said by Mr. Doran, that an action had been brought against various persons, of whom you were one?—Yes.

58588. How do you suggest that the transfer of the holding is affected by that?—It would have saved us at the time if Lord De Freyne got judgment against us. It would have saved the property by transferring it over to a member of the family.

58589. Then you say that the land was transferred in order to save, in case you lost the action, the land from being seized to pay that sum?—That is what our lands were assigned for, but I never got a farthing from my brother for those lands. I never knew that the assignment was perfected.

58590. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—The necessity for the assignment has now passed away?—Yes.

58591. Why cannot you have that assignment reassigned or cancelled?—It was all my own, and I have continued to pay for it, and they won't make my purchase agreement because Mr. Doran wants to prod me in the back.

58592. Mr. Bryce.—The Board has received notice of assignment. As soon as you persuade your brother, Mr. James Webb, to revoke that assignment, then the matter will be squared?—Before they recevied this notice of assignment, for the last five years, I have asked them to perfect my purchase agreement, and they won't do it, not even on the other holdings outside those six holdings that the assignment was given for.

58593. Chairman.—You tell the Commission that you assigned those holdings deliberately to your brother in order to avoid any possibility of those lands being taken in connection with the action brought against you and others?—Yes.

58594. Do you still, in view of that admission, suggest that there was not ample reason for the Board to be very careful before it regarded you as tenant and made the usual allowance to you that it had done to *bona fide* tenants?—Certainly not, because they knew nothing about this assignment up to the present year.

Mr. Doran.—Up to the time of the Quarter Sessions proceedings.

Chairman.—What was the date of the notice you got of the assignment?

Mr. Doran.—The 12th of October, 1903, but the Board were not aware of it until subsequent to that.

58596. Chairman (*to Mr. Webb*).—From the 12th of October, 1903, you ceased to be tenant?—I continued to pay the rent all along.

58597. You cannot be tenant if you assigned those holdings to your brother?—I assigned the holdings to my brother to defeat Lord De Freyne, but I was in possession.

58598. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—You were in possession for a certain time, and then your brother came over and entered into possession?—He never entered into possession.

58599. He took up his residence there?—He was in another house of mine.

The Commission adjourned.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH PUBLIC SITTING.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3RD, 1907,

AT 11 O'CLOCK, A.M.,

In the Courthouse, Strokestown, County Roscommon.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (Chairman); The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esq., M.P.; CONOR O'KELLY, Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.; ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esq.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Mr. JAMES NEARY examined.

Oct. 3, 1907.

Mr. James Neary.

58600. CHAIRMAN.—You are nominated by the Strokestown Rural District Council?—I am chairman of the District Council. The valuation of the union is £51,800, the area is 90,000 acres, and the population last year was 15,560. Twenty years ago it was 21,734; that is a decrease of 6,174 in twenty years. The only industry in this rural district is agriculture, mainly stock-raising. There are twenty electoral divisions, of which seven or eight have large grazing farms, with some of the best land we have in the district. A great many of them are held by graziers. Of the other divisions five or six are poor. Where there are no grazing farms the valuation in very few cases exceeds 30*s.* Some of those grazing farms are held on the 11 months system, others under yearly tenancies, others have judicial rents fixed, and others are bought out. In my opinion a great many of those farms should be acquired and distributed among the people who have small holdings. With regard to this, I believe that the sons of farmers having small uneconomic holdings ought to get part of them wherever adjacent. Those living on small holdings should also get part, and this I think before strangers would be imported from a distance. From some of those farms, at any rate, there were clearances made sixty years ago, and the descendants of some of those who were dispossessed had to go to other townlands and other places scattered about. I am also of opinion that the Land Purchase Act should be amended. Seven thousand pounds is too much to give to any one man to buy holdings. I believe it should not be more than about £3,000 or £4,000. I think that the Land Purchase Act should be made compulsory. In this county some of the large landed proprietors have sold out, while other owners are asking bigger prices. In my judgment the Act should be made compulsory in those cases. I think also there should be Government supervision. In some instances tenants pay too high a price. In fixing the price the landlord has an advantage on his side. He begins to negotiate with the tenants, and asks for a certain price. If the tenant does not give it some of them will put on the screw to pay up arrears and pay up the hanging gale. To my own personal knowledge this has been done; and I think adding a year's rent to the purchase money has also that effect upon tenants, because they generally give two or three years in the purchase in order to get rid of arrears for a year or a year and a half. In this town the fairs are going down. We suffer from want of railway accommodation. There is no railway within eight or nine miles. Years ago there was a scheme set on foot by the Grand Jury to have a branch of the Cavan, Leitrim, and Roscommon Light Railway constructed from Dromod. That was abandoned from some cause. We endeavoured to revive it again last year; a resolution was passed at the District Council, and the parish priest of this town had communications with the Under Secretary and the Chief Secretary. At the time nothing came out of it. There was a grant to make part of it on the Leitrim side of the Shannon, and the Leitrim County Council rejected a grant of £29,000 which was to be given from the Irish Development Fund. The fairs are rapidly going down. Last year the October fair of Strokestown, which used to be the largest in Connaught, was the worst in the whole season. I believe in acquiring land temporary lettings should be first taken, such as 11 months' land, and the rest afterwards. I think land should be taken from graziers having over a couple of hundred acres of land; next should come grass lands held by shopkeepers and professional men who have other means of living. In my opinion the people who require the land should get it in preference to others who have different means of living. There should be Government inspection wherever tenants, as in some cases, give too much. I knew one instance where tenants proposed to buy—a good many of them are here. They were willing to give the landlord's terms provided they got the rent due and the hanging gale added to the purchase. I reasoned with the tenants, and said:—"You are very anxious to buy in order to get rid of the arrears and to get rid of the present year's rent, but in two or three years' time you may be just as anxious to get a year's rent wiped off, and there will be no chance." The reply was:—"The Government will pass another Act at that time, and do something else for us." Around this town we found it very difficult to get land for labourers' cottages.

58601. I hardly think we have anything to do with labourers' cottages?—We suffer a great deal from floods in winter time. The arterial drainage is not so good as it used to be, and in winter time the low lands are flooded.

58602. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—You say that no land should be given to those who have other professions?—No, but I say I would take it from them before I would take it from those with farms who have no other business.

58603. Is land now largely in the occupation of people who have professions other than farming?—Yes, a great deal of land; and those men, shopkeepers, professional men, and others, principally hold 11 months land.

58604. Are you a farmer yourself?—Yes; a middle class farmer. It is almost a matter of indifference to them whether it pays or not. They can afford to give a big price. If the land does not pay it won't ruin them in any case.

58605. CHAIRMAN.—Have you any business except your farm?—None whatever.

58606. Mr. BRYCE.—What is the size of your holding?—Sixty or seventy acres.

58607. How much tillage have you on it?—About three acres.

58608. All the rest is pasture?—Pasture and meadow.

58609. What is the soil?—Limestone bottom. Most Roscommon land has a limestone bottom.

58610. Is it heavy land or mostly light?—Fairly light and medium.

58611. Not heavy?—Not very heavy.

58612. Could you till more than three acres?—It is not well adapted for tillage.

58613. Why?—It cannot be very well worked in the wet season.

58614. Is it badly drained?—Part of the soil is

Oct. 3, 1907.

Mr. James Neary.

sticky and heavy, still there could be more tillage done, but I find the majority of the people prefer grazing to tillage. We find it difficult in these days to get labour. They are nearly all small farmers around me. Those farmers in the hurried season have a great deal of work to do for themselves.

58615. Your farm is rather too large for tillage, unless you could get labour easily?—Without labour I could till a few acres more, but not much.

58616. If your farm was only twenty acres you could till it?—It would not make any matter to me, because I could not have more tillage.

58617. CHAIRMAN.—Do you find it more profitable to graze it and meadow it?—Under existing circumstances I could not get it done.

58618. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Would the part of the farm that is sticky be injured by tillage?—No, but it is not soil adapted for tillage.

58619. I suppose there is a great deal of land in this district of the same character, that would not be easy to till?—Yes.

58620. CHAIRMAN.—I think you want to establish some labourers' cottages here?—Yes; we have labourers' schemes here.

58621. What are the labourers going to do?—We can till more land when we have them.

58622. You are going to build the houses in the hope that they will come?—We have up to 300 applications.

58623. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Why did you say there is no labour in the district to till the balance of your holding?—A great many of these people are in the town, and about it, and a great many of them expect to get about five acres of land under the Labourers Act. They would then be small farmers themselves.

CHAIRMAN.—You don't want to build cottages to have labourers? You want to create uneconomic holdings.

58625. Mr. O'KELLY.—You say that lands held on the 11 months system should be first acquired?—Yes.

58626. Then lands held by graziers who have over 200 acres?—Yes.

58627. Afterwards grass lands held by merchants?—Yes.

58628. What is the reason for suggesting that they should be taken successively in this way, and not simultaneously?—I would not like to rush the business, but to have the supply according to the demand. If we had applicants for the balance I would take it, but if you take it all now there is danger that you might have a certain amount of land without applicants for it.

58629. Do you mean to say that if you have all these lands striped into economic holdings in Roscommon you would have a difficulty in getting tenants for them?—No doubt we would get tenants for them, but I would like tenants who have a small capital. If he has no capital he has no business going into the house with 15 acres of land that the Congested Districts Board will give.

58630. Are you aware that the supply is not equal to the demand?—I am aware of that; but if we acquire all the grass lands of Roscommon I am aware it must be some time before you get eligible applicants for the whole of them.

58631. You will admit that as an article becomes rarer in the market it becomes more expensive?—Yes.

58632. Let me suggest to you that if half the grass lands in Roscommon were sold to-morrow the remaining half would probably have to be sold at a price in excess of what the first fetched. Don't you see some advantage, therefore, in having the grass lands, so far as it can be done, purchased simultaneously, and not in the order that is mentioned in your precis?—Yes, to supply the demand of all the applicants.

58633. Take a case where you have congestion, where land adjacent is not held on the 11 months system, but is held under a different tenure: if your suggestion were to be followed those people would have to wait for a considerable time before their position would be improved?—No; I would not like it to be prolonged; I would like to get the land to supply the demand.

58634. You say that eligible applicants in this county should get a reasonable proportion of the grass lands of Roscommon before giving away any to people from other counties?—Yes.

58635. We all admit that the uneconomic holdings in Roscommon should have prior claim over the uneconomic holdings in other counties?—Yes.

58636. But I put it to you, would you be willing, once the congests of Roscommon are attended to, and their holdings are made economic, would you be willing to give a prior claim to congests from other counties over sons of tenants?—Yes.

58637. That is to say, once you had made economic all the uneconomic holdings in Roscommon, if you had some surplus land left, you would use that surplus land for the purpose of remedying congestion in other counties?—Yes. In many cases sons of farmers have more capital. They have no alternative but to emigrate. I would say that the population of this rural district has gone down one-third within the last twenty years, and in order to stop emigration I would give the land to those men in preference to strangers.

58638. In preference to congests from a distance?—Yes.

58639. Although doing that would involve perpetuating congestion in other counties in the West?—Coming to that point, I should say those people in the West elsewhere should get the land in their own county before coming here. Certainly, if we migrate the people from this county to Meath, I should say that the people there would not give them a hearty reception. That would be nearly on the same lines as bringing people from Connemara to Roscommon.

58640. If I point out that there is not enough land in other counties to satisfy the needs of those counties, would you, in case a surplus was left over in Roscommon after dealing with congests, give that surplus to sons of tenants to the exclusion of congests from other counties?—After supplying the demand in this county.

58641. When you say supplying the demand do you mean the demand of sons of tenants?—Yes. I would say the sons of tenants first. I am of opinion that in some of the places taken up by the Congested Districts Board the land was bought dearly. No doubt they have done a great deal which is very creditable to them, but I know some places in this county which were taken up by the Estates Commissioners and given to tenants which will not be nearly so expensive. They allow them so much to build a house, £30 or £40, and pay them for making fences. If the sons of small farmers got those lands in that way it would not come very expensive on them in the course of three or four years, and they could live and have every prospect of paying the rent.

58642. You say you would give a prior claim to sons of tenants in Roscommon to congests from other counties?—Yes, whose fathers and brothers, as the case may be, live on uneconomic holdings.

58643. You have a certain number of uneconomic holdings in Roscommon?—A great many.

58644. Every single one of those is made economic. After that is done you have some land remaining. To what purpose would you devote that land? Would you give it to congests from a distance or to sons of tenants whose holdings have already been made economic?—I will tell you the difficulty in that case. Take a man with four or five acres of land, over forty years of age, having a family. You won't get that man to go over to lands divided by the Congested Districts Board beyond Tulsk. He won't migrate there. He has every wish to remain in the old place. If we could get them to go over and have that land divided among small farmers, and so on, you would relieve congestion, and the point you suggest could be carried out. But we won't get that. These men would remain on their little holdings.

58645. I will put it once more, to have done with the question. The Congested Districts Board and the Estates Commissioners, assume, get hold of all Roscommon. Every single uneconomic holding in Roscommon is made economic. There is surplus land still left. Would you be in favour of giving this surplus land to the sons of tenants whose holdings have just been made economic, or would you, taking a broader view of the question of congestion, say that those who had the first claim were those congests who are living in neighbouring counties?—Certainly, if what you suggest could be carried out, then it would be only reasonable and just to give it to these others living outside the county.

58646. To give it to congests from a distance?—Yes.

58647. I notice that you say, in reference to the purchase of land from eleven months men and professional men, in each case the present occupiers should receive adequate compensation?—Yes, except those who have eleven months takes or temporary lettings. They have no interest.

58648. You say that the eleven months men have no interest that can be acknowledged?—Yes.

Mr. John Irwin examined.

58649. Chairman.—You are nominated by the Irish Landowners' Convention?—They asked me to give some evidence here. Having a good knowledge of land in the baronies of Castlerea, Roscommon, and part of Ballintubber South, especially of land used for pasture, I have been asked to give some evidence as to the effect of dividing the grass lands of the county into small agricultural holdings. I have been superintending for nearly fifty years the management of between sixteen and seventeen hundred statute acres of land—first for my father and subsequently for my brother, Colonel Richard Irwin, of Rathmoyle—and during most of the same time I have been holding from three to four hundred statute acres of land on my own account. During my father's lifetime there was usually from five to ten acres of the lands of Rathmoyle or Kilmurry kept in tillage, but in consequence of the soil being unsuitable there was a heavy loss on all the land tilled. I found under my management that the working horses used to eat practically all the oats that were raised, and we had very little profit except from the straw, with which we used to feed store cattle in sheds. I offered to give to the man at present living in the gate-house a rood of ground for himself and his family for potatoes, and to give it free, with manure, and he did not think it worth the labour, and would not till it.

58650. Sir John Colomb. Although he had the manure for nothing?—Yes. The greater portion of Col. Irwin's estate was sold to the Estates Commissioners in May, 1906, and they were then handed over the possession of the farm of Ballaghabaw Beg, which was at once divided up by them into holdings of about 25 statute acres each. The townland contains 427 acres 2 roods 5 perches statute measure, and the Government valuation of it is £386 15*s*. I have heard my father say that the land was ancient pasture, and had not been tilled within living memory, except small portions for use of herds. Most of this townland is a fairly dry, deep soil, and not too heavy or retentive, and in consequence, where well tilled, likely to give a good crop. I have been over this land lately, and can give evidence as to how the new tenants are doing on it. I was over it quite lately. It is divided into divisions of 24 and 25 acres, and the two herds got divisions of 24 and 25 the large farm got two divisions, and the herd on the small farm got one division.

58650a. Mr. Bryce.—By two divisions you mean 30 acres?—No. It is divided into 25 acres. One herd got 24 or 25 acres, and the other got 50 acres. The people having the small holdings always tilled two acres of the land. That was the amount they were allowed, and they generally used to have a good crop on it, and that herd has that tilled still. The other herd used hardly to till two acres out of the three, and he has about two acres tilled now, and practically there is no tillage hardly on the rest of it. There are a few bits used for potatoes, but they are very small, and they told me the potatoes in it were very good, particularly on the new land this year, but there was practically none of it tilled except what the herds had.

58651. Sir John Colomb.—The man who has got 50 acres has got only two tilled?—Yes. He used to till two when he was a herd, and I don't think he has much more than two tilled now.

58652. Chairman.—He was allowed three before?—Yes.

58653. Was that for fear he would break up permanent pasture?—It was marked out for them formerly what they were to till. They used to get a piece, what they called a herd's garden. The owner allowed a certain proportion for tillage, used chiefly for feeding pigs. The Estates Commissioners divided it all up. Last year they could not till it because the Estates Commissioners did not get possession of it until the middle of May, and consequently when it was divided it was too late to do anything in the way of tillage. Most of the land last year was in meadow. What they did with it I don't know, but a good many of them used it. This year there is not very much meadow on it, but they have cattle and sheep rearing on it. It is very good sheep land.

58654. Sir John Colomb.—Can you give us the dates when the farms were vested in the new tenants?—It was about the 15th or 16th of May of last year, 1906.

58655. Mr. Kavanagh.—Had the new tenants any capital when they went into the farms?—Small capital. One man has built a two-storeyed house, and he has no offices. Some men I recommended with capital, but they were not taken.

58656. Sir John Colomb.—Were the men you recommended with capital on uneconomic holdings?—One of them was a herd with no holding; another had a small holding, but had capital.

58657. Mr. Bryce.—Had these herds capital?—They had quite sufficient to work the lands they have.

58658. The man who got the 50 acres?—Yes.

58659. Has he nothing but his own beasts on it now?—Nothing but his own stock.

58660. Mr. Kavanagh.—Do you think a man going on to 25 acres without capital is likely to succeed?—I don't see what good land is to men who don't work it.

58661. Mr. Sutherland.—What is the capital required for if you don't till?—To put stock on.

58662. Beyond that?—Practically that is the principal thing.

58663. The absence of tillage here would be a sign of scientific farming?—I think they would do well to till a fair proportion, say about one-fifth or one-sixth, because it is fairly good tillage land—deep land.

58664. Land which they tell us is too good for the purpose of settling small holders on is surely not land fit to be tilled?—No.

58665. That is an argument against all tillage?—Some land is very bad for tillage and very good for rich grazing. Some lands in my neighbourhood that put stock in very good condition are of very bad tillage quality. The cutting up of that land into small divisions is an enormous waste.

58666. About the fitness of cultivation, we are told actually that these best lands in Roscommon are not suited to cultivation?—No.

58667. They place small tenants on them and proceed to find fault with them because they don't till; but if tillage is the worst form of farming, why should these people be found fault with for not tilling?—These lands are too heavy for tillage, even in England.

58668. That would be the reason why these small people don't till that land?—Certainly. I think they know what they are doing very well, and find that they will make more grazing it. Some of the land divided up in my neighbourhood is a great addition.

58669. My point was to reconcile the two theories. If it is a good theory for a large grazier not to cultivate surely it is an equally good argument for the small man?—The large grazier goes in for rearing stock, and he very often does not live near those things.

58670. I quite admit that, but it has been so often put before us as a reason why the people go in for stock-raising that the land is not fit for tillage?—I believe that a great deal of the land in my neighbourhood is best laid out for grazing.

58671. The argument would be that if the small holder was put down on the land and he did not till it, it must simply be for the same reason?—Certainly.

58672. Mr. Bryce.—You said just now, as regards these lands distributed by the Estates Commissioners, that they were very well suited for tillage?—A good portion of this land is. The herd on the small holding used to have a very good crop every year off the two acres.

58673. You say you don't till because the land is too heavy, but you say that the land distributed by the Estates Commissioners is fairly good, and the deep soil is not too heavy, and in consequence if tilled likely to give good crops. That being so, why don't

Oct. 3, 1907.

Mr. John Irwin.

they till it?—I fancy they think they can make more of the stock. At all events they are in the beginning state of it. Only one man has a house built, and he has no office, which does not look well. He has a two-storeyed house, and the water off the slated roof will not run down off the walls, for there is no eave left. Two men named Ryan have two good 25-acre holdings between them. They are putting up good houses and good offices, and there is one other man, named Lavin, that is building a house, and there is a little shed in one place. That is all that is done in the way of building on that at present; but the land is wonderfully deep.

58674. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You say that during your father's lifetime there were usually from five to ten acres of the land kept in tillage; what was the period of your father's lifetime?—That would be during the sixties.

58675. Were not the prices of agricultural produce and grain then very much higher than now?—They were decidely higher then than now, but we never sold grain off it.

58676. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Can you expect these new tenants to go straight away into tillage?—No. The first year they could not go into it, because they got it too late.

58677. Until they have got manure they cannot till?—They cannot.

58678. Then it would take two or three years before you can know what use the new tenant is going to make of a holding?—I should say it would. The worst of it is even the man with the two-storeyed house has no outhouse, so I don't see where you are going to get the manure.

58679. Even given outhouses, it would take two or three years before they could get into tillage?—It would take a year at least, because he has lots of hay on his land that he did not use, and could feed a good many cattle in consequence, and have some manure if he did it.

58680. Mr. O'KELLY.—Is there any kind of tillage for which the heavy land is suitable?—I don't think so. I have read articles on the heavy clay lands of England, which seemed to say that they could not be tilled profitably by small people, but that it should be done by steam cultivation.

58681. When you say small people, how many acres do you mean?—In England we consider a man with less than 300 or 400 acres one who cannot use steam cultivation.

58682. If it were said that heavy land was suitable for a special class of tillage you would differ from it?—I don't think that class of land suitable for tillage. I have been acting as agent on Colonel Irwin's estate from 1879 up to the present. During the time the grass farms have been let in grazing tenancies the rent has been punctually paid in May and November when due, and there has not been any loss on them except in the case of one small farm, the tenant of which died, and it remained unlet for the winter half-year.

58683. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—It has been represented to us in evidence that rents of grazing lands have fallen during the last few years?—Yes.

58684. The grazing rents have been punctually paid on the property you manage, and have not fallen?—They have a little, not much. They kept at the same figure up to 1894. There was a little slump in grazing then for three years, and in consequence the rents were reduced somewhat.

58685. For the last ten years, in your experience of managing grazing farms and receiving grazing rents, the rents have been pretty steady?—About ten years ago they were reduced, and they have kept about that since.

58686. What you mean is that although they were reduced ten years ago they have remained stationary in the interval?—Yes.

58687. Mr. O'KELLY.—They have remained at the figure to which they were reduced in 1894?—Yes.

58688. Was the reduction then considerable?—There was a good deal of reduction given on the Ballaghabaw farm, but not on the others. It was more for store cattle. It used not to finish cattle. It used to feed a good many cattle and sheep.

58689. Are there many farms in the County Roscommon on which cattle are finished?—I don't say exactly finished. I imagine you could get them finished if you gave them time. They are able to put any cattle put on it into fine condition, well skinned and ready for sale the minute they come out. While I consider it a disadvantage to this part of the country that the grazing land is let in too large areas, which more or less prevents the expenditure of sufficient capital on it to bring or maintain the land at its best, I consider it would be a great injury to this part of the country to expropriate the graziers and put small tenants in their place, as they are mostly men of great intelligence and industry in the management of their business, and without their energy, ability, and capital the cattle and sheep trade in this county would be irreparably injured. The class of cattle and sheep in this part of the country are exceptionally good, and they have been gradually brought to that by men holding large quantities of land. The first improvement in the cattle of the district was brought about by Dean French, who held the Palace land, near Elphin, and imported for years and years very fine shorthorn bulls, that made that class of cattle in this part of the country exceptional about Elphin. Then there was great care taken in the breeding of the sheep, and the Roscommon sheep was brought out. Mr. Taaffe, a very large breeder, used to bring forty or fifty rams every year to Ballinasloe, and what he used to particularly pride himself on was "these are not pampered sheep; these are sheep fit to put out on ordinary grass, for practically they have been only reared on grass; they are not pampered or brought out." They used to be splendid sheep for breeding.

58690. Mr. O'KELLY.—You deplore the fact that the grazing land is let in too large areas?—Yes. There are some fields near me too big.

58691. What improvement would you suggest in that direction?—One of the fields near me has over 200 acres. That is too big. They should be fenced in smaller quantities, and I think myself if the graziers got a fair share the proper way to manage the land would be to have it mixed grazing and a fair share of small tenants as well, and then things would work better for the benefit of all.

58692. Portion of the large farms should be in the hands of the small tenants?—I think some of them could be given to small tenants. I would not cut out the graziers altogether, because they are men with plenty of capital, intelligence, and industry, and make the most of grass lands.

58693. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do I understand you to say that assuming a grazing farm is bought upon which there are two classes of land, partly good grazing land that ought to be kept in grass, and partly land of such a nature that it would be improved by tillage, your policy would be in acquiring that land and distributing it, that the land suitable for tillage should be given to small holders and the land suitable for grass reserved for graziers?—That, I think, would be a very good arrangement, if it could be carried out conveniently without too much expense.

58694. On general principles you would advocate that?—Yes.

58695. CHAIRMAN.—Have you any reason to think that the grazing lands of Ireland, as they exist now, could carry more stores than they do at present?—Some of them might be improved. There is one thing they used to do in former times to the grass lands in my part of the country. There is a stuff they call blue gravel or blue marl. Ireland was swept by the ocean long after England was formed, and the limestone rocks were dashed off, and they left this debris on the surface, and then there was a sedimentary deposit after that. They tell me this does not exist in England, but it is a fertilising agent in our part of the country. On all the best grass lands about me you will see a sort of holes dug in them. They call them sand pits. They were holes from which the graziers raised the blue marl with which they top-dressed the surface. It has a better effect than liming or anything else, because very frequently the soil is deficient in this.

58696. That is not done sufficiently in these days?—It is not done at all, and has not been done for the last twenty or thirty years.

58697. My point was this: I understand you to say that it was your general view that a certain amount of grass lands should be divided up among the people, but it is necessary to retain the grazier to a certain extent as a factor in the cattle trade?—I think so.

58698. Suppose the result of breaking up the grass lands was to increase the number of stores?—The small tenant will raise stores.

58699. That would increase the gross number of ores produced during any given year?—It would.

58700. If the grazier is really a necessary factor in e situation it means that the land which he oc- pies will be reduced by the amount of land you ve the small people, and this smaller amount of nd would have to carry the greater number of ores produced?—It would, if they had not some ner market for them.

58701. Is there any market for yearling beasts?— fear there is a slump in them at present, from my bservation.

58702. Do you suggest it might be possible to get d of a surplus of young stores to England?—There a certain quantity of not very young stores taken England as it is, but there would not be a call in ngland for many young stores. They prefer cattle rward in condition. They won't take poor cattle all in England except at wretched prices.

58703. Unless the English markets came to the scue the result would be that the existing lands ould have to carry an additional number of stores ed by these small holders?—Yes.

58704. Could the lands do that, even if you put neral on them as suggested?—The grazing lands, think, could be improved, but not to that extent, if re was a large division among the small holders.

58705. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Was not the mineral to hich you refer used in the old days practically be- re cake and artificial manures existed?—Yes. They ere not well known, and they preferred this to the ming.

58706. May it not be that the disuse of this mineral due to the introduction of cake and artificial anure, which give better results?—It gave very good sults. Labour was much cheaper than at present. abour is so dear now that it pays better to use arti- ial manures.

58707. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Putting aside the question f top-dressing merely, would not the grass land of oscommon carry more cattle than they put on it t present?—I don't think they would. Some years hich are good for grass they would carry more. ther years which are bad for grass they don't do ell.

58708. Would you call this a good year?—No. This a very bad year for our county, because it was too old and wet, and the grass did not grow at all until uly—that is anywhere that was stocked in winter.

58709. I thought this was an exceptionally good ass year?—Not in our part of the country. It may n Galway or on light lands.

58710. Because passing through the country one is ruck with the small amount of stock which these reat grazing ranches carry?—After all you will see ry little waste grazing.

58711. I think I see a great deal of it?—There is me at present owing to the agitation.

58712. It is not your opinion that the grazing lands an carry more stock than is on them at present?— don't think they can carry much more. If they ere carefully managed and divided up into smaller ivisions probably they would.

58713. If they were used better and top-dressed now nd then?—Yes, if they were top-dressed.

58714. I suppose they get no artificial top-dress- ng?—They get hardly any. Some people use a little ag, but they get practically very little top-dressing, nd of course stores have a tendency to exhaust the hosphates.

58715. If better used they would carry more stock?—Yes, and I think you could get more land to fatten f it were taken up well, than at present, because a ot of land is used for stores, not alone in this part of he country, but in the County Meath, on which they ave up fattening cattle, and took to raising polly ullocks for the English market; and there could be nore cattle fattened in this part of the country if it ere taken up for this purpose.

58716. So if you took away the arable land for plitting into small holdings the remaining good grass and, if used well, would carry more stock?—It would arry more stock. I could not say that it would carry he surplus stock.

58717. Then it would not dislocate the cattle trade o the extent anticipated?—It would not carry all the urplus stock that would be raised by dividing up o much of the land.

58718. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—It would not meet, in your judgment, the increased supply produced by the small holder?—It would not.

58719. Mr. BRYCE.—What do you mean by taken up?—Instead of using some of the land that is now used for store cattle for that purpose I think it could be made to fatten if properly treated. If you take up land for fattening you must not stock it heavily in the winter. A great deal of the heavy land has too much stock put on in winter, and will not carry sufficient stock in summer in consequence. The small tenants keep, in fact, an enormous quantity of store stock in the winter. That would prevent the necessity of keeping so much cattle on the grass lands in winter.

58720. You said that in former days they used that mineral to which you referred more than they do now. I think that mineral is the boulder clay left by the ice, and not stuff left by the sea. I think that that is the present geological theory?—The limestone rocks were rubbed off.

58721. Is the result of the mineral not being used that the land is deteriorating?—I could not say. The fact was the gravelling was done before my time—at least when I was young, and was not able to observe the thing carefully.

58722. Because we have heard a good many people say that the land on these grass ranches is deteriorating—is that your experience?—I don't think so. I think the very good land is as well managed. I can not see that there is much difference. Some people tell me that the land does not carry as much as formerly. That is not my experience. I find some of our land carries as much as thirty years ago.

58723. In the last ten years there is no sign of the land deteriorating from the fact that less has been got for it?—Yes.

58724. CHAIRMAN.—Do you set land on the eleven-months system?—Yes, for my brother.

38725. Do you find it necessary to do any manuring or thistle-cutting on the land which you set?—No. I take care that it is properly managed, and allow nothing to be removed off the lands.

58726. The graziers cut the thistles and improve the land as much as they can?—They don't do anything on those. In that case the landlord is supposed to maintain the fences and everything.

58727. I was told the other day by a landlord in Mayo who lets a good deal of land on the eleven months system, that it was his experience that he had to do a great deal to the land to keep it up, and that he had to cut thistles every year?—The landlord would be expected to do that and maintain the fences.

58728. Don't you think that it is because some landlords don't do that that the lands in some places have deteriorated?—They would get a little deteriorated, of course, but a small expenditure would bring it back again to its former condition. There are a large number of tenants in the Castlerea Union who have small holdings, mostly adjoining bogs, who feed perhaps one cow during summer, and rear two or three calves with her, and may buy a couple more young calves to keep on poor pasture during portion of the summer, and they feed all these cattle during the winter, taking some meadow or buying some hay for them, which enables them to have manure enough to raise good crops on their moorland or poor upland; but their cattle come out in spring in such poor condition as to be quite unsaleable; so they bring them to the grass lands in this part of the country and settle them grazing on the good pasture lands for the summer six months, and sell them when fit for sale at the end of that time; and as a large tract of land in the hands of the Congested Districts Board—about 3,500 acres in my neighbourhood, used in this way, that the Congested Districts Board have—is at present stocked with these cattle, some idea can be formed of the loss these people would sustain by being deprived of the grass.

58729. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—You are using an argument in favour of the continuance of the grazing lands, and you draw a very pathetic picture of these poor people, with their one cow and two calves, but the argument is that if these people got the land themselves and were settled upon it the necessity for doing this other thing would disappear. That is a reasonable construction?—So far as that is concerned,

Oct. 3, 1907.

Mr. John Irwin.

the people living near the bog have an immense advantage, because they have the manure of these cattle to till the reclaimed bog and the poor land, and the consequence is that they keep the cattle and winter them for the sole purpose of having the manure, and they buy a lot of hay off the good lands. It is like Mahomet and the mountain. You cannot get the grass lands beside them, and they simply must do this.

58730. The proposal is to bring the people who have no grazing to the grass lands?—People who have bog won't go. People have no conception of the loss it is to a tenant not to have bog. Pigs are the most profitable thing which people can have. They bring a return in a quicker time than any other stock you can feed, and you practically cannot raise them without fuel.

58731. Mr. O'Kelly.—Then your idea is, it would be better to have the bog land broken up than the grass land?—It would be a good thing if you did anything to provide them with fuel.

58732. Chairman.—Why cannot you raise pigs without fuel?—You won't make profit on them if you don't cook their food. I know, because I had some experience of living in Mayo myself.

58733. Sir John Colomb.—Your contention is that small holders on the end of a bog are not likely to be induced to go away from the bog, where the difficulties of getting turf would be greater?—Yes.

58734. Therefore, unless they can be enlarged by suitable arable land close at hand it would be better, as a policy, to reserve for that class land where they could graze their young stock?—I think so; it would be desirable.

58735. Mr. O'Kelly.—Do I understand you to say that the Congested Districts Board have a very large tract of land which is not distributed?—Yes, which is grazed by small holders adjoining.

58736. Of course it would be a great loss to deprive these people of the grazing, but no one has proposed to do so. It was to provide them with it that the Congested Districts Board went there?—How are you to give it to them?

58737. When that large grazing tract, in conjunction with many others, is broken up, is not the question solved?—It would not be desirable to give them a piece of grazing land ten or twelve miles away from where they live.

58738. It would not be desirable to do it, the objection being that there is no turbary twelve miles away?—The people won't leave where they are living.

58739. I quite understand that in the early days of the Board's work there was a prejudice against leaving the old place, but I put it to you that the prejudice is fast disappearing?—No; they are a great deal better off where they are.

58740. Then they much prefer to live upon the bogland?—They live upon the upland adjoining the bog.

58741. What does your argument lead to? Do you think it is wise to have the grass lands added on to the other holdings or not?—If it could be added on to the existing holdings, most decidedly; but when it is ten or twelve miles away I don't see how it is to be done.

58742. Do you believe in migration?—I don't believe in migration, because the people won't leave where they are comfortable.

58743. That is a matter of opinion. Opinion based on experience can be urged against you on the other side?—All I can tell you is there is a large farm near me which is being cut up into divisions by the Congested Districts Board, and there are some people home from America. Some of them I heard were the heads of families. They said if they got the whole farm they would not take it.

58744. From their American experience they see matters in a different light from those at home. Suppose there is this considerable reluctance on the part of the people of Roscommon to leave the boglands, what is the explanation of what is generally known as cattle driving in this country?—Cattle driving is done by small tenants who live close to the lands, and want to get an increase.

58745. Is it for amusement or with the desire of having the lands broken up?—The small holders want to have the lands divided up among them.

58746. And the fact that they engage in a work of that kind, that is not without some risks, would not suggest that they would be willing to leave the boglands, and go on these grazing farms?—I cannot suggest the reason at all, because probably there are many reasons for it. I don't go into that or interfere with that in any way.

58747. I only put that latest phase of the public movement before you as indicating the desire of the people to get on to the good lands, and as indicative of no unwillingness on their part to change from the surroundings in which they now find themselves?—I don't know who the people are, but of course they all want to get more land. There is land hunger all over Ireland.

58748. Mr. Bryce.—Do you think any of the people who have been doing this cattle driving are the bog people whom you have been describing?—This is in the congested area, beyond Castlerea. I have not heard of any cattle driving done in the neighbourhood.

58749. You have not heard of any people coming from the bogs to join this cattle driving?—I could not tell you. I never was in one of these crowds.

58750. Are there no grass lands nearer to the bogs than those you have described as twelve miles off?—No.

58751. What adjoins the bogs?—The upland, and it is all divided into holdings. They nearly all have upland as well as bog.

58752. But on one side of the bog you come to grass lands?—No.

58753. There must be a point at which upland and bog stop and something else begins?—There are some grass lands, but it is light land. A good deal of it is tilled by these people who have it. There are no large grass farms on that side.

58754. There are no large grass farms nearer to this bog than twelve miles?—Not in the congested area beyond Castlerea, down in the Loughglynn direction.

58755. I think there is some near Loughglynn, because I saw it?—I don't know any large grass lands there. There is a very congested area there—the Frenchpark Estate and Mr. Sandford's, and several other estates down there.

58756. Mr. Sutherland.—Generally in that part of the country the land is not good enough to be left in grazing—No. It would not make good grazing land. It does better for some tillage on it. There are some lands in this neighbourhood which are not good for tillage, but are very valuable for their feeding and fattening quality, and I believe cutting them up into small holdings would very much depreciate their value. There is a great deal of loss on the fencing, and cutting up prime grazing land would injure it very much, and I don't believe the tenants could possibly make as much of it as is to be made on the grass farm as it stands.

58757. Sir John Colomb.—Have you any experience of an attempt made to till this good, stiff grass land, which was found not to pay, and, if so, can you tell me how long it took to get that land back again into the condition in which it was before it was disturbed? I have seen some of the portions tilled, and I know there were several years before it was as good as it had been.

58758. Where you break up stiff land of a good grazing quality into tillage and want to get it back into grass, is not it a very long process to restore it to its former value as grass land?—It will take several years. It depends very much on how the land was treated while it was broken.

58759. Mr. Bryce.—We have been told by several witnesses who objected to the dividing up of these grass lands that even if they were kept in grass there would not be the long run for the cattle which there is at present. Do you believe that the long run is necessary for forwarding cattle?—I believe that cattle do better on a large sized holding than on a small holding, but of course on a small holding there may be a great deal done if the land is properly managed: but I know that the people who bring in these cattle to have them grazed in summer much prefer to get them on a large run of good land than on a small holding because they know that they would not do so well on a small holding.

58760. What is the reason of that?—On the large run the cattle have different sorts of pasture, and generally they have more grass left on it. Small tenants generally stock pretty heavily in the winter, and land that is stocked too heavily in winter won't feed anything like the number in summer. The sole gets eat

There is a surprising difference in land that is stocked with cattle during winter and that which is not. Some of the grass lands in this neighbourhood now being divided into small holdings I consider unsuitable for tillage. There is a large holding quite close to me. I was on it about 1881 or 1883. I was appointed by Mr. Glancy on his part and Mr. Guy, of Dorrington, the landlord, to arrange a rent on it. It is a large farm of 317 acres, and was held by Mr. Patrick Morris. I have seen some of the cattle that came off it I knew it long before that, because I used to have the right to shoot over it. I was rather disappointed with the quality of the land. I remarked there were a great many portions of it taken up in tillage and let out again. I made inquiries and found Mr. Glancy used to allow the herd some portions of tillage to sow his potatoes. The herd said the potatoes were not good and the oats did not ripen. This is at present cut up into small holdings, and I am very much afraid that it will not be satisfactory as tillage land. On the west end there is a great tract of very wet land. When I used to shoot over it there was very good cover on it. About the beginning of the seventies my father was an inspector of drainage for the Board of Works. Mr. French, of Cloonaquin, came with the agent on the farm. He said Mr. Glancy found the wet land a great disadvantage, and wanted to do some drainage. The landlord advanced the money on the same terms as if it was got from the Board of Works. He wanted someone to certify that the works were properly done. He came to my father and asked him to do it. He had a great belief in drainage. It was very easily drained because there were swallow holes in it into which one could conduct the drainage. He carried it out. It used to carry fair herbage before that, but there was practically nothing at all on it afterwards, only a few inches of organic matter forming the soil, and there was moorland pan underneath. As long as the water was on it it used to rest there, and the evaporation used to come up to the surface, producing sweet herbage in summer. When the water was taken off the moorland it left it practically dry and unable to produce anything. You could not do anything with that land except to subsoil it, which would be a very expensive process. If the limestone mineral underneath were taken up and spread on the top it would probably improve it. That is the only way I could suggest for improving the land. I consider it very unsuitable for small tenants and don't think that small tenants will succeed on it.

58761. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—What would you roughly approximate as the cost per acre of subsoiling? It is a very expensive process?—It depends on the way it is done. My father had a very peculiar way of doing it. At that time you could get labourers in plenty. But what he used to do was to set this for potato sowing, and they used to break it in ridges. He used to take every alternate place the full breadth of the ridge and would throw up any stuff there was over this moorland pan on the ridge and put manure on it and sow potatoes, and in the middle of the summer he would get the subsoil dug up and broken, and subsoil the next year the part that was unbroken. He would have the part that was broken with the ridge on it, the part that was unbroken he would get dug and in that way it was done with very little expense. But the ridges should be carefully done. It is a troublesome process.

58762. But that process is well within the power of a small tenant who had a strong family?—Yes; if they took the trouble to do it it could be done.

58763. As a matter of fact, that very process is within the capability of the small farmer who has strong help in his family?—Yes, if he could be got to do it; but you would want to have a very low price on that class of land, to compensate them for this work. There were some grass lands divided up on the Kirkaldy Estate some years ago. They have worked pretty well, but I think they have not much tillage on it. They have what I consider reasonable. They seem to be all improved by having it divided up. Whenever it can be done among adjoining owners I believe it would be useful, whether they use it in grass or tillage; but the great difficulty in this part of the country is fuel. It is wretched to see people at this time of the year with only a few branches to keep them warm in winter.

58764. Mr. O'KELLY.—Where do they get their fuel in winter?—The tenants of that farm of Ballaghabaw told me that not one of them had a sod of turf on Sunday week. They had only some tops of trees that happened to be cut at Willsgrove and Southpark. Some of them cut in Willsgrove and Southpark had no firing at all. That will come to an end very soon. I don't know what they will do. They will have to get coal. I saw the turf, and certainly it was very bad, and it cost six shillings a horse crate. That is a most preposterous price. There is a large bog at Ballyglass, on Mahon's Estate, not too far away. If the Congested Districts Board bought it and made a good pass into it so that the turf could be easily cut and carted home, it would provide a great many people with turf, though it would not probably, if there was a larger population brought into the country, supply them all.

58765. CHAIRMAN.—How many years will turf keep after it is cut?—Two or three years, if properly ricked, but you must have it properly ricked and cover it on the top. They very often used to have turf for two years. It is always an advantage to have a lot of old turf in case of a wet summer.

58766. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Next to turf is water?—Yes, that is a great difficulty in our part of the country. All the water goes underground; it is a cavernous limestone. They sink pumps and get a little surface water that runs into them, but that is very unsatisfactory.

58767 CHAIRMAN.—How do you propose to get over the difficulty of fuel?—The only suggestion I could make is to set up a factory of compressed peat where the bogs are plentiful.

58768. That has failed?—It seems to have failed in a great many instances, but I think the problem could be solved if capital and energy were put into it.

58769. Do you think if capital and energy were applied to the industry of compressing peat it would succeed?—I do. There are a great many ways of doing it. A great many years ago my father was very much filled with the idea. A Rev. Mr. Cobbold took out a patent for making compressed peat. It was like a pug mill. There was water turned on to it. You work this up, and he said he used any sort of peat stuff on the top of this bog, and it ran out in a black stream. He had squares for it to run into on the ground to dry, and he told me after the stuff was taken out of it there was a little light stuff taken off, and then it was cut into stripes, and it got a little firm, and then it was dried and cut up like bricks exactly; but I saw some of this peat, and it was the hardest stuff you ever saw. You could hardly cut it with a hatchet, and it was perfectly solid.

58770. Did it burn?—It burned splendidly.

58771. Because, so far as your evidence goes, we have heard of no industry in which peat fuel has been successfully produced?—There certainly have been failures.

58772. Mr. BRYCE.—There is a Scotchman doing that very thing that you have described, on the Blackwater, at the south-west corner of Lough Neagh. He has got a bog there, and has been doing that for several years, and I believe is doing it very well?—This was like the hardest jet. There was practically no waste, except the top stuff of the bog.

58773. Where does the economic advantage come in?—I suppose the cartage of the turf is so much per load?—Yes. This compressed peat is easily carried by rail or by cart, and in that way it can be brought cheaply where there is no turf at present.

58774. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The difficulty in the carriage of turf is not so much a question of weight as one of bulk, and if it was possible economically to compress it a man with a cart would get a much greater supply of fuel than he would get if it was simply turf?—Yes; there would be an immense difference. The carriage of turf is enormously expensive.

58775. Mr. BRYCE.—Could you carry more than a certain weight of turf on the cart?—It depends very much on the nature of the turf. Stone turf you will get very heavy. A good cart of stone turf is a good load on the horse, but if you have a load of the whitest turf it won't weigh much at all.

58776. The horse could drag a greater amount than he does drag, so far as weight is concerned, if the bulk were reduced?—Yes.

Oct. 3, 1907 Mr. W. J. Walpole examined.

Mr. W. J. Walpole.

58777. Chairman.—You are a member of the Roscommon Graziers' Association?—Yes. I am a considerable landholder myself, and I have considerable experience as a land agent and as a valuer.

58778. Where do you hold your land?—In this immediate neighbourhood I hold my land. Although there is land in Roscommon suitable for the relief of congestion the deep, strong land, with deficient water supply and remote from fuel, is not suitable for division into small agricultural holdings. This land has practically always been used for grazing, and no one has as yet successfully used it in any other way. Corn laws, bounties, or high prices, such as existed during the Napoleonic wars, may have resulted in tillage having been carried on, but with this artificial stimulus removed the land returned to its natural use. There is a considerable amount of lighter soil here and there, particularly in the southern half of the county, which would be suited for mixed farming. The non-residential grazing farms are held in various ways—some as statutory tenancies, some purchased, much of it under yearly lettings or short leases, and some on the eleven months' system. The latter system is, in my opinion, not nearly so prevalent as one would be led to believe by what we read in the Press, and where made use of it is frequently only a temporary expedient on the part of the lessor. The holders of eleven months land are not so much the graziers, who have always been such, and their predecessors before them, but are as a rule successful cattle dealers and small farmers, who, by energy and good management, save money, and find this is a convenient way of extending their operations. From my own knowledge I have every reason to believe owners who have land in their complete control would sell at a fair price, but buyers—that is, the Estates Commissioners or Congested Districts Board—who require to sell at a bargain price cannot give a fair price, and re-sell at a bargain price without loss. Not replying to circulars as to willingness to sell is no criterion of willingness. The State, by their passive action as regards interference with the liberty of owners, has brought a certain amount of land into the market, and having regard to that state of things, it would be unreasonable to expect owners to bring trouble on themselves by visits of inspectors in the event of their not getting sufficient offers.

58778A. Mr. Sutherland.—Are you speaking as a landowner?—I am speaking as an occupier of land, and as one who would be affected by compulsion if it was passed.

58778B. At a great many of our sittings we have had direct evidence from the Landowner's Convention from themselves?—I am speaking from what I know and am aware of occurring. Grass land held by statutory tenants cannot be bought, paying the owners and occupiers a fair price, cheap enough to be re-sold at a price which would leave the annuity at all comparable with that paid by the ordinary tenant purchaser. A statutory tenant of a grass farm has a valuable interest in it, and the prices hitherto given for them are based on value, and are not fictitious, as frequenaly happens in connection with small farms. As regards the wholesale appropriation of grass land, the result would be disastrous to the breeders of cattle in Ireland, who in three provinces are the small farmers. These as a rule keep their stock till one or one-and-a-half years old, when they are bought by the store farmer, some of the best being shipped. Take away the store farmer and put breeders on his land, and you will return to the condition of the fifties and sixties, when the fattener had the profit and when the small farmer had to depend on the sale of his corn, which then had not supplies from all over the world to keep down the price as now. The soiling system, as suggested by some witnesses, would not suit this country. In connection with the problem of congestion in East Mayo and West Roscommon, I consider the £10 standard much too high to aim at. Neither the rent nor the Poor Law valuation are any standard for the gross value of the farm in these districts, where so much of the land is reclaimed, and neither the rent nor the valuation represent anything like the actual value of the farm. Consolidating the holdings to £10 valuation or so would mean letting much of the land go back to waste, which is fair tillage land, although it won't grow good grass. It would be much better to leave the holdings smaller and try to provide suitable grazing, even at a distance, for the young stock. That would enable the tenant to keep his means together, and would make his stock more saleable than if fed on the poor grazing provided on an enlarged holding. On the smaller sized holding, provided it was properly striped, and that there was at least a place for one cow, two if possible, and that the tenant was in a position to make the best of his land by proper arterial drainage, the fact of his having to spend part of his time in England seems no hardship any more than is undergone by sailors or fishermen and others, and he has this advantage, that his family are brought up in healthier conditions than in towns. There is no likelihood that the demand for unskilled labour will become less, and the tendency of wages is not to get less. As to willingness to migrate, I am not in a position to speak with authority, but the instance given by a witness where migrants have moved to Roscommon land (which appears to me to be to the Balfe Estate at Southpark, within two miles of Castlerea, and convenient to fuel and water), is no guide as to what would take place under other conditions. I consider the £5 limit in the Act of 1903 a mistake. I would raise it to £10. In the agricultural parts of this county I am not apprehensive that sub-division will take place to any extent. The spread of education and the higher standard of living now aimed at and the willingness to emigrate will prove sufficient to prevent it. A question was asked Mr. Irwin about cattle driving. We have no experience of cattle driving in this neighbourhood, but the Roscommon people are fairly well conversant with the facts. It is not people from a distance who have made attempts to drive cattle; it is small occupiers in the immediate neighbourhood of grass farms. Then with regard to the fuel problem—that is, how to provide convenient fuel for holdings which were carved out of grass farms at a distance from fuel, I cannot see any way of meeting it except to increase the size of the farms, and enable the occupier to meet the difficulties of that class more successfully than if he were a small farmer.

58779. Chairman.—In other words, you think the difficulty of fuel is a bar to small holdings?—Yes, a very serious difficulty. There is also the water difficulty. There is a great deal of the grazing land in this county where the water supply is very deficient. Even on large farms, when dry seasons come, people have to drive their cattle for miles to get the necessary water. If you divide one of these large farms into twenty, it is easy to imagine the difficulties of a small farmer every summer.

58780. Mr. Sutherland.—There will be the same amount of water?—Yes.

58781. The difficulty, then, could only arise through more cattle being there?—Well, you can give cattle water you could not give ordinary people. A water supply suitable for cattle might not be suitable for domestic use.

58782. No, but the same sort of water could be got as was there before when it was peopled?—Yes, but, as a matter of fact, that reminds me. It is a mistake to suppose, so far as recollection can go, that these tracts of grazing land, so often spoken of, in Roscommon, have been thickly populated in the past. So far as I can ascertain, they have been in grass—so far as reliable records can go. In Arthur Young's time, in 1776, they were in grazing.

58783. That is only as yesterday?—About 1832 there was a Mr. Weir, who made an inspection of this county, and he found this big tract of grazing land in the centre of Roscommon, with even larger farms than are at present.

58784. There is history older than Mr. Weir. But beyond that there is proof on the face of the soil itself, Mr. Walpole?—I think I touched on that.

58785. To-day did not we see ridges and furrows on hundreds of green fields as we came along to Strokestown from Castlerea?—I think I touched on that. There were corn laws and bounties and artificial conditions which might have had the effect of encouraging tillage.

58786. Yes, but in presence of this material evidence there is no need of speculation at all. Surely, if anything is clear at all, it is the marks of the old cultivation of the land. Then with regard to this, I

was just going to ask you another question. It is only of a general nature. You say after the land was allowed to go back again it went to its natural use?—Yes, considering the natural difficulty of working strong clay land, and considering that although you may profitably work strong clay land in a fairly dry climate, you certainly will not do it in a wet climate like this.

58787. What interested me was your supposition that the natural use of land was to allow it to produce without any labour?—This particular sort of land, under the present conditions. In the other classes of holdings——

58788. If you used the words "economic use" I would perhaps see a reason for it?—That may have been my meaning.

58789. Well, if it is, I am sympathetic. You do not want to allow land to lie waste in that way?—I do not call it waste.

58790. I suppose in your school days, you learned, like us, that there were three stages of society—the hunter, the pasturer, and the cultivator. That was the order of progress, wasn't it? And if you go back from the cultivator to the hunter stage, or to the pasturer, is not that retrogression, and not progression?—That is so, but with improved means of communication, land which would have been cultivated, and happens to be convenient to markets, is driven out of cultivation by the produce of land which, although distant, is more suitable for the growth of corn.

58791. Yes, of course, that would, perhaps, be best covered by the word you are ready to accept—"economic," because at this time political economy was not invented, say, in the time of Brian Boru?—We have no records.

58792. CHAIRMAN.—Are there any traces on these lands about here of the former cultivation?—As a rule there are—the ridges and furrows.

58793. Is not that evidence that they were tilled at one time?—It is evidence, but I think that may be explained by artificial conditions such as high corn duties and bounties.

58794. You think there was a temporary tillage just at a time of unnatural conditions?—That is the explanation that occurs to me.

58795. Now, for instance, take the plains of Boyle. The plains of Boyle were thickly populated at one time, were they not—not within living memory, but they were cleared after the Famine, weren't they?—I do not think so. Of course I cannot speak with absolute authority on the subject, but so far as my knowledge leads me to any belief, I do not think they were. Certain farms were very likely cleared, and I know farms which were cleared after the Famine time from time to time, but as a rule the grazing lands were away from fuel and away from water, and that at all times has been a difficulty in the way of small farms. About these grazing tracts, my belief is that they were not occupied as tillage.

58796. Mr. O'KELLY.—So, Mr. Walpole, it comes to this, that the motive for clearing these farms was the absence of fuel and water?—If they were cleared.

58797. But did not you say you had, in your mind's eye, some farms that were cleared and that the reason they were cleared was that there was neither water nor fuel?—I certainly did not suggest that.

58798. I apologise if I am wrong. Well, what do you suggest?—I do not suggest any particular reason at all. I merely mention the fact, but I said that my belief, and what I understood, as the reason why these lands are in grass, and have been in grass, is that the difficulties of fuel and water were in existence then and are in existence still.

58799. Fuel and water had no relation in your mind to the clearances?—Oh, dear, no. The only thing is that the people who had not these conveniences were in a worse position to stand the strain of bad times than those who had.

58800. Then, I understand, there were no clearances on the plains of Boyle?—I do not say there were none, but the plains of Boyle had the name of a pastoral district before the Famine.

58801. Mr. BRYCE.—Does Arthur Young give any account of the country or only talk of it generally? He travelled through the country. He stopped here, and gives a number of particulars of the condition of things at that particular time. He speaks of the land about Strokestown, where held by small tenants, as being held very much in rundale: A farm of 200 acres would be held by, perhaps, ten or twelve people, and the different plots mixed up together. Then, he goes on to describe the big grazing tract in the centre of the county, and the farms were very much larger than they are now. They went into thousands of acres instead of hundreds.

58802. Mr. BRYCE.—The small holdings he describes were on the land to the east of this?—Well, say the land about five miles around Strokestown.

58803. And it is still more or less in small holdings?—It is principally in small holdings.

58804. Is it grazed or in tillage?—The greater portion is grazed and meadowed.

58804A. What kind of size?—Well, the average. I might not be very correct in giving an average, but a thirty-acre holding is not very common; and they run down to ten, and some to five acres. But I should say the average all round would be, perhaps, twelve or fifteen statute acres.

58805. Now, are there any difficulties about water and turf here?—I should say not.

58806. Because they are nearer a bog?—As a rule, they are near the bogs, and there is a water supply in almost every district immediately around here. There is water to be had.

58807. It is limestone around here?—It is limestone, but it is not continuous limestone, there being much moory and alluvial soil in the river flats.

58808. So that the grounds for difficulty that you apply to the county generally do not exist here?—In the west part of the union they do.

58809. If the conditions of turf and water were the same in the rest of the county as they are here, you would not see the difficulty you do see in breaking up the large ranches?—I would not see the difficulty if the conditions were the same as five miles around Strokestown. It is a thing that could be done; and I could look forward to seeing the people settled on such farms doing very well.

58810. Take the small holdings. How do they work? We have had evidence from Mr. Irwin and you that the doing away with the large farms would be disadvantageous to the small people. What do they do with their cattle? Do they send them on to the large ranches to finish or do the whole themselves?—They send some to the grazing farms to be kept until they are one and a half years old. They feed them altogether themselves until a year old. Then they put them out to grass, say, for six months. At the end of that six months some will sell. Others will keep them on; tie them in, and sell them as two-year-olds. Those who produce good stock, and who feed them well from a year to a year and a half—the bulk of these are bought for shipping to Scotland. There is a very considerable demand in this part of the county for good, well-bred stock in Scotland.

58811. For finishing?—Well, they are finished before the next summer. They are tied in.

58812. If these large farms in the middle of the county were divided up would that be a disadvantage to the small holders near Strokestown?—It would be a disadvantage in its effect on the cattle trade as a whole. If there is harm done in one part of the country it spreads over the whole. If prices are lowered in one place they are lowered in another, and reduction of price in a place where cattle could not be got ready for shipping at an early age would be felt here.

58813. Leaving aside the question of price, would it affect the manner in which these small holders near Strokestown deal with their stock. Suppose the large farms in the country and in the county were broken up, instead of putting some of their stock on to those large farms, what would the people do then?—My opinion is that they would have to restrict their production.

58814. Or sell younger, perhaps?—They would not have a demand younger. They would have to restrict their production, I think, so as to enable them to feed a little longer.

58815. In some parts of Ireland—we found in the North—that a great many of the cattle are sold young—under the age you describe—at six months and one year old to the dealers in Scotland?—I was not aware that was done in the North of Ireland. I know calves go from the South of Ireland as weanlings. They do not go from here as weanlings. The reason is we want them here.

Oct. 8, 1907.

Mr. W. J. Walpole.

58816. Well, in Donegal there is no grazing convenient, and with regard to a great deal of their stock they must sell at once. They must dispose of them there. Now, suppose that circumstance was forced on the people here, of selling younger than they sell them now, that would be a disadvantage?—It would be a decided disadvantage. I look upon it that the more cows they are able to keep the better, and if they cannot dispose of their young stock at a reasonable age they would have to reduce the number of cows, and that, I think, is a disadvantage. The fact that they are able to keep more cows enables them to keep more pigs, and, as a matter of fact, pig-feeding is the most profitable branch of all agricultural industry.

58817. On these small holdings how much proportion of tillage will a man have?—If he has 15 acres, well, the man with more than two acres of tillage is uncommon. A good many have up to two acres, but beyond that is uncommon, no matter how large the farm.

58818. Two acres out of 15, or two out of even 60 acres?—Yes, just as likely, the amount of tillage being more dependent on the size of a farmer's family than on the size of his holding.

58819. But there are people who say it would be an economic advantage if you reduce the holdings to something like 20 acres, and therefore by having ten holdings of 20 acres instead of one holding of 200 you would have then 20 acres tilled instead of only two?—Well, I cannot follow that argument exactly. If you reduce the size of the large holdings you still propose to increase the size of the small ones, and I think you come to pretty much the same result.

58820. No, there would be a larger number of people on the ground, and each would be doing two acres of tillage, instead of one man doing two. There would, therefore, be a great deal more labour on the land, and a larger production of the fruits of the ground?—That would be so if you did not relieve the existing congestion, but on account of the very small size of some of the holdings, you see you would have still two acres out of five, whereas if you extend that to 15 acres you would still have only two out of fifteen.

58821. I presume that is done in the interest of the relief of congestion and the necessity of an increased size of holdings. But it does amount to that, and the disadvantage which these people near Strokestown would suffer by the alteration in the course of trade might compel them to go in for additional tillage?—Well, economic tillage—what I call horse tillage—is also a lost art in this country.

58822. Is there any reason why it should not be revived?—Well, personally, if it could be done, I consider it would be an advantage.

58823. Most of these people have got a horse?—Oh, no.

58824. Well, a great many of them, and a man with a horse might go in for ploughing?—Those who have horses take advantage of them in the way of ploughing and harrowing.

58825. If the others had their holdings enlarged so that they could use a plough would not they do it, too, if they saw it was economic?—They would, but where you have strong lands with strong grass it takes a great deal to induce people to venture into tillage.

58826. Sir John Colomb.—I take your first two paragraphs in the summary of evidence with which you have supplied us, and the opinions based thereon to apply only to deep, strong land with deficient water supply and remote from fuel?—That is so as regards the possibility of successful creation of small holdings.

58827. When Lord Dudley asked you were there any evidences of former cultivation you answered yes. Is the Commission to understand that on these deep strong lands there is much evidence of former cultivation?—It is not universal. I have been over, from time to time, a great deal of the land of Roscommon. I know all in the centre of the county pretty well, but of course when under grazing I could not take upon myself to say where one farm had an original furrow on it, and another had not. It is not universal, this ridgy, furrowy appearance.

58828. May I take it this way that the evidence of former cultivation in ridges is more largely found upon land of a different quality than the deep strong land?—That

58829. Now, even taking those signs of cultivation, and their appearance on lands of a quality less suitable to grass, of course you allude, for their cause, to the effect of the Corn Laws and high prices during the Napoleonic wars. Now, was there not another reason for the cultivation of that land from this cause, that in order to live and produce food it had to be produced locally by reason of the total absence of means of transport?—Well, now that you call my attention to it, that is quite plain to anyone who recognises circumstances.

58830. In this way that the products of the land for human sustenance were localised to the extent that competition was the competition of local produce in Ireland?—Yes.

58831. But, now, putting aside all physical questions, the development of means of transport brings the tiller and producer of grain and other tillage crops not merely into competition with his fellow-producers in Ireland, but with the whole world?—That is so. It is well known and recognised that all local industries in Ireland have been destroyed by the improvements in circumstances, and I see no reason why the same result should not have happened to the user of land. The effect has been that the land easily tilled and cheaply tilled and productive has remained to be used as mixed farming, and this other class of land is turned to the other use and remains in grass.

58832. That the land best suited for mixed farming can to a better degree stand this world-wide competition than the inferior land that is beaten out of cultivation by it?—That is undoubtedly the case. Any man having land, if he is a wise man, looks all the difficulties in the face, and endeavours to use it in the most profitable way. In connection with that, I do not think the Roscommon people are such incompetent people as they seem to be represented. I think where they have turned to this use of the land they have very good reason for it.

58833. Now, do you think this is a fair inference to be drawn from the fact of there being observable signs of cultivation under totally different conditions as regards fiscal policy and as regards transport—that you cannot base on that a sound argument that because they were once tilled it would be in any sense right to till them now?—That is not a conclusive argument by any means.

58834. Passing to paragraph 5, you say, "The holders of 11 months' land are not so much the graziers who have always been such, and their predecessors before them, but are, as a rule, successful cattle dealers and small farmers who, by energy and good management, save money, and find this a convenient way of extending their operations." I want to ask you do I construe the meaning of this correctly when I take it that it gives an outlet for the profitable employment of capital in Ireland to the thrifty and industrious Irishman. Is that what you mean?—That is the deduction that I wish to be drawn—that it enables a man in a small way to extend his operations and find an outlet for his greater capacity and, of course, also for the capital, the result of his industry.

58835. The man by his thrift and industry accumulates a little capital, and he uses his brains and his capital in this way?—Yes.

58836. Therefore you apprehend that to that extent, as far as the grazier is concerned you would be shutting the door to the employment of capital in Ireland by the thrifty and industrious Irishmen who employ it in that way?—You would make it more difficult for an industrious Irishman to improve himself.

58837. And it would shut the door to the employment of capital so required? You are really compelling him, or at least you are limiting him, and the tendency would be to make him send his money out of Ireland?—Yes; the capital of the men I describe.

58838. Now, with regard to paragraph 6. You speak there of the willingness or unwillingness of landlords to sell. May I ask you this? You have dealt with the eleven months' man and the grazier, but is not a very large quantity of the grazing land of Ireland in the hands of men who formerly had leases, and who really now are tenants from year to year?—Who are present tenants you mean.

58839. Who hold the land by yearly agreement, not for eleven months, but who hold the land from year to year from the landlord?—That is so here in Roscommon. In a former paragraph I think I mentioned that. In paragraph 4 I alluded to that where I say, "The non-residential grazing farms are held

n various ways. Some as statutory tenancies, some purchased much if it under yearly lettings or short leases, and some on the 11 months' system."

58840. Very well. Those men by the acquirement of land by authority are excluded from their business?—Yes; their occupation is taken away from them.

58841. And where the landlord has his grazing land occupied in that way, either by short lease, or from year to year, there is an honourable understanding that so long as the rent is paid the man will hold on from year to year?—Yes, from father to son.

58842. May it not be a very considerable reason for weighing with the landlord against an inclination to sell his land that he would be breaking an honourable understanding, and that these men would be cast out of their work and their employment?—I am sure it is. There is a sympathy and connection between the owner and the family who have been, say, holding the same land for years and years and years, which the owner does not care to upset if he can possibly avoid it.

58843. And therefore it may be that the unwillingness of the landlord so situated with those who have gone on from year to year under him to disturb them and perhaps ruin them, may be one of the reasons for that landlord refusing to sell?—It is one reason; it is not universal. Everyone would not have that reason. The same person might have to look at the matter from other points of view, but it would be a strong element.

58844. It would be a reasonable standing ground for a man to take?—It would not be unreasonable.

58845. On paragraph 11 I merely wish to put you this general question. You state that neither the rent nor the poor law valuation is any standard for the gross value of a farm?—I state that from my own knowledge and experience.

58846. And I suppose as regards valuation you will agree that valuation of the land made sixty years ago and never changed since cannot by any means be a real indication of the value of the land now?—It is not a correct standard.

58847. Mr. Bryce.—You talk of these tillage plots that the small holders around Strokestown now have averaging about two acres?—Well, I gave that as the best idea I could get.

58848. Well, now, that consists of what?—I suppose there is generally an acre in potatoes or something like that. The first green crop a man has in his mind is the potato crop, and he endeavours to have anything up to an acre or so of potatoes if he can.

58849. That would be used partly for the family and partly for pigs?—Yes.

58850. Then the rest would be perhaps some cabbages and turnips, and perhaps some oats?—Well, the green crop is nearly all oats, and very little cabbages are sown except in gardens.

58851. Would not there be a green crop as well as potatoes—something like turnips?—Well, there is a fair amount of turnips grown. I suppose half an acre would be the outside.

58852. He uses the turnips as winter feeding?—Yes.

58853. And the oats he sells?—The oats, as a rule, he sells. He has meal made of some of it, but as a rule the oats are sold here in Strokestown, and in connection with that I might mention a curious fact. In Strokestown market the principal buyers are the small farmers in the western part of this union, from Elphin and Tulsk directions. They buy from the farmers around here who have the oats to sell. They buy the oats they require instead of growing them themselves, so that practically there is no export of oats from this market. The district is only just a self-supporting one.

58854. That oats they buy—is it used for making into meal?—For feeding their horses or feeding their cattle.

58855. There is very little meal now used in the families?—Not very much home-grown meal. My father when he came to this part of the country built a mill, and from 1870 until about 1895 or so, we carried on milling, but since then so few people brought their oats to be ground that it was not worth while keeping the mill going, and it had to be closed down.

58856. The people now instead of using oatmeal use flour?—Yes.

58857. Which is not an advantage?—I do not think so myself. I think the more mixed diet was infinitely better.

58858. Mr. Sutherland.—Just one question or two. May I ask you if the grazing tenancies are frequently changed?—The yearly tenancies are not.

58859. Have you known any of them to be terminated at all?—Oh, most undoubtedly.

58860. And does the landlord show much practical sympathy with the man whose lease is determined?—He is an exception when he terminates, and as an exception he does not show much sympathy.

58861. Then it is true that the greater part of the grazing land is held under the eleven months' system? In this county or district it is not true.

58862. It is the smaller quantity that is so held?—That is my opinion. I cannot give you figures. I speak from general knowledge.

58863. The rule and principle of eleven months is change at the end of the eleven months?—It means that you are open to change.

58864. But as a matter of fact that distinguishes it from a yearly tenancy?—Yes, it means a legal renewal.

58865. So that really after all these grazing farms do not seem to be held under a very secure form of tenure?—No, not secure.

58866. Just another question. You admitted in reply to a question of Sir John Colomb, what of course I take to be practically true, that the improvements in communication having put you in competition with agriculturists all over the world have led to the decrease in the cultivation of the land?—That is my opinion, and I think it is borne out by facts.

58867. I just want to point out to you that that involves the admission that the land was cultivated. It could not have gone out of cultivation unless the land had been cultivated?—Well, the figures are before us, and I do not know that they go back—I am sure that they do not go back a hundred years—but the figures are before us for the last forty or fifty years, and the figures both here and in England, and I should say in Scotland too, show a reduction in cultivation.

58868. Not in Scotland. There is an increase in Scotland?—Well, there is a decrease in England.

58869. Very little?—Oh, there is. I beg your pardon. The proportion of decrease may not be so large as here.

It has been arrested very largely of late years.

58870. Mr. Bryce.—You are aware that some of the land of England went out of cultivation as early as the reign of Elizabeth. I mean the land about Northamptonshire. There is historical evidence that that land has never been cultivated since the days of Elizabeth. It has been in pasture since?—Well, I can quite believe it. It gives good grass I presume, and I presume it is heavy strong land.

58871. Yes, it is. Just one question about fuel. There is a coal mine not very far off, in Arigna?—It is a long way off. But it would not be so very far off if there was a railway, which it is proposed to make. That would bring the fuel from there within easy reach, and I may mention that a number of people on the Elphin and Tulsk side quite looked forward to the possibility of communication between this and the north of the county on this very point, because although this district has a fair supply of fuel at the present time we are very nearly at the end of it, and it really will be a pressing problem for the whole part of the district west of Strokestown before very long. That is one reason why I cordially agree with the remarks that were made by Mr. Neary, the chairman of the District Council, that if this district is to hold its own as an agricultural community it is absolutely necessary that we should get assistance from the Government for a railway communication.

58872. That is generally, but it has got a particular interest with regard to this question of fuel?—Yes, it has undoubtedly.

58873. That would be a reason for urging upon the Government the construction of some line that would make the Arigna coal more easily available?—It is a very strong reason why they should seriously consider any representations from the Commission. I should just wish to say in connection with the question

Oct. 3, 1907.
Mr. W. J. Walpole.

asked me by Mr. Sutherland as to the possible treatment of eleven months' occupiers by the landlords, that although they have no legal hold—if the State comes in even in cases of that sort and takes away what a man has not even a legal right to—there are precedents, and very recent precedents, where they thought it right to compensate the person from whom this easement or right was taken, even although only a temporary right was enjoyed.

58874. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—That anticipates largely the following question I was going to put to you. I suppose you would accept the general proposition that the State in carrying out a general policy ought not to inflict injury and loss upon any class or upon any individual without his being fairly and reasonably compensated for the loss?—It is the right principle, and it is the principle on which, I think, the State has been in the habit of acting, and which it appears to accept elsewhere anyway.

58875. That being the case, and taking the case of the short lettings and yearly leases of grass lands, don't you think it must be a very fundamental question in carrying out this State policy that their equitable claims should be met by the State?—They should be met in a fairly reasonable spirit if the State wishes to have the reputation of justice and fair play.

58876. Now, applying that a little more closely. The Government for the purposes of the State acquires an area with the view of giving economic holdings to tenants? I presume you, for economic reasons, would only use the land of an area so acquired that was suitable for the tillage of the small holder?—If the State acts with prudence that is the line it will take.

58877. That is what I mean. Therefore on that estate there might be this area, and there might also be the good strong land which, from an economic point of view, should not be broken up?—Yes.

58878. Now, supposing that area was held under a yearly letting—I mean the whole land—or on a short lease, do not you think a possible means of carrying out an equitable system might be that in disturbing the short leaseholder or yearly tenant of these lands it would be an equitable and fair arrangement if the compensation was found in this form, that having found the land that was suitable for the fixing of small holdings, the grazier or short leaseholder, or year to year man, might then have reserved for him and given him a settled tenure on the lands that were only fit for grazing?—It would be a very good compensation, and one that would commend itself as a suitable way in many respects, and I might say that in the evidence given by Mr. Irwin we had an incident which bears on it very much. The herds of that farm in Ballaghabaw Beg had their occupation taken away from them. As compensation—for such you may call it—one was given fifty acres and the other twenty-five acres.

58879. Do you not think that if the principle indicated and illustrated by the case I have given you was carried out by the State it would get rid of many of the difficulties in opposition to their policy?—It would make the scheme a more generally popular one. Of course at the present time, numerically speaking, it is a very popular idea, but you would enlist the co-operation and sympathy of all classes if a fair scheme of compensation were settled on and could be depended on.

58880. Mr. KAVANAGH.—I see you are in favour of common grazing?—I think it is a far cheaper method than absolute migration, and owing to the superiority of the grazing which could be procured to what the "congest," as I may call him, would get by the enlargement of his holding locally, that scheme commends itself to me very much.

58881. What distance would you say that grazing could be carried out—how far away from the small holdings?—Distance is not much of a difficulty. The grazing is a matter of six months, and a very odd visit would be enough; in fact, some people who put their cattle out in May do not look at them until November; they are in charge of a herd or owner of the land where they go, and what makes it more advantageous is that the Congested Districts Board introduced a system this year by which, on the owner of the beasts paying a small sum for insurance, they undertook up to a certain sum to be responsible for the safety of the animals.

58882. That land, of course, would be held by the State, or would it be held in common by the tenants?—It should be either held by the State or by some body like the Congested Districts Board. It is a matter which could be easily arranged in detail, and it would be an extremely good thing to be carried out.

58883. Would that be better than striping out a portion to each man? It would give more room to the cattle, would it not?—It would be better than striping out the farm, removing half the people ten or twenty miles away, putting them on the striped portions, and dividing what remains among the half that do not move.

58884. Some witnesses have suggested to us that the friction would be too much—that they would be always fighting among themselves about this grazing, and that it would be better to stripe out each man his own portion?—I do not think that would be so practicable, and the water difficulty would come in very much also.

58885. I just want to ask you one question more. Under the present system of the cattle trade what is the most profitable age for a breeder to sell at?—I should say about a year and a half old. There is a great deal more money in the business that way. You get more return for the food the beast eats up to one and a half years old than you do afterwards.

58886. Is not that rather an unnatural price, for stores to be so high in comparison with what they fetch when they are sold as fat beasts?—I do not know what you mean.

58887. It is high in proportion to what you could get if you sold the animal as a three year old. Is not that so?—It is this way, that if you take a year and a half old beast, and treat him well all the time after that, you will dispose of him at an early age, and at a better price in proportion than you will if you keep him on, let him get hungry—well, not hungry exactly—with a poor, unsheltered place to lie on, so that he does not maintain his condition in the winter time. If you do not treat him well you will have to keep him till a three year old. If you treat him well you may sell him at two and a half. I sell many cattle at two and a half, and I do so by treating them well all the time.

58888. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—When I put that question to you about the State recognising the equitable claim of the grazier—of the grazier who holds on a yearly letting or short lease—you gave as an instance that that principle has already been recognised in the herd?—Yes.

58889. Has the herd a year-to-year agreement or a permanent one?—It is terminable on very short notice.

58890. Is it terminable on less than a year's notice?—Oh, dear, yes.

58891. Therefore the case is much stronger by the fact that in settling the land the herd, although his tenure is very much more uncertain than the grazier, has been recognised as having an equitable claim?—It is universally recognised in this county where any land is divided.

58892. Therefore the argument is all the stronger in favour of the equitable claim of a grazier who holds, and has held year after year on a yearly tenancy or a short lease?—The claim is much stronger—it is very strong. I suppose it could not be much stronger.

The O'CONOR DON re-examined.*

The O'Conor Don.

58893. CHAIRMAN.—I understand, O'Conor Don, that you wish to give us some supplementary evidence?—Yes. I gave evidence at some considerable length in Dublin,* and I then expressed the view that there was a very large quantity of grass land available for division in the County Roscommon, and, as suggested by Sir Antony MacDonnell, I agreed to make further inquiries into the matter. Since then I have taken a very great deal of trouble to make those inquiries. It has been very hard to get a list of owners—there are some blue books that give names, but not a complete list—notwithstanding that, how-

* For former examination see Appendix to the Seventh Report of the Commission [Cd. 3785, 1907], p. 231.

ver, I have been able to communicate with a large umber of owners.

58894. All in the County Roscommon?—They are ll owners in the County Roscommon, but a few of iem have their property just hanging over the nder, but you may take them substantially as being wners in Roscommon. I have not communicated ith any owner outside Roscommon, but I have done hat I could to find out what land was available, nd I have suggested to owners that they ought to be asonable. I rather impressed that upon them.

58895. Assuming that they might not be reason- ble?—Well, there might be a few, but I think I ave done more than anyone down here to get grass nd made available. My inquiries have been ad- essed to a comparatively small portion of the wners, because a man like myself cannot get at eryone. We cannot get at what is in process of le, and it is hard sometimes to get at the man who as the right to sell a particular portion of land. I ppose I have inquired from some thirty or forty wners of land, and the result of this has been that have here a list of grass lands that could be sold, nd the owners are willing to offer either to the Con- sted Districts Board or the Estates Commissioners buy. They are willing to offer something approxi- ating to 12,000 acres. In answer to Sir Antony acDonnell I suggested 10,000 acres as being imme- ately available, and probably about 40,000 acres together. The result of my inquiries shows that I ave rather under-estimated, because I have ap- oached a very small number of the owners, and I once got a list, with prices and everything from wners of 12,000 acres. The owners naturally made a condition that their names should not be dis- osed for obvious reasons, but I think nearly every- ne of them said they were willing to have their nds inspected. I have this list showing the names, or law valuation, and terms of everyone of these wners. When I say everyone, there are three I have ly been able to give in round numbers at the end, t there are some 21 owners that are willing to sell tween them 12,000 acres at once, and what I main- in is that until these 12,000 acres have been bought ere is no need for compulsion. These are all lands at I understand the Congested Districts Board uld deem suitable. They are not waste lands or lueless lands, but they are all substantial grass nds. I have seen a list that the Congested Districts oard had made out, and the large bulk of these nds are on their list.

58896. CHAIRMAN.—I do not think there is any ubt about it, you ought to be a member of the ngested Districts Board?—I will hand in is list, and if you wish to ask me any estions about any portion of it I will swer them, only I would ask you to refer the number in the margin which refers to ch name, because I undertook to the owners not to sclose their names. There are three without num- rs at the end, and you can say, if you wish to ask y questions about them—No. 1 or 2 or 3 from the d. This is the list. (*Produced and handed in.*) course, that list cannot be published because it uld not be fair to the owners who have given me information. You can see that the terms of pur- ase vary tremendously. They run from 20 years' rchase to capitalisation of net receipts at 3½ per nt. That is a very usual term. I have one small wner wants a very much larger price, but taken as whole, there are very few, if any, who ask for more an net income capitalised at 3½ per cent.

58898. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Can you give us that in ars' purchase? Is the average 20?—I could not say at the average is. I will read them out if you e. I may say that a great many of them say to —"We could not sell you a particular piece; you st take the whole land or none." Some of these ve tenants, but most of them have none. No. 1, r instance, says she would require to sell the ten- ted land as well. I happen to know that case very ll myself, and it is not congested in any way. In o. 2 the owner wants 27 years' purchase of net in- me, and he would be willing to pay possibly for e tenants' interest. I know the tenants are large ople, and I know they could be settled with very reasonable terms. There are only two or ree, and I have no doubt there would be little diffi- lty. There might be difficulty with one man. an No. 3 says 28 years' purchase; No. 4, 20 years' purchase and bonus, and the receipts come to £100 off land valued at £60.

58899. CHAIRMAN.—Can you give any explanation why there should be such a large deviation between Nos. 3 and 4?—Yes, I think I can. No. 3 has his land let at what I might call a low rent. You see in No. 4 the rent is a very high rent compared with the valuation. That is probably the explanation. No. 3 has this land let for a considerable time probably, whereas No. 4 is getting the full value. Both have small quantities, but No. 3 has already sold the large bulk, and this is only the residue; whereas No. 4 is an owner that has not a great deal of land, and I think, as a rule, small owners—people like shop- keepers and so on—expect higher prices than the larger owners. At any rate, that is the result of my inquiries. I think you will find it so. No. 5 asks 24 years' purchase and bonus, and he is offering the land for sale to one of the bodies. No. 7 wants 27 years, and bonus, and is offering it like the other. No. 8 has offered, but has got no answer, and says he will do nothing more. He offered it a considerable time ago. I have letters from all these people and I have written on the margin of the list summaries of these letters.

58900. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Are we to understand that the offer has been to the Congested Districts Board or to the Estates Commissioners?—No. 8 offered to the Congested Districts Board, but got no answer. He offered it a considerable time ago. No. 9 is a case that has been already discussed at length, so I do not know that there is very much harm in mentioning the name—Major Chichester Constable. He says the price offered to him is altogether too low, because he wants his net income or something ap- proaching it. I understand, although I do not know it directly, that there are charges on the land, and that he gets a certain amount out of it, and if he accepted the price he would get absolutely nothing. It would not pay the charge. No. 10 is in negotia- tion. No. 11 is willing to sell. No. 12 has offered, but the offer has been refused. I understand the Congested Districts Board refused a certain amount of land that they would now be willing to buy. I think they were very short of money at the time. In fact I think it was openly stated about a year ago that they were so at this time, and consequently a good many of these people who then offered might now be dealt with if they offered—probably with a renewed offer they might deal with them. But at the time they offered the Board had no money. No. 12 wants 23 years' purchase and bonus, and some of the land is occupied by tenants, and they would have to be dealt with. Of course the Board have power to deal with the tenants wherever they buy. They have already had it under statute. No. 14 quotes a lump sum which is a pretty high one. The estate is a very small thing. I think the owner is a shop- keeper. No. 15 would sell on the basis of his income, but he does not tell me what. He writes a long letter. No. 16 is very small, and he only says he would sell at a fair price, whatever that means. No. 17 expects 25 years' purchase of the poor law valuation, and in his letter to me he said there were some charges that he always paid, and he would allow them to be de- ducted in calculating the price. No. 18 expects a lump sum, which he quotes, and No. 19 asks net in- come capitalised at 3½ per cent. No. 20 wants net receipts taken as a basis, but I understand he would be willing that they be capitalised at a good deal lower figure than 3½ per cent. He has not given me an exact figure, but he has written me, I think, twelve pages on the subject.

58901. Mr. BRYCE.—By a lower figure you mean a lower rate of interest?—Yes. He has written me twelve pages on the subject, but it is very hard to get an exact figure from it, but he would sell on quite a reasonable basis of net receipts, and there are negotiations going on about it. With regard to the last three, I have spoken to each of them, and they all tell me that they would sell, and I know that they own a substantial quantity of grass land between them, but they all own tenanted land as well, and they would want both taken. I do not think myself it is at all an unfair demand to say "You must take all or none," because it creates great difficulty and ill-feeling with your tenants if you take grass lands for distribution not amongst Roscommon men, and having a tenanted estate, not to sell that. Your ten- ants would be up in arms against you. Therefore they ask that it should be taken as a whole. They are not

Oct. 3, 1907.

The O'Conor Don.

congested estates, and there are not many small holdings on them. These are the best figures I can give you at present. There are probably a few of that 12,000 acres that you might say ought not to count for some reason or another, but since I made out that list I have had other replies, and I could add another 1,000 acres to make up for what you might strike out. So I can now offer 12,000 acres, and I have no doubt if that was bought and paid for at once you would have a very much larger quantity available. I may say that nearly every one of those owners in writing to me say they could not sell unless they were to be paid in a reasonable time. If it means waiting four or five or eight years it would be impossible to sell. I have had pretty few refusals out of those I have referred to—about half-a-dozen, and one of them who is largely interested in the matter says he will not offer anything, because he says he would not be paid "for no end of time," and he could not afford to wait. So he is not in the list.

58902. Mr. Bryce.—Why do you think the owners of untenanted land should object to delay? I could understand the owners of tenanted land making an objection to delay in payment, but why should owners of untenanted land make any objection, considering that all the evidence we have had from owners of tenanted land is that the price of untenanted land is not going down. Therefore, why should they not get their income in the meantime. I could understand, as I say, the owners of tenanted land objecting to delay in payment?—I have had the experience of that myself as regards untenanted land. I have sold a considerable portion of untenanted land, some 300 or 400 acres, and the result on your farming operations has been that you do not know when it would be taken over, or what to do in the interval of two years that the thing was pending. The profits on that land consequently have been almost *nil*.

58903. But if you had set it on a yearly tenancy or eleven months what does it matter. You go on letting it on the yearly tenancy. How do you suffer from the uncertainty?—Take the yearly tenancy, as you have mentioned that first. The Congested Districts Board would require it handed to them clear of tenants. You would have to give that man notice for a date.

58904. Chairman.—Cannot you arrange with the Congested Districts Board that you would hand it over to them on the 1st October or 1st November, the usual date?—I was talking of the yearly tenancy first. I will deal with the eleven months in a minute. In the case of the yearly tenant you would have to give him the statutory notice, and you may have him throwing it on your hands at the expiration of the notice. He might say—"I cannot farm this land, not knowing what minute I may be put out."

58905. Mr. Bryce.—Why should not you make a conditional sale to the Board or the Estates Commissioners at a definite day, or, say, "My offer is conditional on your telling me whether you are going to take it at a certain time beforehand." Why should not you make that a condition?—That is exactly what owners require.

58906. Supposing they made it under those terms why should they object to delay in payment?—Do you mean that they would take it over on that day?

58907. Yes, and pay on that day?—I do not think then they would object, but that is not what the Board will say to you. The Board will send down a valuer and there will be a great deal of negotiations at first. Then the matter will be hung up. You will hear nothing. You may not get your letters answered. That is what a good many people complain of. They are not told when the land will be taken. If they were told "this day twelve months we will take it and pay you" it might be all right, but what they do say is, "We will have a contract on some future day, and we do not know when we will be able to pay you." I have heard eight years suggested. In fact, if the Government were to carry out its present obligations, without raising any more money—raising merely the five millions a year—it could not do it before the eight years. Another thing an owner objects to is the uncertainty of whether the land will be taken, because you are left in doubt. There are cases where negotiations have been going on for years. I myself have had a contract to sell land to the Estates Commissioners, and when they came to divide it up they said "We cannot get tenants for it," and they handed back 140 acres. We say we do not want that. We want to have absolute certainty if they want to get the land. My father offered a large quantity of land to them, and after two years—after it was all split up, and I think the numbers showing how it was to be divided—it was handed back to him. "We are very sorry we cannot take it," they said. I say that is not the sort of treatment that we ought to expect.

58908. Does it not occur with regard to almost every commercial transaction you can name. Those difficulties occur from day to day, and I cannot see why they should not be got over with the greatest ease?—I am not of course disputing your account of what happens. I think they can, but I say, if you want owners to sell, you must get over them. You cannot expect owners to come forward and leave their lands in a state of doubt.

58909. The indefinite option, certainly?—That is what the owners say, and that is what I call delay. Give them a definite contract, and say they will pay on a definite day.

58910. Or pay you interest. You understand the financial difficulty at this moment is very great, and the owner, if he makes an agreement to be paid on a certain date, should be either paid or should receive an amount of interest until the money is paid?—Excuse me, it does not come to the same thing. It comes to a very different thing. If you pay $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. interest to a man who has a mortgage, and he is paying 5 per cent. on his mortgage and only getting $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on his money, it is a serious position.

58911. Quite so, but I am presuming it is acting up to business. The agreement should be either "Pay me a certain rate of interest, and if I am not clear pay me the mortgage interest." I can see the whole point?—That is only what I am arguing.

58912. I say there is not one of these difficulties that, in a fair commercial transaction, could not be got over at once?—I quite agree, but the complaint is that there is no money.

58913. Sir John Colomb.—Your complaint is that it is not on the usual commercial basis?—Yes. I am not saying this cannot be done, but I am saying that owners are dissatisfied with the way in which it is done.

58914. You are giving a reason why landlords object to put their heads in a noose?—Yes; and I say these owners that I have got here, even under present circumstances every one of them is willing to offer, and you would have a very much larger number if you dealt with them in the way Mr. Bryce suggests.

58915. Mr. Bryce.—I cannot conceive their being dealt with in any other way?—Well, they have never been dealt with in that way—only in the way I tell you.

58916. It is perfectly ridiculous?—That is the way they have been dealt with, and that is what has caused part of the trouble. Of course what has added to the trouble is where lands have been inspected and not taken. Everyone of those owners I have on my list has told me he is willing to allow inspection. They are a very small proportion of the owners. I do not doubt with a little more trouble I could get a much larger quantity. This is only what a private individual can put before you.

58917. Mr. Sutherland.—Is it your opinion if the Irish Government made the same effort again to ascertain the names of those willing to sell, they would have a greater prospect of success if a second effort was made, than which Sir Antony MacDonnell has told us of already?—Well, yes, if they are definitely told that the price will be paid at once in cash. However, I do not suppose there is any harm in my stating this:—They are making the effort, and they have communicated with a large number of those same people.

58918. That may have arisen from your own evidence before us in Dublin?—I may say that I have supplied them with a list of people who were willing—I mean I supplied someone in authority with it—and they know pretty well all the names on this, and are communicating and have communicated with a very much larger number than I have, but have not got at all as favourable replies as I have. That I am not at all surprised at, because there is a little distrust and a little feeling on the part of owners that they will not get paid, and they have not answered these inquiries so favourably. But I, in fact know all on that list of mine are willing to sell, and I understand that they have only got about half the list to consent direct. I could easily arrange that they would all consent. That is all I have to say

about that list, but I would like to add a few words to what took place in Dublin when I was examined, because I have seen there has been a considerable discussion about the occupation interest, and some people say where the landlord has land in hand, he has not got the tenants' interest to be paid for as well as the landlord's. Perhaps the better way of putting it is that when he has the land in hand there is no diverse interest to be taken out of it. When it is the tenant's hands there are admittedly two interests. I do not think there is anyone can dispute that. There is the landlord's interest, which is merely the right to take rent; the tenants' interest is everything over and above the value of that rent.

58919. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—I do not like to interrupt you, but are those rights not creatures of statute?—Yes.

58920. Can you point out to me the particular statute under which this right is given to a landlord to the tenant in the absence of a tenant?—If you allow me to continue I can put that plain. The landlord has originally the whole fee simple. Out of that is carved the tenants' interest by statute. But quite apart from the tenants' interest by statute, before the Act of 1881—it may not have been a legal right, but there was a beneficial occupation that the tenant had that sold for money, and that sells now for money where the case does not come in under the Land Acts. That is, no doubt, part of the whole, but where you have land in the one hand you have not to carve that out, and therefore the landlord should get the larger price where he has the whole interest and not merely the enjoyment of a rent. The land is worth—otherwise the tenant's interest would not sell for anything—it is worth more than the judicial rent. The tenant lives by it. That is worth something, and if he puts it up for sale he gets a high price. I think in Castlerea we heard of cases of 44 years' purchase estimated by the Land Commission themselves, and it is absurd to say that where the whole interest has not got that deducted from it, the landlord is to get no more than if he had only the margin.

58921. Look at the circumstances out of which all this legislation arose. Do you remember the circumstances which led to the passing of that legislation. It was, was it not, that the Irish tenant had no security of tenure to begin with. In the second place he had no legal right to the value of his own improvements, which could be confiscated?—Not exactly that, because under the Act of 1871 he had a right to be compensated for improvements.

58922. Take the Act of 1871. Before that there was no legal definition—I am not just now talking about what it might be in equity—but in law there was no such security for the tenant. My point is that the passing of that legislation was directed to the tenant alone, and dealing only with his interest?—I do not dispute that.

58923. I think the whole of that legislation was meant to define his interest, and his alone, and refers only to him?—Yes, but when it defines that and takes that out of the total interest it necessarily defines the landlord's, because it leaves the landlord the rest, and where you have the landlord both the owner and the occupier he has got both interests.

58924. That may be a specious interest, but it did not enter into the mind of the Legislature?—The Legislature did not think of it, but it has accomplished that effect. If I am going to cut up grass lands and let them out I will get large fines for the occupation interest. In practice you will get very big fines for the occupation interest. A man wanting to get in from year to year will pay a substantial fine.

58925. I daresay that could be done before the passing of legislation at all?—It shows that there is a market value for the occupation interest, even where it is not a legal occupation interest—still more so where it is legal. What I say on that point in my memorandum is this. Where land is let under judicial or other rents the owner is merely entitled to his rent, which he cannot increase. The tenant, on the other hand gets all the profits over and above the rent. This right of the tenant is of very considerable value, and is called the occupation interest by the Act of 1881. Where the owner has the lands in his own hands, whether let on the eleven months' system or otherwise, these interests belong to him, and of course he should be paid for them. If the owner were to divide up the lands among tenants, or let them on lease, he would get very substantial fines for the occupation interest. A judicial rent does not represent both interests, but merely the landlord's. There is another point which is not in my memorandum, but which was alluded to in Mr. Hayden's evidence and Mr. Fitzgibbon's evidence, about the Suck drainage. I thought their proposal most moderate, and I think it could be accomplished even without much legislation. I am saying this so that my views as chairman of the Drainage Board may be on record. By adding to the purchase money the amount of the unredeemed portion of the charge, and then making the landlord redeem it out of the purchase money—I am talking of the tenants' charge—you would succeed in getting what Mr. Fitzgibbon asked for, viz., an extension of the period of repayment. You would have it running concurrently with the purchase annuity, and that would extend it to sixty-eight years instead of thirty years, and give the tenants the full benefit of the reduced payment.

58926. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—That would involve no present expenditure of money?—No expenditure to anybody, and I do not think it would involve any legislation, and it would further save the expense of collection, because it would then all be collected as the annuity, and I know from my experience of tenants along the Suck that they would prefer to pay all together than have several payments accruing at different times of the year.

58927. Would it also lead to efficiency in the maintenance of the drainage?—It has nothing whatever to say to the maintenance. It is merely the Board of Works' charge, and I say that could be redeemed out of the purchase money. Advance a little more than the purchase money to redeem it, and the tenant would get the benefit of the work. It does not affect the landlord, and he would not object. I do not think he could.

58928. This refers only to repayment of the loan?—Yes. As to the maintenance rate I feel very considerable difficulty as to how that could be worked. It would be very much better if one body could collect the whole. I only mention that because it arose in Castlerea, and I think as I happen to hold the position of chairman of the Drainage Board that my views should be put forward. I must say that I think Mr. Fitzgibbon's and Mr. Hayden's demand a most reasonable one. In fact I think they might have gone much further.

58929. Would the matter be complicated by some of these people having purchased their land?—This would only apply to future purchases. It could be done by legislation for the past, because the Land Commission could be authorised to advance the money, but in any case where there has been a sale it could not be done except by legislation. Of course legislation could do it at once.

58930. Then as regards extension of the time, it would be a matter for the Treasury?—Yes; but what I would like to have would be that it should be made part of the annuity, so that it would save the trouble of making two sets of payment. Several of them complain of having three payments to make: first the annuity, then the Suck drainage rate, and finally the maintenance rate. They never know when they are coming on, and it means an awful amount of bother. At any rate two of the charges could quite easily be amalgamated. Take it away from the Board of Works, give it to the Land Commission, and add it to the purchase annuity. Two or three years ago, or a year ago, in the time of the late parish priest here, there was a great deal of correspondence with the authorities about a railway here, and I did my best to assist them in making them reasonable, but nothing has come from it, and from my knowledge of the locality I say a railway is very badly wanted here, not only for the coal—the Arigna coal may not be quite suitable for house purposes—but if this country is to be divided up a railway is almost essential to Strokestown. It is in the centre of the grass country, miles from everywhere.

58931. The CHAIRMAN.—Where do you suggest the railway should come from?—From the Sligo line. There were two or three schemes. I had some correspondence with Sir Antony MacDonnell and others about a year ago.

58932. Where does the Sligo line join—at Longford?—Not Longford, but Dromod, or Drumsna. There are three alternative schemes.

Oct. 3, 1907.

The O'Conor Don.

58933. There is a railway coming in at Dromod from the North?

58934. Mr. Bryce.—From Belturbet?—Yes.

58935. Chairman.—Where do you suggest it should go on to?—Well, the proposal was only to run it as far as this, but of course the natural and complete system would be to run it across to Roscommon and join the two lines. At any rate there ought to be one here. You have a very big district in the County of Roscommon completely unserved, and it would not be an enormously expensive line. Estimates and everything have been prepared for it. I mention it because it was mentioned this morning, and as I had some correspondence, and did my best to get the authorities to take up the matter. They were very nearly doing something, but it just fell through.

58936. Sir John Colomb.—You made several inquiries, with the result that the owners of about 12,000 acres of grass lands are willing to sell?—Yes.

58937. But you had other communications from other owners that they were not willing to sell. Am I to understand that the reason appeared to be generally that they were not willing to sell because they did not see the chance of getting their money?—I think, with the exception of answers applying to about 300 acres, that is the case.

58938. That is the reason?—There were 300 acres owned by smaller men who refused, but out of the total of about 12,000 acres there were only those 300 who refused, and they refused absolutely.

58939. Do the Commission absolutely understand this, that the owners who were unwilling to express their desire to sell based their objection on the ground that they could not see their way to getting their money?—Every single one. Of course a certain number of people did not reply, but every single one that replied, with the exception of owners of 300 acres, gave that as a reason.

58940. Mr. O'Kelly.—What was the reason?—That they could not get paid, and that they were not willing to leave the matter in an indefinite state.

58941. Could not be paid in time?—Yes.

58942. And I suppose if they did consent they would want to have the purchase price measured in years' purchase?—You were not in when I read this list out, with the information it contains, for the Commission, but, Mr. O'Kelly, I may say it is strictly confidential. They would only tell me this on the condition that I would not disclose their names except to the members of the Commission. You can quite understand the reason. Out of something like thirty or forty owners that I communicated with all expressed their willingness except the owners of 300 acres, roughly speaking, who simply said "No," and a few who said "There is no good going into this matter, because the Government admit that they have no money. There are thirty-four millions already pledged and there is no money; and I am not going to stop out of my money for an indefinite period."

58943. With the exception of these 300 acres, all the others were ready to sell if the money was forthcoming?—Yes, roundly. Of course a certain number did not answer at all. If you write to a large number of people you will find some do not answer.

58944. The owners of 12,000 acres were willing?—Everyone there has quoted his terms, and I have given you the valuation roughly, the area, and the price, as far as I could. Of course the figures are rough. Some of them in answering, although in writing I asked for the valuation, did not give it, so I had to get it from books. But in addition to that 12,000 acres—there may be a few hundreds that you may say ought to be struck out—I have got since I made that list out something like 1,000 acres which can replace those.

58945. I have not gone through this list, but I will ask this question: Having read it yourself carefully, would you think sale and purchase have been retarded by reason of the fact that the price asked for would be excessive?—No. My own impression is that terms could be arranged. There are one or two who ask high terms, but the large majority are quite reasonable. My own impression is that while some of the prices are rather excessive, probably if you came into communication with the owners you would get some reduction.

58946. Do these relate to the heavy land or to light soil?—I may say they all relate to land that has been specially selected by the Congested Districts Board as suitable, because I particularly communicated with owners of such lands. I went through part of the country here with Sir Antony MacDonnell and Mr. Doran, and they pointed out lands they would like to get, and I, as far as possible, communicated with the owners of these lands. I said, "I am quite sure you can get a very large quantity of this land. I have not had communication with the owners, but I will get into communication." And I did. Nearly the whole of it is land that has been stated by them to be suitable for their purposes. Of course on some of it there are tenants, mostly grazier tenants, and in most of the cases where there are grazier tenants I have made inquiries, and found that terms can be arranged.

58947. Did you go to any particular district of the county, or did you spread yourself pretty well over the whole county?—Hardly the whole way round. There is very little land marked in my list available between Athlone, Roscommon, and Strokestown, and that end of the county. It is mostly between this—Ballenagare, Castlerea, and Roscommon. I do not put that list in as by any means the total. It is only a start, and I say you can get that as a start. There will be one or two owners that may want high terms.

58947A. Do you suggest compulsion for them?—No, because where you want to carry out a scheme for any public purpose, and you can get land, and more land than you can possibly use, without compulsion, it would be quite a novel thing to say that because A does not want to sell, and B's land will do just as well, we will use compulsion to get A's. I say you can get sufficient land without it. I say you can get it all with the exception of one or two cases, and they are very small owners of only about 100 acres each. Only those men who live by the land do not want to give it up.

58947B. But as land is necessary, and there are always cases to be found where there are owners of land who will not give it up even where it is essential to a scheme, don't you think there is a case for compulsion?—Granting your premises, but I say that list proves pretty conclusively that your premises are wrong. Take those 100 acres that a shopkeeper, or somebody like that, has. It may be said that they are necessary; but where there are 12,000 acres available elsewhere there is no necessity for taking that 100 acres. You can have that 12,000 acres. Take all that, and then consider whether you should have compulsion; but until you have taken that you have no case.

58948. Your case is that if 12,000 acres are taken now you will be able to get the 40,000 acres afterwards, which you say is your original estimate?—I have not any doubt. It is very difficult for a private individual, and it took a great deal of trouble to get hold of that list.

58949. Chairman.—From your knowledge of previous transactions and previous prices for grass lands in this part of the world, should you say that the average price asked by these landowners is higher than the average price at which deals have already taken place?—I should say that these owners, taken as a whole, would accept the average price of two years ago.

58950. Do you think the price has come down within the last two years?—I think the Estates Commissioners and Congested Districts Board have been short of money and have not been anxious to buy except where they could buy very cheap. That is my impression from looking into the matter. There is no doubt there has been a shortage of money.

Mr. Thomas Brady examined.

Mr. Thomas Brady.

58951. Chairman.—What do you wish to tell the Commission?—What I want to tell the Commission is, that I represent the Cloonaquin division. Part of the property was sold ten years ago to the Land Commission, and the Congested Districts Board has the grazing portion of the land bought for the last three years. The tenants are all small holders with the exception of a few. There are forty of them between £4 and £6 valuation; seventy between £6 and £8, and about forty more between £9 and £13 valuation.

and then there are a few running up from £20 to higher valuations. I came here to claim on behalf of them an increase to our holdings, or an additional holding from the property we are living on. The Congested Districts Board has 500 or 600 acres of land bought, and the tenants belong to the same property.

58952. But you have already bought?—Yes.

58953. So you want to have an additional bit added to the land you have already bought?—Yes.

58954. In fact, I suppose you are sorry you bought?—Well, the holdings are so small that if we do not get an increase on the property it is hard to expect land on another property.

58955. Mr. Bryce.—You bought under the Ashbourne Act?—Yes.

58956. At what number of years' purchase?—Twenty years, and then there is no accommodation on the majority of the tenants' land to live on.

58957. Mr. Sutherland.—Have you applied to the Congested Districts Board?—Yes.

58958. What did they say?—They said they would consider the case.

58959. Chairman.—Anything else you want to say?—Nothing else.

Mr. Matthew Egan examined.

58960. Chairman.—Where do you live?—In Elphin.

58961. Are you a farmer?—I am connected with a farm. My mother holds a farm, but I am here in the interest of the working class.

58962. What exactly do you mean by the working class? Do you mean agricultural labourers?—Yes. My contention is that if the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board take over the grass lands to divide them these men should get a share in preference to the sons of tenants.

58963. You give some reasons for that, I suppose?—Yes. There would be less burden on the ratepayers; these men would be able to do more tillage and be able to sow more crops on the land, which would pay far better than under pasture as at present.

You think it would. Somehow or other your opinion is not borne out by others.

58965. Sir John Colomb.—What Rural District are you in?—Elphin.

58966. What Union does that belong to?—It belongs to the Union of Strokestown.

58967. There are thirty-three cottages built for labourers there. Have you ever applied for one?—No, sir.

58968. Have, what you call the working classes—that is the labouring class—have many of them applied for cottages?—A large number of them in my district have applied for cottages, but then there are a great number of obstacles or hindrances to these cottages.

58969. Is your complaint that you cannot get employment as a labourer?—Oh, no; not mine.

58970. You are a representative type of the working class?—Yes.

58971. What I want to know is this. Do you find in your own person that you have difficulty in finding labour?—I find that labourers have difficulty in getting employment, because it is impossible to find employment in the district. I think it would be much better if the sub-division of these grazing lands was brought about, that the *bona-fide* artisans and labourers would get the first consideration instead of the sons of large farmers.

58972. Have they tried with Mr. Neary?—Of course, there are a large number of labourers, and it would be impossible for all to find employment with one man.

58973. Whom do you call the *bona fide* labourer?—A man living in his father's house, who has a farm. I call him a *bona fide* labourer.

58974. I do not want to confine you at all, but I want to know, when you describe a class as *bona fide* labourers, do you mean sons living with their fathers, who have holdings?—No, I mean sons living with their fathers in the town. I am not taking the country.

58975. Is your claim made on behalf of the labourers in the towns?—My claim is made on behalf of the labourers in the towns.

58976. Mr. O'Kelly.—Has any improvement followed from the adoption of direct labour on the roads?—Yes. A little improvement has followed, because more *bona fide* labourers have found employment on the roads. Heretofore they were people who had been a burden on the rates. If the system of direct labour was more generally advocated the condition of deserving people would be vastly improved. Secondly, if the erection of labourers' cottages was proceeded with it would be a great advantage.

58977. What class of farmers, before the adoption of the direct labour system, used to be the contractors for the maintenance of the roads. Were they small farmers or medium farmers?—They were large farmers, the majority of them.

58978. Did the large farmers let or sub-let the contract?—No.

58979. Did they carry on the work themselves?—They carried on the work themselves. They might employ one or two workmen if they had no sons themselves.

58980. So that in some little way the employment of direct labour was an improvement amongst the class you represent?—Yes.

58981. What do you mean by saying that there are obstacles in the way of the erection of labourers' cottages?—Well, in certain places where they could be built they prefer to put down plantations.

58982. You do not plant a country in a week. What are the present obstacles?—Well, there is one obstacle that I find has been placed against them. Where a labourer applies for a cottage, and he holds an acre of land, he is opposed as being a farmer.

58983. A man in the country has already a house and an acre of land. You would wish to include him in the category of labourers as defined by the Acts. Does that man work for his livelihood amongst the local farmers?—Yes. If he only held an acre of land it could not be enough to maintain him.

58984. Don't you think it would be much better in the first instance, at any rate, that we should provide houses for the labourers who have no land?—Certainly.

58985. Haven't you got an Act of Parliament which embodies the principle of compulsion?—It does, but there are many obstacles brought up in the way of the working classes when they apply for cottages, as you are aware of.

58986. I was not aware of them?—You may not, but I am aware there are obstacles.

58987. Haven't you got your remedy. Suppose you see that a District Council deliberately and intentionally obstructs the carrying out of a scheme of labourers' cottages, don't you know that you can go elsewhere and see that the work will be done. I don't say that you should apply to the Local Government Board as against the local authority?—We might bring our case to the County Council and find that it would be obstructed there also.

Mr. Timothy O'Rourke examined.

58988. Chairman.—Where do you live?—Near Ineak. I am a member of the County Council of Roscommon, and I am speaking on behalf of my country district.

58989. You are not nominated by your County Council?—No, but by the Directory of the United Irish League in Dublin.

58990. There was a Mr. Shanaher who was nominated by the County Council, and he did not turn up?—I refused to act.

58991. Sir John Colomb.—Tell me, first of all, are you a farmer?—Yes.

58992. What is the size of your holding?—135 acres.

Oct. 3, 1907.

Mr. Timothy O'Rourke.

58994. Have you got any other business besides farming?—Yes.

58995. Is your farm tilled or grazed?—I both till and graze.

58996. Do you live upon the farm?—Yes.

58997. CHAIRMAN.—What evidence have you to give us?—Well, in the Clooneyquin electoral division there are a number of townlands not scheduled that require to be dealt with as congested, namely, Camogue, Clooneyquin, Corracreigh, Cloonenahane, Corrabane, Flaskagh, Foxborough, Killina, Loughtanna, Attabagh, and Tullentuppeen. In fact I would be in favour of having the whole union scheduled. There are a number of townlands where there are very small holdings. They have already bought out under the Ashbourne Act, and if these tenants do not get some of the land that has been purchased in this neighbourhood it will be impossible for them to get it otherwise, and in fact there will be a little trouble, I suspect. I will give you the number of small holdings. My impression is that there are ninety-four small holdings in Clooneyquin.

38998. Mr KAVANAGH.—Of what valuation?—Between £5 and £10 valuation. There are ninety-four tenants, holdings from four to six Irish acres each, very few of them having turf. They have to go a long distance for it. The Congested Districts Board have purchased 500 acres, called the French estate, within one English mile of these people, and on the same estate. If this land is not given to the tenants to enlarge their holdings there is no other for that purpose near them. The following are the farms purchased:—Tobberroory, Tullentuppeen, Corrabadgh, Knockmanoy, and Killinawane. If the Congested Districts Board purchase the farm of Foxboro' containing about 200 statute acres it will be sufficient to supply turf to tenants on all the townlands. This farm is now offered for sale

58999. CHAIRMAN.—Did you bring it under the attention of Mr. Doran?—Yes, I have written to Mr. Doran and have spoken to him also.

59000. Did you get an answer?—He sent two or three valuers there to value, and I have not heard yet what was the result. It is twelve months ago. My county district goes to Elphin. In Elphin and Rossmore electoral divisions a sufficient supply of good land can be had which is at present occupied by eleven months' men at a rent of from £2 10*s.* to £3 Caldermoran (landlord, Mr. Charles O'Connor), Mount Druig, Belanogore, Shankill, Elphin, and the Palace, held by Mr. Arthur O'Connor, who lives in London. I should say there are about 500 acres (Irish) in all, and this would supply a very large number of small tenants in both divisions. These are the only farms to be let in this locality at present. If these lands were purchased by the Board it certainly would be a great boon to the small tenants in the locality under the Board. If the Palace house and yard, with some of the land could be utilised for factories of some kind it would be a great benefit to the poor of the district. In Cregga Electoral Division in my district, too, there are a number of small tenants who require additional land for themselves and their families to live upon. The farm of Cregga, containing over 400 statute acres, belongs to Mrs. G. P. Mahon. The land is not what I call superior, but I think it would make good tillage land, and could be improved very much. It is farmed by Mr. R. Hague, but I do not know whether there is a tenancy in it or not. I think there are forty-three small tenants in this electoral division. Then Annaghmore East division is quite convenient to this town and is one of the poorest in the Union. I think the valuation of that division is £2,272. The population is 1,380. It certainly requires to be improved. The tenancies are very small; the holdings are all uneconomic; and the land would require to be drained and improved very much. In Rossmore Electoral Division there is a large quantity of land. In fact, the landlord has the largest number of untenanted farms in this county. He is a Mr. Murphy. There are a number of small tenants in that locality who require their holdings to be enlarged. I am entirely in favour of the Board buying up these places. The holdings are imperfect in drainage, require accommodation roads made to houses, and everything done, in fact, as on the Dillon Estate. I was there before the Board had anything to say to it, and I have since passed through it, and it is a credit to the Board what they have done there. I am entirely in favour of the Congested Districts Board continuing operations, as their officials are superior and painstaking, especially their Chief Inspector, Mr. Henry Doran, J.P., who is without exception the best official in all Ireland, as he understands his business thoroughly in every branch and is kind to the poor people. I would be entirely against amalgamation with the Estates Commissioners and the Agricultural Department if Mr. Henry Doran is not principal. I must say the Board has not got enough of money from the Government, and the increase Mr. Doran has asked for is not too much, and if supplied it will enable them to go on quicker than before. I may add that all the tenants in the Clooneyquin East division have purchased their holdings under the Ashbourne Act, nine years ago, at 20 years' purchase. They would have to pay 24½ years' purchase for same holding from what I can learn in the locality from other sales under the present Act. I do not think there is anything else I have to say.

59001. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—May I ask you one question with regard to your 135 acres. Presumably it pays you better in grass than in tillage?—Well, I could not do without having some of it in tillage.

59002. With your knowledge as a farmer, and evidently a gentleman who knows what he is talking about, do you think that your 135 acres would be more profitable in tillage than as you now use them?—Well, I do not think I could get labourers to till the full amount. I certainly think it would be profitable if it was tilled. I think all small tenants should till more. At present I am strongly in favour of it.

The Commission adjourned.

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH PUBLIC SITTING.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4TH, 1907,

AT 11.0 O'CLOCK, A.M.,

At the Courthouse, Boyle.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (Chairman); The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esq., M.P.; CONOR O'KELLY, Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.; and ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esq.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Mr. JOHN KEAVENY examined.

Oct. 4, 1907.
Mr. John Keaveny.

59003. CHAIRMAN.—You are nominated by the County Council of Roscommon?—Yes.

59004. Tell the Commission what you wish to say? It is quite unnecessary to touch on statistics in view of the evidence of previous witnesses. All the available lands in the county have been already indicated to you, but with regard to Boyle No. 1 District, I may mention that according to the Blue Book of Mr. Finnell the figure given is 9,257 acres. That is not exactly accurate. There are some mountains included in that. There are five scheduled divisions in the 21 comprising Boyle No. 1 Rural District. The state of affairs in these is simply this—that the average valuation is about £3 11s. 8d. I think it would be necessary to have the other districts scheduled also. The one fact which prevents them from being scheduled is that they have within them ranches which raise the valuation above the limit. Yet we have extreme congestion in these divisions which are not scheduled as in any of the others. From my experience as a farmer living in a congested area it is impossible to relieve congestion in existing circumstances with the small patches of land that the people at present hold. If the people are not given more land and better land misery will exist, no matter what agitation we have or what laws are framed for the relief of congestion in the West. In the Arigna district there is very little land for the relief of congestion, and what I would suggest is that the Congested Districts Board or some authority would come to the relief of the poor people who have minerals there. We have it from experts of the first standing that there are most valuable minerals there, provided they are developed. At present there are a lot of men employed there, and a good deal of money is earned as a result of that employment, but it could be on a very much larger scale provided there was some assistance given to open up a small piece of railway through the Arigna valley to have a direct connection with the line already existing, which is within two and a half or three miles of where it is considered by experts that some of the richest minerals in Ireland exist. We have got nothing from the Congested Districts Board in any of these scheduled divisions. I certainly think the only way of getting relief in the extreme northern portion is by opening up the industries that are in the district. There is no other way available for the relief of congestion unless by migration—to take at least half the people who are there away from the district and send them away to the lands that are available for distribution.

59005. Roscommon is a good sheep country?—Not in that particular portion.

59006. Speaking generally?—Speaking generally, I believe it is.

59007. Is there any woollen factory in Roscommon at all?—There may be in the southern end, but not in this part. The roads are very bad in the congested districts which is a great drawback to the people. As far back as the memory of living man goes these places were unrepresented under the Grand Jury system, and this left the roads in such a bad state that it is impossible to take in or out the small amount of produce which the farmers are able to turn off their lands. The road which leads through the valley where I happen to live myself is not on an average more than six feet in width, and is so hilly that an empty cart is as much as you can take to some of the hills. Five hundred or six hundred farmers are living in these districts, and they have nothing from the Board to improve these roads. Of course we have made an effort since the new bodies came into operation, but long existing grievances cannot be eradicated in a very short time. Consequently the Congested Districts Board should come to our assistance in the way of doing something for the improvement of the roads. One of the greatest drawbacks at present is that we can get no lime in except on the backs of donkeys. Any effort made in the new bodies creates from the ratepayers' point of view, a certain amount of opposition. I would not have to go one hundred miles to get a man who was abused for trying to repair these roads. I got abused myself. It is a grievance requiring the attention of the Congested Districts Board. I don't see for one moment that you can expect any prosperity as long as the ranches remain as they are at present. There is no industry in Ireland so valuable, or that will continue to be so valuable, as the land, and I certainly think that the best thing which we could expect from this Commission is something in the way of developing that industry.

59008. You say in your precis that the whole system of fixing judicial rents is not fair in the tenants' interests?—Yes, I consider that the whole basis of fixing rents by the Land Commission is not just towards the tenant. I will quote a case in point in my own district, on the property on which I am a tenant myself—the Countess of Kingston's Estate. Some of the best lands in that district did not happen to be rackrented, and they fared as well under the Land Commission as the tenants whose rents were trebled in 1873. I believe the agent did it without the landlord's consent, and after he had put up the rents on a certain number of holdings the people rose up in rebellion, and the result was that after putting on two or three times the amount of rent which the tenants had been paying on some portions of the estate, he ceased, and the tenants were not rackrented on the other portion of the estate.

59009. Your chief objection is that the reductions given by the Sub-Commission are made to apply to lands no matter what the rent was before, and that 25 per cent. reduction might be fair on one estate or groups of lands, but that it would be unfair on another estate which had been more highly rented before?—My point is that the rents, back as far as the memory of any man can go, were at a certain figure. It happened that of two townlands one was rackrented and the other was not, and the rackrented land was the worse land. One acre of the non-rackrented land was worth three acres of the other; yet they fared just as well in court. There were ten tenants on that portion which was rackrented. Their total rent in 1873 was £44 14s. 2d. In 1873 it was raised to £93 9s. 8d. From the year 1873 until we were in a position to take advantage of the Land Act

Oct. 4, 1907.

Mr. John Keaveny.

of 1881 the tenants had paid in rackrent £390 4*s.*—that is the difference between the two rents multiplied by eight times. They entered court, and brought the £93 9*s.* 8*d.* down to £74 15*s.* 8*d.*, and I hold that the £44 14*s.* 2*d.* should be reduced by the average reduction given to all Ireland down to £35 15*s.* 4*d.*, for these fifteen years, the thing that did happen on the townland, that I will explain later on. I am giving the reduction that we got off the rackrent. I hold that we should get that reduction off the old rent, if it was not raised at all.

59010. That reduction was the first term rent?—Yes. If you calculate the difference between what they paid for the fifteen years and what they would have paid if there had been no rise you will see the amount extracted from them. The reduction on the second judicial rent brings us down to £55 7*s.* 2*d.*, the present rent that we are asked to buy the property out on. The terms of sale offered to us on that property now are 4*s.* in the £ on second judicial rents. I have the terms here in print from the landlord.

59011. So we have actually got this fact, that the rent to-day, after two judicial fixations by the Land Commission, is still £10 higher than it was when voluntarily fixed by the landlords in 1873?—Yes; and if we accept the terms offered by the landlord he gets his bonus added, and after he sells on these terms we have to pay for 68½ years exactly the same amount of money that we had to pay in the year 1873. The agent was J. Garnett Tatlow, who did this act on the tenants.

59012. What caused the sudden rise in 1873?—I can give no reason only greed for more money. The same thing will apply to landlords all over Ireland.

59013. Of course we have often heard of rent being raised in that way after an estate had changed hands?—There was no change of hands here.

59014. It seems a most remarkable rise where no sale took place?—These were the tactics pursued by the same agent on other properties as well as ours. What I have given here is not an exceptional case; it applies to hundreds of tenants, but I am not in a position to get particulars except of my own townland and the next townland, that did not happen to be rackrented. If we accept his terms now we bind ourselves to pay for the next 68½ years what we were paying in 1873. It seems they have extracted from the tenants since 1873 to the present day £1,247 18*s.* rackrent off that one miserable townland. There is half the land on that townland could not feed a cow on twenty or thirty acres. Anything that is there is the result of the energy of the tenants who are on it. It was absolutely worthless seventy years ago—to hear the tale of the old men who lived then.

59015. You say you are a farmer yourself?—Yes; I live on this townland.

59016. You have told us about the grass lands which should be acquired and broken up, and you gave us the acreage of that grass land. In your opinion would all that land be suitable for tillage when you have deducted the mountain?—I believe it would. The landlord himself gave a voluntary reduction in the next townland.

59017. Sir John Colomb.—On what date?—Not during the seven years the rackrent was paid. It is since the Land Act of 1881. The two tenants on the townland who did not take his offer of 3*s.* got 6*s.* 9*d.* of a reduction in their rent. They only entered court once. They are second term tenants, as they did not go in until after 1896. That goes to show that the tenants on the other townland would be entitled to a reduction if they were not rackrented at all. Consequently, if you work the whole thing out, there is a sum of £2,000 odd to be extracted from our townland if we buy at the price offered to us as compared with the neighbouring townland.

59018. Chairman.—You cannot give us the gross sum of the second townland?—I can.

59019. What was the total rent of the second townland in 1872?—£42 among eight tenants. He gave three shillings reduction to the tenants, with the exception of two, after 1881. One of these is Pat Doherty, and the other Mrs. Taaffe. Mrs. Taaffe's rent was reduced from £11 10*s.* 9*d.* to £7 17*s.* 6*d.*, and Doherty's was reduced from £5 9*s.* 3*d.* to £4 2*s.* 8*d.* They were the only two tenants who went into court.

59020. How much was the £42 reduced to altogether?—To £34 5*s.* 3*d.*

59021. That has remained?—Yes.

59022. They have not gone into court a second time?—No; certainly I think inspection is necessary where such exorbitant terms are asked. Perhaps you would like to see the terms offered. Here is a copy of the terms offered by the landlord within the last week (*produces document*). The amount of money extracted as a result of the rackrent before ever we buy would give forty years' purchase of what the amount would be if we were not rackrented. As we now stand they have 40 years' purchase of what our rents should now be according to the average reduction given to Ireland, namely £28 12*s.* 3*d.*, and we have forty times that now given in rackrent without buying at all; so if we were to have fair play the owner has got 20 years' purchase too much already without giving her any more. The facts I have given defy contradiction. He won't take less than twenty-seven years' purchase, twenty-four and the bonus.

59023. Have you ever known a sale carried through where consideration was given for the sums paid under a rack-renting system?—I have known no sale, but I certainly know that if those considerations are not taken into account there will be a most serious question for the State and the people in due time, if we undertake to pay for 68½ years the same rent that we paid in 1872. Why not base it on the principles derived from the knowledge of the last twenty-four years? Is there any reason to assume that we are going to be in a better position during the next twenty-five years? When you talk about the net income, how can you form an idea of what the net income will be in a case such as I have described? There is absolutely no sense in it.

59024. Mr. Sutherland.—Are you arguing against purchase or pointing out the difficulties that may arise?—I am pointing out the difficulties that arise. Where landlords have acted in the same fashion, it would be absolutely necessary to have the whole case gone into; and not only that, but there should be supervision of these lands by some responsible official, because the tendency all over Ireland, unfortunately, is for the tenants to jump at improvident bargains.

59025. Would not that be met by the proposal that is made to have inspection before purchase?—The land agent said distinctly he would have nothing to do with the Congested Districts Board or the Estates Commissioners—that the Estates Commissioners would wrong him.

59026. Assuming the landlord would have to do it?—Assuming that the tenants would be quite satisfied to buy.

59027. They don't hope to get back all the money?—They don't hope that; because if we got back all that is due to us in Ireland we would be one of the richest countries in the world.

59028. You are satisfied by a neutral official going down to inspect it?—Yes. Leaving all considerations of what we have paid aside, and bringing us back now to the rent we paid in 1873, and giving us the terms the landlord offered then, to show how far we are prepared to meet him, we will take the terms offered if he leaves us as we started in 1873, and leave him the thousands of pounds he has robbed the people of.

59029. As a matter of fact, you would be below what you were in 1873. If the rent of the first townland is £55 and the rent was £44 up to 1873, the reduction you would get on purchase would put you below £44?—If you work it out there won't be two shillings difference between it and 1873, and we would be bound to pay that for sixty-eight years.

59030. But you become purchasers instead of paying rent?—It is a great boon to us, but, all the same, we are tied up to carry it out. We think the smallest thing the landlord should do is reduce our rent to what it was in 1873. We got no value from the Land Acts. The tenants all over Ireland gained 8*s.* in the £. We would even dispense with that, and if he reduced our rent to what it was in 1873 we would take the terms he offers. That is as far as anyone can go on behalf of the tenants.

59031. Sir John Colomb.—Have you got any other business besides farming?—Nothing in particular. I had to leave the country to go earn some money for myself. I could not live off these mountains. There is no rent paid except what would be earned in England, Scotland America, or over the country.

59032. Your general complaint is, put shortly, that the tenants suffer in the fixation of rents by reason

there being no principle followed by the Land Commission?—That is the substance of it. Certainly, I think there was no due consideration paid.

59033. As regards no principle being followed, you are in agreement with the Estates Commissioners. You have given us the total amount of money which the landlord abstracted from the tenants during a certain period. Can you give me what would be the produce abstracted from the land by the tenants during the same period?—The value of the produce is always the result of the man's own labour. That varies. It is absolutely impossible for any man to give you a reply straight. What the farm of mountain land would turn out was all the result of the energy of the man. If he did not pay special attention to it it simply turned out no produce. He certainly did not take out what is able to make the rent or the man's calls. It was made in foreign countries and sent home.

Oct. 4, 1907.

Mr. John Keaveny.

59034. CHAIRMAN.—What is the name of these townlands?—Infarnagh and Greenaleevagh. They are in the north-east of the county.

Mr. JAMES SHARKEY examined.

Mr. James Sharkey.

59035. CHAIRMAN.—You represent the Boyle No. 1 Rural District Council?—Yes. The entire district is practically in an uneconomic state, as far as the holdings of the majority of the farmers are concerned. The suggestion I have to make with regard to relieving congestion in the district is, first, the acquisition of the entire untenanted lands in the district, and, I may say, in the county, and the migration of some of the people from small holdings to these lands, and the enlargement of the other holdings by adding to them the holdings thus vacated. That is the main remedy to be applied in the County Roscommon, where the redistribution of grass lands is so urgent.

59036. Where is the congested area you have in your mind?—I allude to practically the entire Boyle No. 1 District. There are a few divisions scheduled as congested. It runs up to the Union of Strokestown, and goes down to the northern part of the county as far as the mines of Arigna.

59037. On the Strokestown side is there any congestion?—Yes, as far as the Boyle No. 1 District goes, but not on the edge of it, where we have any amount of untenanted grass lands.

59038. Where is the grass land you would like to see acquired?—You have them in the immediate vicinity around the neighbourhood of Elphin, within a couple of miles of the end of Boyle No. 1 District.

59039. Do you think would the people in that district object to the people being moved on to the grass lands—would not the sons of tenants want that land for themselves?—I have no means of ascertaining the opinion of the people there, but if congestion is to be relieved it is not within the area of congestion you can do it. Where will you get land if you don't go a little outside.

59040. The people you would move have been used to having lots of peat. Do you think would they be able to get it if they move on to the grass lands?—Would they be near enough to the peat?—It is not probable in all cases that it would be so convenient as it might be, but by the operations of the Board you might acquire control of a reasonable amount of bog at a reasonable distance, and some public authority in the public interest might have the redistribution of that.

59041. Do you think that anybody otherwise likely to move would be deterred by the fact that there might be a difficulty about his fuel?—It is a question for serious consideration on his part, but if he felt on the whole he would be better he must be prepared to undergo some risk.

59042. We have been told that these grass lands were originally abandoned because of the difficulty of fuel and water?—That is a secondary reason for abandoning it. There was pressure put on them to abandon it.

59043. Do you think a man would be deterred from going to grass land by reason of the fact that he was not able to get peat?—That might be. In every project we have difficulties to encounter. Is the question of fuel sufficient to keep the people huddled together in poverty and destitution?

59044. How are you going to get over that?—While I admit there might be a little difficulty with regard to fuel, on the whole it would be possible to better their condition by migration.

59045. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You mean to say that if a small tenant adjoining a bog with water and turf were asked to go to a better holding six miles from turf with water not on his holding, but perhaps a quarter of a mile off, he would be apt to go?—I think unless he felt convinced, taking all the circumstances into account, that he was going to better his conditions, that he would not voluntarily consent.

59046. Do you think that to improve his holding, without turf or water on his holding, would be an inducement to move?—If reasonable facilities could be offered in other respects, and if there could be a supply of turbary obtained within a few miles, I would not consider it out of the question.

59047. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Suppose there is no turf within four or five miles?

CHAIRMAN.—It is really balancing the advantages. It is a question whether he would think that the better land would compensate him for the inconvenience with regard to fuel?—That might apply to any case, but I hold that the principle I mention is feasible, and that it is necessary for the relief of congestion to acquire the untenanted lands and have them distributed. There might be a few cases where the difficulty you allude to might arise, but I am giving evidence of general principles here, and would not like to confine myself to particular cases.

59049. In your view these are matters for the body carrying out the transfer, and as to which they must exercise all reasonable discretion?—Yes. I hold there can be no difficulty put forward with regard to isolated cases as to the want of turbary or the want of water that would be a justification for abandoning the idea of acquiring untenanted lands. In spite of these difficulties it would be a general improvement.

59050. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Are there any of these grass lands that are not fit for tillage?—I think not. On the whole it is very fertile land, and also good for tillage.

49051. We have had evidence that it is not so, and that a great part of the grass lands of Roscommon are not fit for tillage. Is that your opinion?—It is not. I hold there is no better land for tillage than the good rich fertile lands of Roscommon, particularly the first crops. You can raise better crops of potatoes, which is the staple crop of the farmers of the country.

59052. Can you say what percentage of the grass lands is not fit for tillage?—I could not.

59053. Is one quarter of it?—The entire amount of untenanted land, as far as my experience goes, is most productive fertile land for every crop.

59054. Why has it gone into grass?—Because it is in the hands of those whose interest seems to be to keep it in grass and feed bullocks and sheep on it.

59055. Was it at one time in cultivation?—I have it from tradition that it was.

59056. Can you tell me the reason why it has gone out of cultivation?—If you accept what is the general opinion, it was by landlord oppression and rackrents the small farmers were driven away and the land was turned into ranches, and fell into the hands of graziers for grazing purposes.

59057. If you got a forty-acre farm on these grass lands you would not be afraid of not succeeding?—Certainly I would have every hope I would succeed, but with a reasonable capital to start on.

59058. How much capital would you want on a forty-acre farm?—I would want to be in a position to stock at least half, keep another portion in meadow, and till a certain proportion. I could hardly give the figures in an instant.

59059. Mr. BRYCE.—How would you propose that the capital should be given?—I think the only reasonable way I could see would be by State intervention to get a loan to work those lands at cheap interest.

59060. You are aware that in a good many of the settlements that have been already made there does not seem to be much tendency on the part of migrants or persons who have got enlarged holdings to go in for tillage; they still keep it in grazing?—You might

Oct. 4, 1907.

Mr. James Sharkey

account for that, to a certain extent, by this, that in every enterprise, particularly at the first onset, difficulties are confronted, but the people, I believe, ultimately will find out the advantage of tillage.

59061. Do you think that the Congested Districts Board or the Estates Commissioners might make any conditions that there should be on a forty-acre farm a certain amount of tillage?—I think it reasonable to foster and encourage tillage as far as possible.

59062. How much would you say they would be entitled to demand in the way of tillage?—I could not lay down a definite rule. So much depends on circumstances.

59063. That is reasonable enough, but if in carrying out a policy you are going to disturb all existing arrangements for the sake of improvement, don't you think that there ought to be some guarantee that the improvement will take place?—Certainly.

59064. How do you propose that the guarantee should be given?—I think that after a time the farmer would find it to his advantage to have recourse to the most profitable system of farming.

59065. According to the history of those lands they were once under tillage, and they have not gone into grass, and therefore on that theory the most profitable way to handle them is to keep them in grass?—Tillage to a certain extent is most essential.

59066. According to our evidence, no matter how large the holdings, the usual amount of tillage in Roscommon is about two acres per holding. Whether the holding is 100 or 15 or 10 acres there are always two acres of tillage. There is no object in the Government incurring great expenditure for the purpose of having a large additional number of holdings with only two acres of tillage on each of them?—I quite agree with that, but the fact that the country is without tillage is the outcome of long continued misgovernment.

59067. Not misgovernment surely. It may be bad economics. Government has made no rules which produce this large amount of grass?—It has made laws and carried out a system that necessitated the emigration of the people. Labour became almost extinct, and it became almost impossible to carry out tillage, and people became so poor as to be unable to procure the necessary means of carrying out tillage except what they could do with their arms or the spade. There was not 5 per cent. of the community in a position to get the necessary implements. As far as the small farmers went they did all they possibly could with what they had, and that was the spade.

59068. Wherever you find bad land you find tillage; wherever you have good land you don't find tillage. That does not seem to agree with your argument that want of implements prevented tillage?—The tillage on the bad lands is due to the fact that the small farmers carry it on. Each cultivates his own garden, and the whole thing comes to something, though the amount for each household is small.

59069. That is quite true, but what I want to see is how you can insure that these people or their relations or whoever they are will practise tillage when they are put on the grass lands, and not carry them on as they are carried on now?—If they have carried on tillage on bad land in difficult circumstances why should you doubt that they will carry on tillage in better circumstances on better land.

59070. That is just exactly what is denied?—I hold there is no justification for denying it. I say distinctly where a farmer is there on a holding of land and he finds it is sufficient to recoup him by a reasonable amount of tillage he will go in for it. The small holder, if they did not do a certain amount of tillage and confined themselves to grazing, could not possibly maintain themselves. I have, therefore, no hesitation in saying that tillage will be carried out by the people after a certain time. A big revolution takes time to assert itself. If the people got encouragement they would abandon the idea of running to foreign countries, and settle at home, and begin to lay down their minds to tillage and other industries that might be started, and I don't believe it would be necessary to compel people to do what was most profitable if it is shown to be most profitable.

59071. Mr. O'Kelly.—How many acres have you yourself?—Forty-four statute acres.

59072. What kind of land?—Some fair arable land, and some coarse land.

59073. How many acres have you in tillage?—I have not more than two and a half acres. That is part of the disabilities we are suffering under. I have no one but myself, labour has become so dear. There is no labour in the country. One of the reasons is there is no labour to get. We are not able to afford to give such constant labour and remuneration to any man who is solely dependent on labour as to encourage him to stay in the country, with the result that when we small farmers want to get some help in the spring or autumn season we have not it to get. They have simply gone away to a country where there is constant labour; but if people stayed at home ultimately it would be to the advantage of farmers who want labour. The only possible labour they can get at present is where small farmers of ten or twelve acres have two or three young fellows growing up, and they might spare one of them, and send him to me occasionally; but where a man is solely dependent on labour we are not able to keep him constantly, and when we let him go in spring he cannot afford to wait until harvest again, when we want him again. If these men could get work outside the farm and be in a position to come to us at certain times——

59074. Mr. Bryce.—Could not you till more than two and a half acres yourself?—Not very well.

59075. You should want assistance to till more than two and a half?—Under the circumstances I cannot afford sufficient capital to buy that amount of farm utensils and machinery that would enable me to till. It is impossible for me to till it by spade labour, and I am not able to afford to buy ploughs and harrows and other implements.

59076. You have no grown up son? If you had any assistance from your family you could do more than two and a half acres?—Yes, but even with that assistance some machinery would be sufficient to carry out tillage in an extensive way.

59077. Sir John Colomb.—I understand you to give two general reasons for the decline of tillage: one is the fault of the Government and the other is, in your own experience, that the reason you don't till more is owing to the difficulty of labour and the want of capital?—Yes.

59078. When you attributed the decline of tillage to the fault of the Government were you referring to the fact of the Government allowing free foreign competition with home produce in the home market?—No. I was referring to the fact that the people had to emigrate, and that the fertile portions of the country became derelict, and the people who stayed at home were driven to the unfertile portions where tillage was unproductive.

59079. Mr. Kavanagh.—Would your argument be that the new holdings should not be too big?—No. I have not directly made that remark.

59080. I thought you said that a man without capital could work a small farm, but that if he got a large farm and had no capital he would merely keep it in grass as at present?—I think that a reasonably-sized farm would be necessary to see that a man could live and pay all his calls and have a substantial margin to maintain him.

59081. What would you say would be the size of that farm?—I think twenty acres would be a fair size.

59082. Mr. O'Kelly.—Irish acres?—Irish acres we generally calculate. There is another point with regard to congestion and its relief that I would like to put before the Commission, which is only secondary in importance to the point I have just dealt with—that is with regard to certain holdings, the great majority in this district just now, though I would not schedule them, yet the proceeds of these holdings are not sufficient to maintain a family. Take a holding of ten or twelve acres of inferior bad land. I don't want to go into the question of rent and taxes. Apart from that, the total proceeds under the present system of farming are not sufficient to maintain a family. If there is to be anything like a state of prosperity in respect to those districts this class of people require special and immediate attention. The first essential point on which to lay the foundation of an improved system of farming is a system of drainage. The labour and manure of people on lands not sufficiently drained go for nothing. There should be encouragement to drain and a better system of farming among this class altogether. Taking the straitened circumstances of these people into [illegible]

course it would be impossible to think that they uld afford to carry out any reasonable system to lieve their drainage, and I think it would be rea- nable to put before the Commission that a Govern- ent or some other body vested with the work of look- ig after these drains should go into these matters nd see that all the main rivers or main outlets be one at the expense of some Imperial source, and at tenants in those districts should get a reasonable mount at cheap interest to encourage them to drain nd improve their land, and in that way the produce ould be greatly increased and improved. Then the eneral system of farming wants to be looked after.

59083. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Suppose that the whole the untenanted land of Roscommon was bought up nd divided up into twenty or thirty acre farms, you ve the Commission to understand that want of apital and the difficulties of labour would prevent ny great increase in tillage?—I would not put the ailure of any man in farming under the head of illage if you start him without capital on a holding land.

59084. Suppose that the whole of the untenanted nd of Roscommon were bought up, striped, and ivided up into twenty or thirty-acre holdings, do you ink would the Government have to find the capital nd provide the labour in order to turn Roscommon nto a tillage country?—I think that a person start- ng on a new holding should get capital in some shape, it is impossible to get on. I think it only reason- ble to expect that in most cases the Government ould go some way to provide this capital.

59085. What is to be done about the labour? How the labour to be provided for the whole of Roscom- on to keep it in tillage?—Because if encouragement ere given the people now emigrating would stay at ome, and there would be people to be got to labour.

59086. Suppose it did not stop emigration, then the heme would fail?—It might not revolutionise the hole system at once, but I hold that it would radually effect a stoppage.

59087. Might not it be the case that to stop emigra- on the wages must rise in order to keep the young en at home? If they find they can make a better ving in other countries won't they go there?—If you ad the country more generally dotted with small rmers themselves, their grown up families after time would afford more labour, and if they found ey could live in comparative comfort on their own oldings they would not have the same tendency to un away as at present.

59088. Suppose you have the whole country dotted ver with farms and young men growing up, do you hink the young men will be content to stay at a low ate of wages when by going to a new country they an be better off and get much higher wages?—Yes. What I hold is if the country were settled in that ay there would be a great many industries after- wards started in the country, which, with the farming industry, would induce the people to stay at home.

Oct. 4 1907.

Mr. James Sharkey.

59089. Then you must have industries as well?—If the farming developed in a reasonable way and con- tentment and prosperity were prevalent probably in- dustries would follow afterwards.

59090. The industries would naturally give better wages than agriculture, and take away the labour from agriculture and industries?—It would depend on the markets and the supply of people. I have heard of Governments in other countries that fos- tered farming to such an extent that they started industries to keep the people employed when they were not required at farming, and stopped these works in the seasons when they were required for agriculture.

59091. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—What countries do you refer to?—Buenos Ayres. In these places the Go- vernment industries are closed during the harvest sea- son.

59092. Mr. BRYCE.—If there was employment for the agricultural population in the country and a great additional population in the country the towns would benefit also?—Decidedly.

59093. So that these towns in many districts which you now see grass-grown would begin to look up and have a prosperous and increasing population? —Yes.

59094. That might furnish you with the supplies of labour to some extent which you require?—Un- doubtedly so.

59095. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You are aware that the difficulty in all countries, even in Australia and Canada, where land can be given away for nothing, is to keep the population on the land and prevent them from drifting into the towns?—No. I can only speak from common sense. In any project in which a man finds himself prosperous and successful I don't see how it would require much pressure to keep him in it.

59096. CHAIRMAN.—Is there anything else you wish to say?—In regard to the improvement in the con- dition of small farmers, I would draw particular at- tention to the necessity of a change in their system of farming, and also to the necessity of a system of drainage, the want of which causes serious loss, as they lose their calves, which take a disease that is at- tributed to some pernicious herbs that they take off the wet land; so it is most essential to look after that and to encourage the small farmers to improve their system of tillage. The Board of Agriculture are doing something in that way, but they are not suc- ceeding in reaching the root of the thing. Another drawback in this district is the want of roads. The District Council at present is very much handicapped with this problem, as owing to the heavy taxes which the ratepayers at present have to bear they cannot face any greatly increased expenditure.

Mr. JOHN J. DOYLE examined.

59097. CHAIRMAN.—You are nominated by the Car- ick-on-Shannon Rural District Council?—Yes.

59098. I hardly think you need go deeply into the rst head of your evidence—the necessity of dividing he grazing lands. We have heard about that from he two previous witnesses, and also about it in Car- ick?—I want to bring under your notice the neces- ity for having a connection between Toomagh, north nd south, to have a bridge across the Shannon. There are up to 200 families there with no facilities or bringing their produce to market except they ome within three miles of this town of Boyle.

59099. Where do you propose that the bridge should e?—At Hartley. I am under the impression that hese two districts are already scheduled. We have 143 under £4 in valuation in the Carrick-on-Shannon No. 2 Rural District; we have 701 under £12, 306 nder £40, and 63 under £100, and 19 under £200, four under £400 and four over £400.

59100. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—What particular dis- tricts are you referring to?—Ten divisions of Carrick- on-Shannon district that are in the County Roscom- mon.

59101. CHAIRMAN.—We have heard about the bridge already in Carrick?—There are about 3,000 acres of land held by one man in the district on which it would be well to have a number of young men who now have to go away to America, England, and Scot- land. Congestion does not mean so much where a lot of people live together, but where a man has five or six sons, even if he has thirty acres of land, every one of them must clear away except the one man who will occupy it.

Mr. John J Doyle.

59102. You want to give the land to these men?— Yes. We want to have the men who have to go away put on the land, even where congestion does not exist at all.

59103. If you put your sons on Mr. Sharkey's friends will have to be put on?—I don't agree with Mr. Sharkey's evidence at all. Give me twenty acres of land to-morrow and I could live on it, even if I never got a farthing.

59104. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Without capital at all?— Certainly.

59105. CHAIRMAN.—Don't you think that the people who have very small uneconomic holdings have a prior claim on the land as compared with men who have no holdings at all?—No. I think the men with no holdings should get holdings.

59106. In twenty years time the same thing will arise. In twenty years time the young men of that time will have no land, and will have to go away?— That is a question for themselves. Give me twenty acres of land to-morrow and I will live on it.

Oct. 4, 1907.

Mr. John J. Doyle.

59107. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Have you no holding at present?—I have.

59108. What is the size of it?—Sixty-nine statute acres.

59109. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—How much do you till? Six acres.

59110. Does it occur to you, when you advocate the State finding farms for the young men in order to stop them clearing away, that if a shopkeeper, doctor, solicitor, or any other man as well as a farmer, has a strong family, he cannot make them all the same business as himself? Is it not the case, in all classes and ranks of society, where a man has a big family, the young men have to go? Has that ever struck you?—It never has struck me in any way only this: give me twenty acres of land to-morrow and I will live on it, and every young man in Roscommon will be well able to live on it if he gets it.

59111. Mr. BRYCE.—He does not want any capital?—Not one penny of capital. He is well able to work on it. If he is not able to carry on on twenty acres of land he won't carry on on 1,000.

59112. How is he to get the stock and farm implements?—The farm implements do not amount to much—a spade and shovel, and you then can live on it.

59113. No plough?—What requirement is there for a plough on twenty acres of land?

59114. You would do better with a plough?—I don't think so. You are twice as healthy if you take the loy and shovel.

59115. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Does tillage pay better than grass?—Certainly it does.

59116. Could you tell me, as you don't want capital and labour does not seem to count, why you only till six acres out of 69?—How could we have tillage when we were hunted off the place?

59117. You have got yourself 69 acres of land?—Yes.

59118. You tell me tillage pays better than grass and you don't want capital for tillage, and I want to know why you don't do the thing which pays better and requires no capital?—How many acres of arable land have I? Is not it all a bog?

57119. That is quite an answer, if you till every acre of land on your holding that is capable of tillage. Do you do so?—By rotation.

59120. The Commission is to understand that you have only got six acres of land out of sixty-nine that are capable of tillage?—Yes.

59121. And that you till every portion of that?—By rotation.

Mr. EDWARD F. BOWEN examined.

Mr. Edward F. Bowen.

59122. CHAIRMAN.—Kindly state what you wish to bring before the Commission?—I wish first to refer to observations on migration at pages 22, 23, of the Report of the Congested Districts Board for the year ended 31st of March, 1905, with reference to the inability of the Board to divide the land which they buy in a district locally.

59123. Your point is this; in order to meet the requirements of a locality the Board should be able to deal with men over £5 valuation, not only on estates which they buy, but on neighbouring estates?—Certainly, because there are many districts in Roscommon where there are a large number of occupiers of land of £5 Poor Law valuation or less outside the Congested Districts Board estates.

59124. I suppose you hold it is essential in any migration scheme that these people should be relieved before any attempt is made to bring in people from outlying districts?—Certainly. For instance, there are, in my neighbourhood, between Ballinagare and Ballinameen, a very large number of occupiers who are in the habit of sending a few small beasts to neighbouring grazing farms every summer. Very often they get conacre hay there also. If these grass farms are all bought by the Congested Districts Board, and planted with migrants, there seems to be a very real danger that the small local farmer will be deprived for all time of a substantial part of his way of living. I would suggest that, before buying grass lands for purposes of migration, the Board ought to satisfy themselves as to how much land is required locally by this class, and reserve for them a sufficient quantity. It seems to me a very serious thing to say that you will jeopardise the well-being of these people in order to benefit the people from a distance.

59125. I don't think there is any doubt about it. I think the Commission felt very strongly that that amendment is necessary; but, of course, that does not get over the subsequent difficulty of what you are to do with the balance?—Quite so. My object is to draw the attention of the Commission to the very grave danger that they may be depriving one party of something they now enjoy for the benefit of another party living under similar conditions, in fact, robbing Peter to pay Paul. In such districts grass farms held by the central authority for the use of those small holders, could be administered at a small cost, and would be a great boon to them; but if such an experiment did not succeed, these farms could be divided hereafter. But I hold strongly that where you buy grass lands for the purpose of migration, you ought to find out how much land is required by the same class of people in the district where you buy the land.

59126. Mr. KAVANAGH.—You mean that otherwise we might be taking away the possibility of grazing of the people round about?—Yes. An enormous number of these people, who have only two or three beasts, send them every year to the grass farms, and have to pay a very considerable rent for them. My point is this. If you stripe up all those farms, where are those people to send their cattle to?

59127. Mr. O'KELLY.—Stripe up the farms among them?—You cannot do that.

59128. Do you mean as the law now stands?—Yes.

59129. They are not under £5?—Yes, and they are not under the auspices of the Congested Districts Board.

59130. CHAIRMAN.—You may have a lot of people whose valuation is over £5 and under £10, say about £7, who live on uneconomic holdings. Under the law as it now stands, the Board cannot relieve their congestion by giving them a bit of land?—There is a very large number of those.

59131. Those are the people who at present send their young cattle to graze on the grass lands?—I am under the impression that the occupier of a farm under £5 would be in the same position, unless he lived on an estate which had been bought by the Congested Districts Board, or was in a scheduled area.

59132. I think if he is under £5 he can be dealt with?—That is not the impression that is conveyed to me. At all events, whether he is just over or just under £5 won't make any difference in what is going to happen to him if you give the land to migrants.

59133. If you give him a slice of it?—You must not deprive this man of his way of living to benefit somebody else. For that reason, I would suggest the usefulness of a large central farm until you see your way.

59134. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Common grazing?—Yes. You can give it more cheaply than he can get it at present.

59135. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Assuming the standard of economic holdings £10, and that the law allowed the Congested Districts Board to deal with all uneconomic holdings under £10, would you then say in a district in which that can be done that it would be necessary to have grazing land administered by a central authority, in order not to administer the small holders, although above £10?—Not, if you can give them the land; but my whole point is that you must not deprive these local small men of what they now have withiut giving them something to replace it.

59136. CHAIRMAN.—If you could raise all the local small men on the estate and neighbouring estates to £10, would that satisfy you?—No; it would not. I should like to make them over £10.

59137. If you made anybody under £10 into an economic holder that would satisfy you?—Yes.

59138. People over £10 can get along all right?—I don't say so. I don't draw any hard and fast line to what an economic holding is; but you must not make holders from a distance economic at the expense of uneconomic holders in a district.

59139. But there must be some limit?—I leave that to you, to suggest a limit.

59140. You would wipe away Section 75 of the Act

d not replace it by any higher limit?—I did not pose to go into that question. I merely say, in e case of the farms which you consider uneconomic, u must not sacrifice the inhabitants of any area in der to benefit the same class anywhere else.

59141. Mr. O'Kelly.—Has that been done so far this part of the country?—Not so far; but there great danger of it.

59142. Sir John Colomb.—You cannot take valua- n as a standard to determine actually what is nomic and what is uneconomic?—I don't think you n. I do not believe that the Roscommon grass farms ll ever be used to any extent for tillage, because y are more profitable in grass. I think the ten- ncy is to till less every year where the land will re- in in grass. For this reason, I hold that the Con- sted Districts Board, with respect to the division of ass lands into small farms, should base their licy on the assumption that the lands now in grass ll remain in grass after division. If the experi- nt of breaking up these old grass lands is tried, d the land has afterwards to be let back into grass, will probably take fifty years to bring it back to present condition. Further, if the large grass rms are done away with, the market for the small n's beasts disappears, and he cannot have them od enough for the Scotch or English trade, and now pends on the local graziers, and I believe that, if latter are done away with, the small Western asant will be ruined, and the re-payment of mil- ns of purchase money be placed in jeopardy. The ngested Districts Board have done an immense ount of useful work, particularly by way of drain- e, but they have, I understand, no power to compel e parties who benefit to maintain the work done. uch of the money spent will as a consequence be sted. For example, many of the drains recently ened on the De Freyne Estate had been made by rd De Freyne, at a cost of £6,000, but they quickly ame of little use, owing to neglect of maintenance, ich he had no power to enforce. I would suggest at the Board should have power to compel the par- s who benefit by them to maintain all the drains y make. In this connection, I would like to see e system of Parish Committees widely extended. I convinced that a very large amount of land can obtained by the Congested Districts Board with- t compulsion, provided a fair price is given. I nsider that net income, capitalized at 3½ per cent., uld in many cases be a fair basis. Owners strongly ject to sell where only the best bits of their land are plied for, and the inferior land left on their hands. plications for land on these lines have been made the Congested Districts Board, and I do not con- ler this fair or reasonable.

59143. Chairman.—You say you think the tendency recent years has been for more land to go into ass?—Yes.

59144. That may be accounted for by the shortage labour?—Of course, that would be one reason, no ubt; but I think the climate has a good deal to say it.

59145. Any way, you think there is something in argument which is so constantly put forward of shortage of labour?—That makes an immense fference. It is one of the great reasons.

59146. As regards your point, if the cattle trade as to suffer millions of purchase money might be aced in jeopardy; after all if there was a decrease profits of the cattle trade, there is nothing to pre- nt a readjusting by the State of the annuities. ppose a man undertakes to pay a certain annuity r sixty-eight years, and after he has paid ten or teen years, trade depreciates, and he finds a diffi- lty in continuing to pay on the same scale, there nothing to prevent the State lowering the annuity extending the term?—Nothing whatever. That ould be a help, of course.

59147. It would not follow that the State would se the money that it has advanced. It might mean at they would have to take a longer time to collect ?—That would be a substantial remedy.

59148. If a man had paid fifteen or twenty years the annuity, the reduction he would get by the re- ing of the annuity would be very great?—Yes; it it would not save him from being broke.

59149. That is on the argument that no rent affects e prosperity of a man; but it would be a way of lieving, substantially, the burden of payment to the State?—It would, but it would be a very serious step to be obliged to take.

59150. Mr. Sutherland.—We have a precedent already in the rent-fixing machinery?—Quite so; but you would have to make a very substantial reduction in order to meet the difficulty if the result of breaking up the grass farms and planting them with small men meant ruin to the cattle trade.

59151. Chairman.—You say you would like to see the Parish Committee used to do this necessary work of maintaining improvements?—Not merely those improvements only, but I believe the Parish Committees have done so much that I would like to see them extended further all over the districts, and I would like to see them furnished with some powers of enforcing the maintenance of drainage.

59152. If you invest them with powers of enforcing these things it would change them a great deal from what they are now?—It would add largely to their powers.

59153. It would give them an official character which might perhaps interfere with their work in other directions?—It might, possibly.

59154. Have you ever thought whether it might be made a condition in the vesting order that drainage and other things should be maintained?—I don't know how you could do that, because, how are you going to enforce that condition?

59155. In the same way that you enforce the payment of an annuity. It is obvious, if the State is going to expend a lot of money in making improvements on the land, and putting people on small holdings into an improved condition, it should have some claim to see that the improvements effected are maintained?—Certainly. I fully admit that.

59156. If, through bad husbandry or carelessness, these improvements are neglected, the State might be held to be justified in disturbing the fixity of tenure of that man?—It is very difficult to say how you should enforce the maintenance, but you certainly ought to have powers to enforce it.

59157. Simply by saying that unless these two conditions of good husbandry and maintenance are observed the man will be turned out of his holding; good husbandry should be regarded as essential as the payment of the annuity?—That would be one way, of course.

59158. And those conditions should be laid down in the vesting order; do you think that that would be a plan that would be very much resented?—I should think it would, and very difficult to carry out.

59159. What other means would you suggest?—I am rather inclined to treat it as if it were a case of an unlicensed dog—summon the person who neglects to maintain, and have him fined.

59160. Would you serve him with notice, calling on him to do it, and stating that if it were not done he would be summoned?—Yes; very much like a road nuisance or an unlicensed dog. There might be power to fine him at a certain rate, just as there is the power to fine a man for every day that his dog remains unlicensed.

59161. At any rate, whatever is done there seems to be an absolute necessity for continuing supervision by some inspector appointed by the authority that has effected the sale?—Yes.

59162. In the case of the Congested Districts Board it seems as if they would have to have an inspector continually going over the land to see that the improvements were maintained right up even to the end of the time for which annuities would be payable?—Drainage improvements should be inspected at least once a year.

59163. There are other improvements, fences, and things of that kind. Would not you suggest that the maintenance of fencing also is a matter of importance?—One man can compel his neighbour to keep his fence. There is a remedy already for that.

59164. Is there any necessity for making any condition with regard to cutting down trees; would you be inclined to leave that to the tenant?—I would leave that to the purchaser because it is a matter of opinion whether certain timber is advantageous or not. He might not agree with the inspector.

59165. Therefore you would leave it to the purchaser to cut them down or keep them up, as he likes?—Yes. I don't see what else you can do. If he wants to cut down he will cut down.

59166. You gave, as a reason for the change from tillage to grass, the scarcity of labour; that is one reason?—Yes.

Oct. 4, 1907.

Mr. Edward F. Bowen.

59167. Is there not another; that the crop produced by tillage, such as corn crops are met in the market by foreign produce, which lowers the price?—Certainly.

59168. And that the home producer has to pay rates and taxes and the foreign producer has not?—Yes.

59169. May you not take it that the lower the price of foreign produce the less the tendency will be to till?—Yes.

59170. With regard to the real grass lands, when you say that the grass lands of Roscommon will never be used for tillage, do you include all lands, or do you mean merely those lands that would be economically more valuable in grass?—I believe that all land which will remain in grass is more valuable in grass than when broken up; and I think that is the experience of almost all tillage farmers in tillage districts. I have done a good deal of tillage and I believe that in all tillage districts, which I know myself, wherever any land will remain in grass the occupier is most anxious to put it into, and keep it in grass rather than break it up.

59171. I have heard you have some practical knowledge of Wexford?—Yes.

59172. Comparing the good lands in Roscommon with the land in Wexford, generally, is not it the case that the land in Wexford will not remain permanently in grass?—Certainly.

59173. That is the cause of the necessity for constant breaking up?—Yes.

59174. That is the cause of Wexford being a tillage county?—Yes.

59175. And, again, the small farmers of the county have been tillage farmers from father to son for generations?—Yes.

59176. Therefore, you cannot press the argument that Wexford is a tillage county too far in support of the theory that the land in Roscommon should be broken up, owing to the difference in the nature of the soils?—Most distinctly; but now, since you have touched on that point, I was going to say that it is a very uncommon thing, even in Wexford, to see any land broken that will remain in grass.

59177. Where you have, in this tillage county of Wexford, land which, from its nature is capable of remaining constantly in grass, you do not find it broken up?—Certainly, and the same thing obtains in the tillage districts in the North of Ireland. Wherever you find land that will remain in grass permanently there it is in grass, and it is never touched.

59178. And wherever the nature of the land won't stand grass there you have tillage?—Yes.

59179. I take it you take a very serious view of breaking up grass land on account of the difficulty of getting it back again into grass if tillage did not succeed?—Yes, but then, on the other hand, I am quite convinced they will never be broken up to any extent.

59180. In reference to the question of maintenance of improvements by migrants, take the case of arterial drains. Do you think it quite possible to apply to arterial drains the same principle of law as applies to fences?—No.

59181. If there is a boundary fence, with one man on one side, and several men on the other, every one of those men has the right to compel the owner of the boundary fence to do his share of the maintenance?—That is so.

59182. Do you not see an analogy in the case of an arterial drain, where several owners are concerned in the maintenance?—There is, certainly.

59183. Would you not think, without going into the question of parish committee inspectors or anything else, that if that was made applicable to arterial drains, it would work smoothly?—No, I don't think it would.

59184. Why?—Because it would be the cause of constant bickering between neighbours; far more than fences. Fences must be kept up to prevent cattle from straying into each others fields, and so on.

59185. The Congested Districts Board makes an arterial drain that is necessary to enable the different holders to drain their land, and it is necessary for each holder that the arterial drain should be kept clear, and one man stopping his part will hamper the rest. Is there not there an analogy to the case of the boundary fence?—To a certain extent. I would not go with you all the way. I would rather not leave the neighbours to compel each other to maintain these arterial drains. I would rather have some other way of doing it.

59186. You would rather get some special authority with special laws with regard to drainage?—Certainly.

59187. Because you think if you applied to drains the principle that is now applied to fences, it would lead to considerably more difficulty?—I think it would lead to a great deal of fighting between the parties, and I think probably repairs would not be well done.

59188. You would be afraid that some people, rather than dispute with their neighbours, would let it slide?—To a certain extent. I don't think you would find it satisfactory.

59189. Mr. Bryce.—You are aware that in some parts of Ireland, where tenants acquire the holdings, they pull trees down ruthlessly?—Yes.

59190. Do you think some immediate step should be taken to stop this?—It is a great pity to see the trees cut down; but if you give a man a farm he has a right to do what he likes with it.

59191. Why should not the State make conditions?—If a man has got a tree growing where he does not want it, it is very hard to interfere with him.

59192. It could be provided that he could not do so without the consent of the authorities?—Yes; that would do very well. I am quite aware that there is a tremendous lot of damage done by the ruthless cutting down of trees.

59193. Sir John Colomb.—Are you aware that in cases in which land has passed from landlord to tenant, under the Land Purchase Act, trees are being cut down by the tenants?—Yes.

59194. It has been stated in evidence to us that in cases in which the landlords are going to sell, they have cut down the trees first?—I never heard of such a case. I don't say it has not happened. I don't know whether it has or not.

59195. You have no knowledge of the case of the landlord going to sell cutting down his trees first?—Such a case has never come under my notice.

59196. Mr. Kavanagh.—You say that the grass lands of Roscommon will never be broken up?—In my opinion.

59197. Would you say that the lands in grass are not deteriorating under the grazing system?—Some of them are; some of them are not. Some of them are very badly treated, meadowed too much. I am referring to grass land which has been divided among small tenants.

59198. They are deteriorating?—Some of them may be from bad treatment. All land will from bad treatment, but land will deteriorate much less in grass from bad treatment than it will in tillage from bad treatment. Tillage land can be ruined absolutely by bad treatment.

59199. Might we not look forward to the day when these lands will have to be tilled to save them from going into rushes?—No. Drainage is the only thing to get rid of rushes. Tillage will not get rid of rushes. When the land is put down again into grass, after a few years rushes will come back as badly as ever.

59200. It seems to be going back a good deal into rushes to my mind under the grazing system?—You cannot expect to till without draining, whatever you may do with grass.

59201. You say that the Congested Districts Board in cutting up farms, should do so on the assumption that they will remain in grass after division?—Yes.

59202. That will make a difference in the size of the farm?—Yes, and more particularly in the class of the people put into the farm.

59203. Suppose you were cutting up this grass land on the assumption that it will always remain in grass, what difference would it make in the size?—You would have to give more. But you would give it to a different class of people.

59204. If we split up grass lands on the assumption that they would be used for mixed farming, you could give smaller farms than you would on the assumption that they would always remain in grass?—Yes.

59205. About what difference?—I would say that the tillage farms might be twenty-five acres. I would like to see the grass farms from thirty to forty.

59206. Less than forty would be no use?—I won't say that. That is another matter.

59207. Could a man live on a thirty acre farm if

he kept it all in grass?—Plenty of people do, and on less; lots of them.

59208. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—What class of people have you in your mind?—Men who thoroughly understood cattle and so on.

59209. Do you know if there is any scientific knowledge required for grazing?—Very little.

59210. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Whether a man succeed or not as a grazier really depends on whether he has a scientific knowledge of cattle?—I don't think the word scientific is applicable to the knowledge of cattle men. It is hardly scientific. It is thoroughly practical. If it were not thoroughly practical he would not succeed.

Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Quite so. It does not matter whether he is small or large.

59212. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you think that, as affecting the general cattle trade of Ireland, it would be prejudicial to have a multitude of small graziers, instead of a few big graziers?—Yes, most distinctly.

59213. It would be detrimental?—It would be detrimental.

59214. If 100 acres of good grazing land is broken up into four farms of twenty-five acres each, will the four men who get them be able to carry on, in relation to the cattle trade of Ireland, the business as well as the one man?—Certainly not.

59215. A big man, dealing on a large scale, buys in blocks, and travels about to fairs and follows the markets?—Yes.

59216. Would that apply to the four men carrying on the cattle trade?—If you divide the farm into thirty acre farms. When in the hands of the grazier each of these farms carries fifteen beasts. Each new man will have three cows and will breed three calves, and buy three more. That would be six young beasts, extra beasts.

59217. CHAIRMAN.—We have had this over and over again?—I was going to point out you would have to provide a new market for over seventy new beasts for every 100 acres of land that you divide up.

59218. Your point is the difficulty of what they call succession?—You have got to provide a new market for a great number of beasts, because you are doing away with the market for some and you are finding others.

59219. You told Sir John you would not think the grass land of Roscommon would be broken up. In your opinion, there is no land in Roscommon at present under grass that would be good under tillage?—No. That is going a great deal farther than I did. I think there is a good deal of land in Roscommon under grass that would be better under tillage.

59220. So far as that land is concerned, would not you have a better state of things if you had that land in the hands of small holders of tillage?—Yes. I think it would be a great improvement.

59221. Therefore, really your point is comparative. When you say Roscommon ought to remain under grass, that only applies to the richest form of pasture?—The principal point which I wish to emphasise is the question of depriving the local people of the use of the land that they have been accustomed to.

59222. At any rate, you will admit that there is a certain amount of land in Roscommon now under grass which would be better tilled?—Yes.

59223. Also I take it as your view that so long as the present system of large tracts exists, and the shortage of labour exists, there is not much prospect of having the land tilled?—Quite so.

59224. Therefore, the only practical way to get it tilled is to make it into small holdings, giving it to people who will till it themselves?—Wherever you have got land suitable for tillage.

59225. Mr. O'KELLY.—You say it would be a mistake to have four men on 100 acres where one man was before?—Yes.

59226. Why?—What I wish to draw attention to is that, in my opinion, it would upset the cattle trade to a very great extent, and depreciate the price of the small man's young stock.

59227. But the prosperity of the cattle trade is not altogether an indication of the general prosperity of the country. You must not forget this fact, that where you had one man on 100 acres, you will have four men with their families, or twenty individuals, when that land is divided into four holdings of twenty-five acres each?—But if the land remains, as I believe it will remain, in grass, and if you have a serious decrease in the price of young stock, I don't see what good you are doing to these poor people.

59228. The land is there still?—You are going to add to the number of young cattle, and do away with the grazier.

59229. You are not doing away with the grazier at all. Let me suggest this. You are doing away with the middleman. You take the land from the grazier upon which he had his stores, and give it to the small man who will then take up the place that the grazier has filled?—He won't take his place at all. He will become another producer of young stock. You have done away with the purchaser in the grazier, and in his place you have put a producer. Therefore, you have almost doubled the supply and done away with the market.

59230. Why is it the small man must now sell his yearling to the local grazier. Is it not because he has not enough land to keep it himself for a longer period of time?—You are not going to create a man who is big enough to keep aged cattle.

59231. The breeder, that is the small farmer, sells his yearlings to the local grazier. He cannot keep them any longer, because he has not got sufficient land on which to keep them. He sells them to the local grazier, who afterwards disposes of them in the shape of stores to the Leinster man, or to the shipper; is not that so?—Yes.

59232. If you give to the small man the land which is now used by the grazier you eliminate the grazier and the middleman's profits, and bring the breeder into direct touch with the Leinster man, or the cross-Channel man?—You don't do anything of the sort. Your occupier of the thirty-acre farm is going to be a producer, and not a purchaser of the ten-acre man's produce. He will have no person to sell them to, and he cannot keep them until they are old enough.

59233. Why cannot he keep them?—The place is not big enough.

59234. The fact that he has an insufficiency of lands just now accounts for the fact that he must sell to the grazier?—Unless you give him the whole 100 acres.

59235. How many cattle will 100 acres carry now?—It depends on the land. We will say fifty.

59236. Say sixty. If you divide it into four holdings, between four small men, each of them will have fifteen cattle?—They will be quite a different class of cattle. They won't stock their land with one-and-a-half-year-olds. They will have cows and calves, and require to sell at one and a half year's old, and have nobody to buy them.

59237. Why could not they make stores of them as the grazier does now?—If he has got the cows he will breed the calves.

59238. You say that the grazier, as an economic factor, cannot be eliminated without loss to the small farmer?—Most distinctly.

59239. You differ from Mr. Doran, of the Congested Districts Board, who thinks the exact opposite, and who is a practical farmer and an expert in these matters, and one whose opinion should be entitled to some respect?—I don't wish to treat his opinion with any disrespect. I am giving you mine.

59240. I am just pointing out to you that the experts differ upon that?—I am quite certain that Mr. Doran never gave you evidence that the thirty-acre man would become the grazier of the young stock.

59241. Yes, because the breeder will keep them until they are sent direct to the Leinster men, or the shippers?—They cannot do that. It is impossible.

Mr. O'KELLY.—That is where the experts differ.

59242. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Were not most of these grass lands in cultivation at one time?—Not all, but a great many were.

59243. What did they do then?—I don't know.

Mr. EDWARD WHITE examined.

Oct. 4, 1907.

Mr. Edward White.

59244. CHAIRMAN.—You are a member of the Irish Game Protection Association?—Yes. I have been a member of the Committee since the Association started, sixteen years ago.

59245. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—What are its functions?—Its objects are to prevent the extermination of game in Ireland, and, if possible, to increase game.

59246. Is it in the interests of natural history?—It is a purely philanthropic association. Its members are composed of all classes.

59247. I wish to know whether it is in the interests of natural history, or for other purposes. Is it a society of gamekeepers?—It is a society with the object of preventing game from being exterminated. We look upon game as a valuable national asset.

59248. Is it your object to prevent game from being killed?—No; to protect it for legitimate sportsmen.

59249. Mr. O'KELLY.—I suppose it is an association of gentlemen to protect the game for themselves?—That would not be a proper supposition. I have been asked to give evidence on behalf of the Irish Game Protection Association. The Association has always recognised that individual tenant-purchasers, without a common arrangement, would not only find it difficult to protect the game on their holdings, but would also fail to know and appreciate the monetary advantages which lie within their reach, if they did so; and the efforts of the Association have been directed, since the Purchase Act came into force, to endeavor to bring this fact before the purchasing tenant. The evidence of the Rev. Father Kelly, of Innisboffin, in reference to the statement in the Fourteenth Report of the Congested Districts Board,* is unintentionally misleading on this point, as, at the interview referred to in the Report, it was not suggested by the representatives of the Game Protection Association that advantages could be derived by sporting rights being owned by tenant-purchasers, unless there was combination amongst purchasers for the protection of such rights. The object of the interview with the Board referred to was to impress that fact upon them, and the great importance of getting tenants to combine. That interview was one in succession to an interview held by representatives of the Association with the Estates Commissioners, which had exactly the same object in view. The Association was, and is, strongly of opinion that on the accomplishment of sales, whether through Estates Commissioners or Congested District Board, where it has been arranged that the tenants should have the sporting rights, steps should be taken to ensure combination amongst all the purchasing-tenants to protect the game from extermination. In one case, on a large estate, and one of the first purchased by the Congested Districts Board—that was the Dillon Estate—where combination was formed, three members of the Committee of this Association were glad to assist by renting the shooting from the Tenant's Committee at the sum of £50, but they found that owing to want of *complete* combination, whereby two or three of the tenant-purchasers, who had holdings in the centre of the estate refused to join the combination and allowed their lands to be poached, the value of the shooting was practically destroyed. The Association, at its own expense, has prepared and distributed and is distributing, copies of the Epitome of the Game Laws, and also pamphlets and leaflets, showing the value of game to the occupier of land.† It has also prepared a memorandum giving particulars of the benefits of united action, suitable for being disseminated amongst tenant-purchasers who had acquired their sporting rights for use by both the Estates Commissioners and the Congested Districts Board.‡ For this purpose also this Association had a form of deed drawn up by eminent counsel,§ copies of which were supplied to both sides. What use is being made of these forms by these bodies this Association has not ascertained. The Committee have received many applications from tenant-purchasers for guidance and advice, and in every case has given its assistance and encouragement. This Association is a purely philanthropic one; its members comprise all classes of the community, and its *only object* is to protect the game in *this* country, which has been, and is in such danger of extermination. Since its formation, in 1891, it has been doing the work of the Government, in prosecuting poachers and persons who shoot game without licences, and undoubtedly its efforts have prevented game in many districts from being exterminated. The increase of revenue derived by the Government from the additional licences and game certificates taken out, amounts to many thousands of pounds. Since the Association started, the total revenue amounted, approximately, to £300,000. In the last year the increase amounted to approximately £4,000 over the figures of 1891. In each district where an inspector is sent by the Association a noticeable increase in the number of game certificates taken out at once follows with the consequence of additional revenue to the Government. The enormous income paid for game and gun licences in Ireland goes into the English Exchequer (last year it amounted to £23,000), and, so far as the Committee of the Association has been able to ascertain, during its sixteen years' of work, practically no return whatever is made to this country therefor so far as the protection of game is concerned. It is notorious that the efforts of the Excise Officers in Ireland are applied to duties and objects other than enforcing the Excise Laws in regard to game. The police, who have of course, many opportunities of seeing poaching done and game being locally sold, are not encouraged in this country to carry out their duties in enforcing the law. The Committee have received a considerable number of letters from tenant-farmers and tenant-purchasers (many of whom are amongst our members) complaining of poaching being done on their lands, and their inability to prevent it, and there is no doubt but that apart from the question of game, the poaching done on lands, damage to fences, coverts, etc., by poachers, is a serious grievance. There are few countries in the world which lend themselves to the breeding of game and facilities for sport as Ireland, and it is deplorable that the country should lose such a splendid asset through the apathy of the Government.

59250. CHAIRMAN.—When you speak of additional licences and game certificates, do you mean licences to carry a gun?—Licences to carry a gun and to shoot game.

59251. These licences have nothing to do with game?—Unfortunately in this country it is used very generally to kill game, owing to the apathy of the inland revenue.

59252. There was a large increase last year?—Yes; owing to the efforts of our inspectors, whom we sent down. A great number of men who shoot game with a ten shillings licence take out a game licence to avoid being prosecuted.

59253. Would the abandonment of the Act prohibiting the carrying of arms explain the effect to which you refer?—It had no effect at all. The increase was the same before the Act was abandoned as it has been since.

59254. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—This £4,000 increase represents the figures up to the end of last financial year?—Yes.

59255. That is, up to the 31st of March this year?—Yes.

59256. The repeal of the Arms Act took place since?—Yes.

59257. Therefore, it could not possibly have affected the number of licences?—No.

59258. CHAIRMAN.—Then, the whole of the £4,000 increase last year applies before the passing of the Arms Act?—Yes.

59259. Mr. O'KELLY.—In consequence of its repeal you anticipate a large increase in the number of licences?—I don't think so.

59260. Don't you know that in many parts of the country licences were refused by resident magistrates, while now, all that one has to do is to go to the post office, and get a ten shillings licence?—Yes.

59261. CHAIRMAN.—You speak of the evidence of Father Kelly. I don't remember what that was?—He said we thought tenant-farmers were the best game preservers. What we said at the interview with Mr. Wyndham, who was then Chief Secretary, was that disaster would accrue if the tenant-purchasers were not pressed to preserve the game. We said they must combine; without combination it would be impossible, when the lands were cut up among small tenants, to hope for success. That has been proved by the Dillon Estate, which was thought to be such a suitable place to preserve, yet three men, in the centre of the estate, refused to join the combination

* See page 26. Q. 52606 *et seq.*
† See page 293.
‡ See page 298.
§ See page 297.

59262. It hardly helps us to say they must combine. How do you propose to get them to combine?—I think on the acquisition of land by the Board or the Estates Commissioners, whichever body purchases, steps should be taken by them before parting with the land to the tenant to insure that there will be combination of tenants for the protection of game. In regard to farms for which the Commissioners provide the money, we have again and again impressed on the Commissioners the advisability of getting their inspectors to show the tenants the economic advantage of saving the game from extinction. We have pointed out that the game is quite as valuable a national asset as the timber.

59263. Your recommendations only apply to estates sold through the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board?—Yes.

59264. You are not talking of direct sale?—No, because I took it you were not dealing with that.

59265. What you suggest is that where an estate is purchased by the Board or the Commissioners they should undertake the duty of forming some trusteeship?—Yes. For that purpose we prepared those deeds at their request by which the tenants or the persons acquiring the land can join together for the purpose of appointing trustees for the purpose of looking after the matter.

59266. What is to happen if they won't sign these?—Then the game goes. The impression appeared to be that we were preserving game for ourselves. Within the last ten years our subscriptions have exactly doubled, and with the change of land tenure and decline of landlords in this country it is pretty clear we don't get our subscriptions from landlords chiefly. We get them from everybody.

59267. What do you mean by the reference to the excise officers executing duties in regard to game?—I have been shooting for thirty years, and I have never seen an excise officer. It is quite an unusual thing for the ordinary shooting man to have ever seen an excise officer, the reason being that although the laws are the same in this country as in England, they are not enforced in this country. The excise officers apply themselves to other duties, distilleries, and one thing or another, which are more profitable and do not take the trouble of going out on the mountains.

59268. By excise officers do you mean police?—Certainly not.

59269. Under the present law, is it the duty of excise officers to concern themselves with poaching?—It is their duty to see that everybody who shoots game has the £3 game certificate in force for the time being; it is not the duty of the police to do that at all; but in England and Scotland the police are encouraged, and where a policeman sees a man in possession of game he tells the nearest excise officer that he saw so-and-so with game, and subsequently the excise officer prosecutes, and the policeman gives evidence. In Ireland, if a policeman sees anybody with game he does not say anything about it, because he gets no credit from his superiors for doing so.

59270. Mr. Sutherland.—Who encourages them in England?—Their superior officers. In Ireland he does not get any credit for sending in his report.

59271. Mr. O'Kelly.—Do you think it desirable that police should be employed in that work?—I thrashed that out with Mr. Gerald Balfour. He said it was impossible that they should do it. We pointed out that the police, under a former regulation, were directed not to enforce even the Wild Birds Protection Act.

59272. Considering it is no part of their duties, I think it is not desirable that they should do it?—We have never advocated it if we can get the increased excise officers. We are taxed £23,000 a year for the purpose of seeing that the excise officers protect the occupier of land from having his land poached, and we should get some return. £23,000 was paid last year for game and gun licences and there is no *quid pro quo* for that.

59273. Mr. Sutherland.—Don't you get the privilege of shooting?—The land is there. We expect to get some return.

59274. Chairman.—What is the *quid pro quo* you ask for?—The prevention of people who have no game licences from shooting. The majority of Irish farmers do not wish their places to be poached, but at present unauthorised persons come on their land, whether they like it or not, and shoot.

59275. What other body is there except the police to give this protection?—The Treasury, which get £23,000 a year, and make no return, should increase the number of excise officers, and should give instructions to the existing staff to bestir themselves about licence duties. That is what we have been complaining about for sixteen years. There are three classes of tenants in Ireland who are affected by the game question. First, there are the large purchasing tenants of Leinster, of whom there is a considerable number. They have recognised the fact that game is worth a good deal to them, and have joined our body in considerable numbers. The next class is made up of smaller people in the midlands, who are rather apathetic, who should be looked after to induce them to see that it is worth their while to preserve. The third class are the men who live in the west. These men find it to their advantage to preserve the game for the benefit of people who will take it and from whom they derive a large sum. They get well paid for looking after their own place. Neither the men in the west, nor the Leinster men like poachers. In the midlands they are apathetic. All three are neglected by the Government, who get £23,000 a year.

59276. Sir John Colomb.—I understand your object in coming here is in pursuance of the policy which led to the formation of your Association?—Yes.

59277. And in describing the objects, you recognise that game and fish are an element in the national prosperity?—Certainly.

59278. From that point of view, it is desirable that everything reasonable should be done to prevent their extinction, and to encourage their production and maintenance?—That is what we have been aiming at.

59279. May I ask if it is recognised by the Association that in order to carry out that policy you must have the support of the owners and occupiers of the land?—Certainly.

59280. Then I gather from your evidence that to effect this object you have got to encourage a general conception of the advantages to the nation of game and fish?—Yes.

59281. The £23,000 which you refer to, which is collected by the Excise officers in Ireland, goes away and does not come back?—That is so.

59282. Do you advocate that the revenue derived in this way in a given county, say Roscommon, should come back in relief of the rates of that county?—I don't know about the relief of rates, but for the purposes of the county.

59283. Come back to the community in Roscommon?—Certainly.

59284. That would tend to encourage a general appreciation of the value of game and fishing?—Certainly.

59285. And also encourage the desire of people that the highest revenue should be raised in the sense that people should not be allowed to commit breaches of the law by going without licences?—Yes.

59286. They should also recognise this, that when an estate passes into the hands of several, the tenants cannot derive the full benefit from the game if four or five people hold out and won't join?—Yes.

59287. What you desire is to bring about some system for the advantage of the tenants and of the community by producing a combination for the preservation of game; is not that the whole thing?—Yes. I may mention that some of our members have visited England and Wales, and inspected the systems adopted there by occupying tenants in possession of the game rights. Even in the island of Anglesea, which we all know to be about the most desolate part of the world, some tenants there got three shillings per acre. I have shot over one of these farms. The tenant said he got three shillings an acre for the sporting rights of his farm. This farmer has 100 acres, and at this rate he would get £15 a year for allowing a man to walk over his farm for ten days in the autumn. We publish cases of that sort, and send them out in thousands in all quarters, and we have offered them to the Estates Commissioners, and, I think, the Congested Districts Board, to disseminate, with a view to producing among purchasing tenants ideas of raising game for their own advantage.

59288. It ultimately means the advantage of the tenants?—Certainly.

59289. The combination has for its result the preservation of game, but the ultimate result is an advantage for the tenants themselves?—Yes.

Oct. 4, 1907.

Mr. Edward White.

59290. You spoke of deeds and forms you submitted to the Congested Districts Board, and the Estates Commissioners—will you kindly hand them to the secretary?—I have handed them in.

59291. You come here because the tenant farmers and others concerned in your association consider it is a matter to which the Commission should give attention in considering the nature of its report?—Yes; I think they should.

59292. As an important element in the national prosperity and welfare?—Yes. That is the reason.

59292A. Mr. Sutherland.—What is the occasion that arises at present for bringing this matter forward?—The ostensible reason was to correct the statement made by Father Kelly, I believe quite innocently; but I am bound to say we are very anxious to ventilate this question as often as we can, as we think it is a most valuable asset in the country, and most important that it should be preserved and developed.

59293. Was it affected, in your opinion, by the change now in progress, with regard to ownership of land?—No; I don't think so, beyond this, that we think that on the present occasion, when the lands are being transferred from landlord to tenant, and are being cut up, it is of vital importance to bring it forward before the new holders of land, and to show them the advantages of combining among themselves to protect the game for their own advantage.

59294. Nothing beyond that?—That is all.

59295. You have such a mistrust of the purchaser that you think he will not take any interest in preserving the game?—No; but we want to see that he understands his position, and to bring before him what he may do. It is no advantage to us beyond protecting the game.

59296. Protecting the game from extinction, and multiplying the amount of game are two different things?—Yes.

59297. If game has to be killed it matters very little by whom?—It matters nothing to the game.

59298. The game rights are being transferred to the new purchasers along with the land: I am looking at the return in your last report?—It says that out of 1,520 estates which have been sold the tenant-purchasers have acquired the game rights on 1,130.

59299. Does it not necessarily follow the transfer of land?—There is power in the Act to reserve them to the landlord by agreement with the tenants.

59300. How could the old proprietor utilise the game?—He can only effectively have the game rights with the good-will of the people. That was recognised at the time of the passing of the Act, that the landlord who reserved game rights on holdings occupied by other people could not have any adequate return from the game without the good-will of the people.

59301. You put forward the case that tenant-purchasers should utilise the game for their own interests?—Yes. The present occasion is one of particular importance for pressing that matter home. The new purchasers are getting game rights which they had not before, and we want them to understand their position now and not let the game be exterminated; and that to prevent this they should co-operate among themselves for the protection of game.

59302. Beyond calling for the excise officers, what other way do you propose they should co-operate?—They should do what was tried unsuccessfully on the Dillon Estate. On becoming entitled to the possession of the land they should sign such a deed as we have prepared and submitted to the Estates Commissioners and Congested Districts Board, and when the lands are let to any people such as some of our members the money can be divided between them. They can settle all that in the deed which is prepared.

59303. Is it found that the holdings individually are too small to farm out the shooting?—Yes.

59304. Had you any cases of landholders before who had holdings too small to farm the shooting?—No. This is a new condition of things.

59305. The new holders are smaller than anything you had before?—Yes, much.

Mr. Michael Cassidy examined.

Mr. Michael Cassidy.

59306. Chairman.—I think you are engaged fairly largely in the cattle trade?—Yes.

59307. Where do you live?—At Ballyshannon, in the County Donegal.

59308. What do you want to tell the Commission?—I have just made out a written statement here which I will read, and it will save time. I have been engaged in the cattle and fleshing trade for about thirty-seven years, and, in connection with such, I have travelled most of the cattle-rearing and and grazing and feeding districts of Ireland; also Scotland and England, and am familiar with the customs adopted in the different districts of all three countries. As regards the benefits to be obtained by the creation of small holdings in Ireland, I have given the matter a lot of thought, and have come to the conclusion that a far greater amount of wealth would be derived from the country by the creation of such as against the present system of ranches. Small holdings I would describe as from twenty to fifty acres of good to fair land, and all holdings of such size would require to be used different from how the large ranches are used, viz.: a good proportion in tillage for the growing of grain, roots, etc., to be used for fattening cattle. I consider one of the greatest losses Ireland suffers from in the raising of stock is the want of good winter feeding, and the Scotch and English agriculturist benefits by Ireland's loss. It is a common occurrence for small holders in Scotland and England to make a bullock or heifer at twenty months to twenty-four months old worth £20, and I have known cases of twenty months old cattle for commercial purposes, that is, for butchering, making £27 each. Mr. James Shiel, Longniddrie, Haddington, has made such a price of twenty months' old cattle for several years past. Of course, it is a matter of force feeding with roots and oil cake and other grain feeding for the last six months. In the congested districts of Mayo and Sligo cattle are kept to be four or five years old, and often sold as low as £6 to £8. Those cattle are fattened on the large ranches in Meath, Westmeath, County Dublin, and also on some of the best pastures in Roscommon, and large fattening farms all over Ireland. Those people who are rearing and, I may say, starving those cattle in the congested districts for four or five years and selling them at such unremunerative prices as I mentioned above could be learned, by growing winter feeding and getting cattle sheds on their holdings and improving the breeds, to grow cattle at two years old to be worth at least £18, by feeding them to beef and keeping up a regular supply of such beef all the year round, which could be done by the growing of a few acres of Italian grass. By manuring it, three or four cuttings of grass could be obtained from that every year, and the cattle could be infed all the time. In the hill parts of Scotland, say from Perth to Inverness, and further North, where the land is the worst, they raise the best grades of cattle, chiefly polled Angus breeds, and £20 is a common price for two-year-olds of the best class. I can quote a case where forty six-months-old weanling calves, twenty of them kept in Ireland till year-olds, out fed on hay, and as year-olds sent to Scotland, realised £9 10*s.* each. The other twenty were sent to Scotland as half-year-olds and fed by a farmer named Montrose, in Forfarshire, for six months on cut chaff, treacle, straw, turnips, and about two pounds of cotton cake. Both lots were sold at Brechin sale in Forfarshire in April as year-olds. The Irish-wintered twenty made £9 10*s.* each. The Scotch-wintered lot made £13 5*s.* each. I learned the cost of the Scotch-wintered lot per week was 2*s.* 3*d.* I don't know what the Irish-wintered lot cost, but I should think it would be very near as much, and the strange part of it was that, as a matter of live-weight for money, the Scotch-wintered lot cost less per cwt. than the others. There is a great loss sustained by cattle breeders in Ireland by the way they allow their cattle to deteriorate from November to May.

59309. Chairman.—How old?—These graziers in the West of Ireland leave the cattle out all the winter and give them hay. Weigh a bullock and find him ten cwt. in November and subject him to the ordinary process of out-wintering with hay when the weather is bad. Weigh him again the following May and

u will find him eight cwt., that is two cwt. of his st valuable quality lost (viz.: flesh), and it takes y, June, July, and August, to make that up again. Scotland the farmers never allow such a waste take place. They keep increasing the weight all e time and bring about maturity much earlier than Ireland. Of course, without shelter, sheds and ts and artificial food the Irish farmers could not what Scotch farmers do. When I speak of Scotch rmers I can vouch for the best. The results I have oted are from the small farmer on the worst lands. e big farmer does not breed cattle. He buys Irish efly for fattening. I also maintain that it is ing to the regular supply of Danish butter that put on the English and Scotch markets that it can mmand a better price than Irish butter, as provision lers told me they can only obtain Irish supplies a few months in the summer, and Danish is to be all the year round, because it is a tillage country, d they grow roots to provide winter feeding. irying and stock-rearing go hand in hand, and it on small holdings the best results of both dairying d stock-rearing can be produced, but any cattle red on such small holding should be fattened and reby make manure to feed the farm, and there uld be no reason for letting any but the producer ve any benefit out of the stock. And if such a rse were adopted, owing to the demand that exists beef of early maturity as against the old descrip- n at present producing in Ireland, Irish beef could made to put the American out of our best markets, t as the Scotch beef commands such a big price London over any other country's production, chiefly ing to its early maturity. By the division of the ge grazing farms into small agricultural farms land would give employment to more than twice at it is doing at present, with a result that shop- pers and all others would benefit, as population ans wealth to any country, and it would keep the ple at home at a healthy occupation who unfor- ately have, in most cases, to be satisfied with the rest employments in the large towns of Great itain.

59310. CHAIRMAN.—I think you have given your dence in a most interesting way. You say you live Donegal?—Yes.

59311. Do you know Connaught? Do you know the nditions of the trade in Connaught?—I do, in all land, my lord.

59312. Well, now, we have been told that if you re to break up the grass lands of Connaught the ple that would be put upon them would not graze, t they would breed cattle. What is your view about at?—I do not believe anything of the sort. They uld not do without breeding cattle on these lands, t they would improve it by breaking a certain rtion of it. I would not say they would break all it. They might break one-third of the farm in ne cases, when they would be educated to it, but y would require some little training in Connaught, Connaught has gone out of cultivation for the last ntury.

59313. The system you advocate is a system very ferent from that which is now carried on in Ire- nd?—Certainly.

59314. Therefore, in order to make the most of a tem of small holders, you would have to educate e people to the system that is practised in Scotland to the stall-feeding system?—Yes, the stall-feeding tem.

59315. Pending that—which must take time to nge the course of trade—do you think that there uld be any danger of the price of stock going down the elimination of the grazier, if the production stores was greatly increased?—Not at all, my lord, cause the small farmer would be educated to turn se cattle out at two, or two-and-a-half years old, ere the grazier lets them run about on the ranches til they are four or five years old.

59316. I quite understand your point, but the stion is—while you are teaching the people to that, what is to happen?—It would not take very g. my lord, to do that. In a few years the people uld be all into it, when they would find it would to their own benefit. But you must give them way first; you must give them the land first do it.

59317. Your plan involves a considerable amount of llage in order to grow the green food for winter ding?—Yes.

59318. Do you think there is anything in this contention that is put before us that a great deal of these grass lands in Connaught are not suitable for tillage?—I know Roscommon as well as any man reared in it, and there is some of the best tillage land in Connaught you would get in Ireland.

59319. Do you say most of the land would be suitable for tilling?—I would not say all, but the greater part of it is.

59320. Your system involves a certain amount of tillage and a certain amount of grass—a mixed system?—Yes, mixed farming.

59321. Would you advocate, for instance, in Roscommon that only the lands suitable for tillage should be broken up?—Yes, lands suitable for tillage.

59322. Very well, then. Does not that mean this, that when these holdings are being apportioned, care must be taken that a certain amount of the land is tillage land and a certain amount pasture land?—Yes. When they are being divided I should suggest that should be done.

59323. You would have to go that. You could not take forty acres haphazard, and put a man down on them without previous inquiry as to whether the land was suitable for tillage or not?—No.

59324. For instance, if you were a man looking for grass land for the purpose of a system such as you would advocate, it would not satisfy you that you could have fifty acres in the heart of Roscommon. You would want to know what sort of land that was. Wouldn't you?—Yes; but there are parts of the land of Roscommon here that would not suit for tillage. It is limestone rock land, but the best of grazing land.

59325. What would you do with it? Suppose you divide it up into twenty or thirty or forty acre farms?—Give a man portion of this land and some of the tillage land as well.

59326. Yes. But in order to do that you must have tillage contiguous to the good pasture land—lying alongside or convenient to the good pasture land?—You must.

59327. As a matter of fact, is that the case?—Yes; you would want to have it adjoining each other.

59328. Can you find that in Roscommon?—Yes, any amount. Take from here to Carrick-on-Shannon, and from that to Roscommon town and on to Elphin, there is any amount of it.

59329. My point is this. If you divide all this grass land into fifty-acre holdings, could you ensure that convenient to all the pasturage, which you yourself say ought not to be broken up, there should be tillage land as well?—Yes. I would advocate, on a man getting such a farm, that there should be some tillage along with it.

59330. But the question is whether it is possible to do it—whether it is possible to find the tillage land so situated that it can be added conveniently to the pasturage land?—Well, I believe there is plenty of it in Roscommon. I do not think there would be any difficulty.

59331. Is the pasture land and the tillage land intermixed—are they together?—Yes, you would get a portion of tillage, and then a piece of limestone rock land convenient to it, and then parts with good deep soil.

59332. You say you live in Donegal. Can the small holders of Donegal, living on the land which you usually find in Donegal—can they do what you suggest—can they in-feed cattle? Is the land good enough for that?—They do not adopt that system.

59333. Could they?—I believe they could.

59334. Would it be possible for them to do it?—They could do it.

59335. Take a man with thirty or forty acres, or fifty acres, partly mountain and partly tillage, such as you get now in parts of Donegal. In your opinion could he carry on his operations upon the Scotch system?—He certainly could.

59336. You think there would be enough tillage to supply him with green stuffs for the winter?—Certainly. I may mention there that they do not raise enough cattle in the West of Ireland. They get them from the congested districts of Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, and some other Northern counties. There come hundreds of them every season to be sold in Mayo and Galway and parts of Roscommon.

59337. You think there is no reason why those people in the congested areas of Western Donegal should not be able to keep their cattle right up to

Oct. 4, 1907.

Mr. Michael Cassidy

the time they are fit for the butcher?—Certainly. The place I mention, between Perth and Inverness, is the wildest district you could travel through, and the people there feed the cattle the way I say. They give them cut grass in the summer, and they are able to turn their two or three cattle out fat, and they rear them from calves.

59338. I was just going to ask you about that. What sort of sized holdings are those between Perth and Inverness?—Well, some of them might have 100 acres of mountain, and bits of arable lands throughout, here and there. It is more or less right up through the glens from Perth to Inverness. It is all mountainous with little patches of broken land in the valleys and through the hills.

59339. What do you think is the capital involved in one of these holdings? How much do you think it has cost one of those people to put up the buildings?—Well, in some of the places there, you know it is the landlord erects the buildings.

59340. What does it cost the landlord? What is the cost?—Well, at least some of them, from £300 to £600 and £700, according to the size.

59341. Take a typical size. Say a man with 100 acres—half mountainy land, and a certain amount of pasturage and tillage mixed up with it. What should you say?—Well, between £300 and £400 worth of buildings.

59342. Therefore, in order to carry out this system successfully in Ireland, considerable loans or grants would have to be made to the small holders who seek to establish it?—Well, I suggest so. Give them a certain time to pay it back as a loan.

59343. If a man had fifty acres of land in Roscommon and wanted to carry on the cattle trade on the lines you advocate, how much capital do you think he would want?—Well, I would say that he would want £700 or £800 on a large farm.

59344. Fifty acres, I say. What would he want for that?—Well, I should say he could start in life very well on £500 or £600.

59345. I think you would certainly amaze the Lords of the Treasury if they heard you. Well, now with regard to the loss between November and May, I understood your point was that here there is not sufficient green feeding given to the cattle during the winter?—Yes.

59346. That they are kept out too much—that they are allowed to pick up what they can outside?—Yes.

59347. And that therefore they lose condition which it takes half the summer to recoup?—They lose the flesh, which is the most valuable part.

59348. Do you carry on this system in Donegal yourself. Do you in-feed much?—I live on a farm of about fifty or sixty acres.

59349. And do you do this?—I do a little at it, but not much. I am a good deal engaged in the shipping business, but I do about six or seven acres of green crops.

59350. You do not do much in the way of breeding cattle yourself?—I do not breed many.

59351. You buy them as stores?—Yes.

59352. And keep them and ship them off to Scotland?—Yes.

59353. Your land is really a location for the stores until you can ship them?—Yes.

59354. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You think that Ireland would be far more prosperous if broken up into twenty-acre or fifty-acre holdings?—Yes.

59355. Do you foresee, if that was carried out, any difficulty with regard to labour?—I believe that a lot of the young people would stop at home if they got employment.

59356. I understand you distinctly to tell Lord Dudley that in order to give a man a fifty-acre holding he ought to have some hundred pounds capital?—Well, to get on well from the start. He might do with less. Many a man started with small capital and succeeded, but in order to get on it would be better to have £500 or £600 to erect houses and everything like that.

59357. Taking the illustration you gave of from Perth to Inverness, Lord Dudley asked you about the housing, and I won't ask you any more about that. But, on the hundred-acre holding and working on that system, what proportion of that hundred acres would be in tillage?—Well, I would say it depends on the quality of the land. I would say twenty or thirty acres. If a lot of the land was adapted for bringing forward cattle in good condition, I would not till so much. But, in order to have them in good condition during the winter months and keep flesh on them, you could not do it without having some tillage.

59358. You dwelt very strongly on the importance, and I agree with you entirely, of having a rotation of grass?—Yes.

59359. Isn't it the custom of this country that very little rotation of grass is used on the small holdings?—No, it is not used.

59360. And there is a tremendous loss on the small holdings because that is not done?—I do not think it is done in any place in Ireland that I know of, but it is done in Scotland.

59361. Where a man has broken up land, and wants to get it into grass again, what is the custom in Roscommon? Is it the same as in other parts of Ireland, where, instead of putting in grass-seed, they let nature sow it. Is that the case?—There is hardly anything tilled in Roscommon except the bogs and the bad land. You will see no good land tilled. I am going through it thirty-five or thirty-seven years, and I never saw any good land tilled in Roscommon.

59362. May I take it, with regard to the small holders not sowing rotation grass, that it is an indication of the want of knowledge of the simple feature of agriculture?—Yes.

59363. Now, I would like to ask you another question. In your experience—a very wide one evidently—do you think the yearlings that the small farmers are now compelled to sell are as forward and as good as they ought to be?—They are not.

59364. Therefore, if you are going to commence a process of improving knowledge of agriculture, would not the first thing be to teach the small farmer the importance of doing their yearlings well, and growing rotation grass?—Yes.

59365. Do you think a man who moves from a small holding in Roscommon and does not do that, and you plant him on a fifty-acre holding in Roscommon—do you think him likely to succeed when on his own small holding, he does not make the best of it?—He wants to be educated. I would suggest that there should be a model farm in each county subsidised by the Government to educate the present generation in that. A lot of people in Roscommon have never seen it at all.

59366. And is it not human nature that when people are accustomed to go on in a certain way it takes a very considerable time to alter their habits—Not so long, when they find it is to their own benefit.

59367. May I take it, or do you wish me not to take it, that, in order to make a success of a policy of acquiring grass lands and breaking them up in small portions, it must be in the nature of things a gradual process—a policy of taking small holdings from one district into another on to fifty-acre holdings. As you admit the small holders now have no agricultural knowledge, don't you also admit that progress should be gradual and slow?—I think such a policy should be carried out as speedily as possible within reasonable limits. Give the people the land and the chance of bettering themselves, and they will soon learn what to do.

59368. Do you consider—if you do I agree with you—that really the Irish butter is handicapped against the Danish butter by the absence of constancy of supply?—That is what some of the provision merchants in Scotland and England tell me, that the people get used to the Danish butter for the want of the supply of the other, and then they keep to it.

59369. And in order to have a better supply in the winter you must grow rotation grass?—Yes.

59370. And you must grow other things such as green crops?—Yes.

59371. And therefore, if the butter supply of Ireland is to be improved in this competition against Danish butter, is it not an extremely important thing that the small holders now existing should be better educated in the rudiments of agriculture as regards growing green crops and the rotation of grass?—Yes, and that could be met by local committees appointed in every rural district. Let each district form a committee of its own.

59372. Quite so. And therefore it is the first and very desirable that the new Department of Agriculture should promote the education of the small holders of Ireland?—Certainly.

59373. But is it not the case that until they are so educated by the efforts and the action of the Agricultural Department, which are excellent—

il they are so educated, to try a very big experi-
ht of shifting them on to good land, must be
iously done?—Of course, at the present time here
Roscommon the small farmers are all on the bad
d, and in a very short time they would get into
way of managing the better land, when they would
it would be to their own advantage.

quite agree, thank you.

9374. Mr. SUTHERLAND—I wish to ask you one
ion. You have heard of the evidence given before
here, as well as the evidence given in other places
ut land being too good for tillage. Do you agree in
view that the land in Roscommon, which is now under grass, is so because it is too good to be tilled?—I do not agree. Of course, there is some land better for tillage than others. But Roscommon is adapted for tillage on account of it being almost all limestone. Limestone land is always good for tillage, and the most part of Roscommon is limestone.

59375. So you do not agree?—I do not.

59376. With regard to the other questions and matters you have stated, you have been so well informed with reference to Scotland, which I also know so well, that I have no further questions to ask you. I appreciate your excellent knowledge?—Thanks for your good opinion.

Mr. DANIEL BEIRNE examined.

3377. CHAIRMAN.—Kindly state what you wish to
g before us?—I represent the Croghan Division in
Boyle No. 1 Rural District Council. I am
norary Secretary to the Boyle Town Tenants for
purchase of their town premises under the Land
of 1903. As Honorary Secretary I took a promi-
t part in establishing last year an agricultural
w in Boyle. I have been put forward by the
ghan Branch of the United Irish League to re-
sent their district before this Commission. The
ision which I represent might be taken as fairly
ical of the district which lies between Eastersnow
Elphin, and Carrick-on-Shannon and French-
k. The Croghan Division mostly coincides with
Croghan Estate of Mr. Lloyd. The following are
valuation statistics of the agricultural holdings
tenants—There are forty-one tenants holding under
valuation; forty-three between £5 and £10;
nty-five holding between £10 and £15; twenty-two
ding £15 and £25; eleven between £25 and £50;
e between £50 and £100, and six over £100.
re are 615 acres of non-residential grass lands on
King-Harman Estate, stretching by the boundary
my division, and these lands should be parcelled
among the smaller tenants on the Lloyd Estate.
se who get slices of the grazing lands should be put
ler obligation to till a goodly proportion of them.
lage and co-operation I hold to be the saving planks
the future Irish agriculturalists. A great respon-
lity rests with the Department to educate the
ple in the best methods of farm culture. I con-
r no serious effort has yet been attempted. Sub-
ntial premiums should be given to encourage more
l better tillage. Public money could be spent to
antage around Croghan in a scheme of main
inage. The establishment of agricultural banks
a need of the times. I remember a speech of the Chairman, when he was Lord Lieutenant, in which he said that the Government should invest public money in developing the resources of the country—not like gombeen usurers for the best return of interest on their particular purposes—but for National and Imperial advantages. The governors of the country should not only think—they should invest—"Imperially." That was a patriotic sentiment worthy of the speaker, and found a re-echo in my heart. The splitting up of the grass lands may be expected to get rid of a chronic evil and may give an impetus to agricultural activity if more tillage be insisted on, but without the hum of the factory and workshop we shall still lamentably lag behind countries less favoured by nature, but encouraged and protected by the fostering care of their paternal governments. Some connecting link of railway between Boyle and Roscommon town is much required. At present our district is practically disfranchised at the County Council and Technical Committee owing to the difficulty and expense of going to Roscommon. In the encouragement of industries the Department has been a great disappointment. Some few years ago the Rev. Canon Coyne, of Boyle, I, and some others, proposed the establishing of a co-operative bacon-curing factory in Boyle. I, as Honorary Secretary, made strong appeals to the Department for financial aid towards our organising efforts, but only to get a blank refusal. I really think if we are to be treated in the future in that way the establishment of pioneer industries will be an impossibility. But I expect more enlightened views from Mr. T. W. Russell. The Government is responsible for the Irish problem, and there is a large balance due to us for over-taxation, and a refund should be made for public works, developments, and industrial enterprises.

Mr. JOSEPH FEELY examined.

59378. CHAIRMAN.—Where do you reside?—Liscor.
nerely come to give some evidence about the Di-
ion I represent. It is a congested Division, and the
dlords claim twenty-seven years' purchase of second
m rents.

59379. Who are the landlords?—Mr. Bowen and Mr.
hite. We held a meeting of tenants on the 21st
August, and they came to the conclusion they
uld buy through either the Estates Commissioners
the Congested Districts Board, as they knew from
r Antony MacDonnell that if the Board bought it they could be relieved on the outside farms in the most convenient places, and could be scheduled as a congested division. We wrote to the agent, and he replied stating that the landlord had no intention of selling his estate either to the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board.

59380. You want either the Estates Commissioners or the Board to buy?—Yes, because the holdings are miserably small.

59381. You want them to buy because you think a lot of improvement is required on the estate?—Yes.

Mr. JOHN DRURY examined.

59382. CHAIRMAN.—Where do you live?—Two miles
om here. I represent the Poor Law Division of
annagh and the Boyle Division on the County
uncil. There is no use in repeating the statistics
out the congested districts; but there is one thing,
think, which does not get the attention it ought to
ceive, and that is the rating question and the man-
r in which rates on houses affect poor men on
all holdings in comparison with non-residential
ms with no houses. The principle is important
affecting poor people, and if legislation could be
troduced changing the principle that came in with
e Act of 1898 it would be a help to con-
sted districts to an appreciable extent. I will give an illustration to explain what I mean. In the townland of Tivannagh the valuation on house property or property described as "other hereditaments" is £27 10*s.*, and the valuation of land £76 15*s.*, making a total of £104 5*s.* The acreage of the townland is 256 statute acres. Contrast that with the farm of Keelogues, 140 acres, valuation £104 on land and 10*s.* on other hereditaments. In one case the tenants, nineteen in number, pay rates to the amount of £13 7*s.* 1½*d.* at the current rate in this county, and the non-residential occupier only pays on a similar valuation £11 6*s.* 8*d.*, leaving a balance against the poor tenants of £2 0*s.* 5½*d.* The difference is

Oct 4, 1907.

Mr John Drury.

due to the fact that the rate on houses is 3*s*. 8*d*., and on land is 2*s*. 2*d*. ; so that the greater the valuation of house property the greater the rate.

59383. There is no house on the grazing ranch?—Yes, the herd's house, valued at 10*s*., and the poor man has erected his house and offices at an expenditure of labour and capital, and he is taxed upon his own industry if he improves his house and offices to such an extent that they can be increased in valuation. He is naturally reluctant to do so if he brings a tax on himself.

59384. Mr. O'Kelly.—Do you think in a case of this kind the eleven months occupier should get the benefit of the agricultural grant?—I don't think he should, if it was a matter to be considered in that way. I think that the amount of rates these non-residential occupiers pay should be equivalent to the rate the poor tenant pays on house property, that would be at the current rate in Roscommon 3*s*. 8*d*. in the £, because they don't deserve the relief they get. It puts a premium on the existence of large farms. If these farms had to pay higher rates there would be a greater disposition to let them pass to the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board for the improvement of the congested districts. These are things that might naturally be considered by the Commission as being in the interests of the poor in the congested districts. There is another point in connection with the question of new tenants. Suppose untenanted land came into the hands of the Congested Districts Board or the Estates Commissioners in a selection of new tenants for this land it would be advisable to insure that they were bona-fide farmers, or at least people who derived their living mainly from agricultural pursuits, because it might be possible that people who would otherwise be ineligible for these farms might be inclined to make some jobbery, that is people might be returned as tenants of holdings who would get possession merely for the purpose of selling out in a couple of years time and securing a profit for themselves. This thing has happened on this property.

59385.—Chairman.—Tell us about that?—It is a case where a piece of untenanted land was divided, and one of the tenants who got possession of a new holding and was returned as tenant of it retired from it and disposed of his interest in it a couple of years afterwards.

59386. Whom did he dispose of it to?—By public auction to another tenant. In these cases the tenant farmer should get the preference when new tenancies are created in these holdings, instead of men who have the occupation of tradesmen or are living by other means.

59387. Was this other man a shopkeeper or tradesman?—I believe he was a retired school-teacher or something like that.

59388. Mr. O'Kelly.—Where was the land situate?—Just outside the township boundary.

59389. Sir John Colomb.—Would you be in favour of legislation which would prohibit the new tenant put by the State on land from selling his interest for a certain term of years?—Yes, except that if he expended capital for improvements at any time he ought to be compensated if he wished to relinquish his right or claim as a tenant, but it is not right that he should be able to dispose of his interest at the end of two years without it ever costing him a penny.

59390. Mr. Sutherland.—Was that holding purchased by a loan of public money?—It was Government money advanced to buy out the landlord's interest. It was divided by the Estates Commissioners' inspector.

59391. Then it was given to the man subject to an annuity?—Yes.

59392. Does not the selling authority maintain some control as long as the annuity is due?—Of course they do, but they seldom make objection to a tenant selling his interest, but it is hard to see a person who gets five or six acres of land, and then without it costing him a penny, he is able to dispose of his interest for £200.

59393. Do the Estates Commissioners not retain to themselves the power of saying who is to be the successor?—Of course they do.

The Commission adjourned.

INDEX TO APPENDICES.

Page

Appendix I.—Document put in by Mr. Henry Burke in connection with the evidence given by him before the Commission.

Notes of Evidence, ... 273

Appendix II.—Document put in by Mrs. Caroline Blake.

Notes on conditions of life in Renvyle, ... 275

Appendix III.—Document put in by Mr. Denis Kirwan.

Payments of Rents on Estates managed by Witness, . . . 276

Appendix IV.—Documents put in by the Right Hon. Viscount Gough.

A. Report of Dr. Gentrsch on Consolidation of Holdings, ... 277

B. Laws of Saxony with regard to Agricultural and Peasantry Holdings. . . 277

Appendix V.—Documents put in by the Right Hon. The Lord Ashtown.

A. Summary Table showing Gross Rents, Arrears, and Salaries on the Woodlawn Estate, 285

B. Particulars as to Uneconomic Holdings in Woodlawn, ... 285

C. Sums allowed for Improvements, ... 287

D. Agricultural Tenants who also work as Labourers, ... 287

Appendix VI.—Documents put in by Mr. J. P. Hayden.

A. Reduction in number of Habitations in County Roscommon between 1841–1901, . 288

B. Valuations of Agricultural Holdings in certain Rural Districts of Roscommon, . 289

C. Special comparisons as to Agricultural Land and Grazing Land, . . . 289

Appendix VII.—Documents put in by Lieut.-Col. Hutcheson-Poë.

A. Notes of Evidence, ... 290

B. Sales of Tenants' Interests on Witness's Estate, ... 291

C. Area and Valuation of certain Holdings on Witness's Estate, ... 291

Appendix VIII.—Documents put in by Mr. John Fitzgibbon.

Statement as to Valuation and Area of Agricultural Holdings in Co. Roscommon (excluding towns), ... 292

Appendix IX.—Documents put in by Mr. Edward White.

A. Leaflets as to Preservation of Game in Ireland, ... 293

B. The £ *s. d.* of Sporting Rights, ... 295

C. Draft Deed of Conveyance of Sporting Rights, ... 297

D. Memorandum for Instruction of Tenants who have acquired the Sporting Rights on their Holdings, ... 298

E. Extract from the Sixteenth Annual Report of the Irish Game Protection Association, 299

Appendix IXa.—Map put in by the Congested Districts Board.

Map showing Estates purchased by the Board in County Roscommon, . . *to face* 300

APPENDICES.

Appendix X.—STATISTICAL ABSTRACT FOR COUNTY GALWAY.

Page

A. Prefatory Note, ... 302

B. General Statistical Information about County Galway, ... 302

C. Return showing Population Area, and Valuation of each Union in County Galway containing Congested Districts, ... 303

D. Return showing Population and Valuation in 1891 and 1901 of each Electoral Division Scheduled as Congested, ... 304

E. Ratio of the Population to Valuation in certain Electoral Divisions, . . . 305

F. Statistics relating to the Number, Acreage, Valuation and Population of various classes of holdings, and to the chief divisions of the land in County Galway, . . . 310

G. Tables showing the working of the Land Acts in County Galway, ... 345

H. Statement showing by Unions and Electoral Divisions the Estates purchased by the Congested Districts Board in County Galway, ... 347

I. Parish Committee Grants and Expenditure in County Galway, ... 348

J. Statement of Parish Committee Schemes and Sanitary Expenditure in County Galway, 348

K. Fishery Statistics of County Galway, ... 349

L. Statement showing Expenditure of Congested Districts Board on Piers, Roads, Bridges, &c., in County Galway, ... 349

M. Local Taxation in County Galway:—

1. Poor Rate in each Electoral Division in 1881 and 1891, ... 351

2. County Cess in each Barony in 1891, ... 353

3. Poor Rate in each Rural District in 1901, ... 354

4. Poor Rate in each Rural District in 1905, ... 354

5. Salaries under Public Health Acts, ... 355

6. Expenditure on Labourers' Cottages, ... 355

7. Receipts and Expenditure of each District Council and balances of Loans due, . 356

8. Particulars of the balances of Loans due by the County Council, . . 356

9. Particulars of the Receipts of the County Council, ... 357

10. Particulars of the Expenditure of the County Council, ... 357

N. Number of tenements of one room and number of occupants of such tenements in 1901, 358

O. Ages of persons in each County District, ... 363

P. Occupations of the people, ... 364

Q. Occupiers of land engaged in other pursuits besides farming, ... 365

R. Emigration from County Galway, 1851-1906, ... 365

S. State-aided Emigration, ... 366

T. Agricultural Statistics:— Page APPENDICES.

1. Extent of land under crops in each Union, ... 367
2. Produce of the crops in each Union, ... 367
3. Number of Stockholders and quantity of live stock in each Union, . . 368
4. Quantity of live stock in each year from 1896–1905, ... 369
5. Number of holdings and extent of land under each crop in each year from 1896–1905, ... 369
6. Average rates of produce in each year from 1896–1905, . . . 369
7. Proportion of land in each Union under Crops, ... 370
8. Statement as to sires, bulls, and boars, ... 370
9. Area under each variety of potatoes and average rate of produce, . . 370
10. Bee-keeping statistics, ... 371
11. Area planted with trees, and area cleared in 1905, ... 371

U. Wages of Agricultural Labourers in 1905, ... 371

V. Information as to Schemes of Department operating in County Galway, . . 372

W. Note on Migratory Labourers, ... 375

X. Statistics of Co-operative Societies:—

1. Creameries, ... 376
2. Agricultural Credit Societies, ... 376

Y. Statement of Accounts of Loan Funds working in County Galway, . . . 377

Z. Return of Untenanted Land in County Galway, ... 378

Appendix XI.—STATISTICAL ABSTRACT FOR COUNTY ROSCOMMON.

A. Prefatory Note, ... 415

B. General Statistical Information about County Roscommon, ... 415

C. Return showing Population, Area, and Valuation of each Union in County Roscommon containing Congested Districts, ... 416

D. Return showing Population and Valuation in 1891 and 1901 of each Electoral Division Scheduled as Congested, ... 417

E. Ratio of the Population to Valuation in certain Electoral Divisions, . . 418

F. Statistics relating to the Number, Acreage, Valuation, and Population of various classes of holdings, and to the chief divisions of the Land in County Roscommon, . 420

G. Tables showing the working of the Land Acts in County Roscommon, . . . 439

H. Statement showing by Unions and Electoral Divisions the Estates purchased by the Congested Districts Board in County Roscommon, ... 441

I. Parish Committee Grants and Expenditure in County Roscommon, . . . 442

J. Statement of Parish Committee Schemes and Sanitary Expenditure in County Roscommon, ... 442

K. Statement showing Expenditure of Congested Districts Board on Roads, Bridges, &c., in County Roscommon, ... 442

APPENDICES.

Page

L. Local Taxation in County Roscommon:—
1. Poor Rate in each Electoral Division in 1881 and 1891, ... 443
2. County Cess in each Barony in 1891, ... 444
3. Poor Rate in each Rural District in 1901, ... 445
4. Poor Rate in each Rural District in 1905, ... 445
5. Salaries under Public Health Acts, ... 446
6. Expenditure on Labourers' Cottages, ... 446
7. Receipts and Expenditure of each District Council and balances of Loans due, . . 447
8. Particulars of the balances of Loans due by the County Council, ... 447
9. Particulars of Receipts of County Council, ... 448
10. Particulars of Expenditure of County Council, ... 448

M. Number of Tenements of one room and number of Occupants of such tenements in 1901, . . 449

N. Ages of persons in each County District, ... 452

O. Occupations of the people, ... 453

P. Occupiers of land engaged in other pursuits besides farming, ... 454

Q. Emigration from County Roscommon, 1901–1906, ... 454

R. State-aided Emigration, ... 455

S. Agricultural Statistics:—
1. Extent of land under crops in each Union, ... 456
2. Produce of crops in each Union, ... 456
3. Number of Stockholders and quantity of live stock in each Union, ... 457
4. Quantity of live stock in each year from 1896–1905, ... 458
5. Number of holdings and extent of land under each crop in each year from 1896–1905, . 458
6. Average rates of produce in each year from 1896–1905, ... 458
7. Proportion of land in each Union under crops, ... 459
8. Statement as to sires, bulls, and boars, ... 459
9. Area under each variety of Potatoes and average rate of produce, ... 459
10. Bee-keeping Statistics, ... 460
11. Area planted with trees and area cleared, ... 460

T. Wages of agricultural labourers in 1905, ... 460

U. Information as to Schemes of Department operating in County Roscommon, 1906, . . 461

V. Note on Migratory Labourers, ... 463

W. Statistics of Co-operative Societies:—
1. Creameries, ... 464
2. Agricultural Credit Societies, ... 464
3. Home Industries Societies, ... 464

X. Statement of Accounts of Loan Funds working in County Roscommon, . . . 465

Y. Return of Untenanted Land in County Roscommon, ... 466

APPENDIX I.

DOCUMENT put in by Mr. HENRY A. BURKE.

OUTLINES OF EVIDENCE.

desire to offer some evidence on the kelp industry, ch was formerly a staple industry on many parts the Irish coast. Its decline has been a very serious ter. At one time I believe that good kelp fetched) or £12 a ton, and even when other ways of aining iodine were discovered it was worth about per ton.

t is an industry which could be so worked as to vide means of employment for the various mem- s of a family. It is, therefore, of importance to whether it could not be re-started, even under sting conditions, so as to produce a price which uld pay for the labour expended on its manufac- e. It is noteworthy that the industry is not dead. withstanding the competition of other articles, p is still made and sold at various places along coast. It, therefore, seems well worth trying ether, by a little assistance from the Government, educating the workers into adopting better thods, and, above all, by inducing them to abstain m processes which injure the market value of the icle (such as allowing it to get mixed with sand or vel), the industry might not again become a widely- tended and paying one.

The trade exists in two forms—(1) The sale of anufactured kelp, and (2) the sale of the best de- iption of the weed (known as "Coughlagh") in a ied condition. There is no difficulty in collecting is particular description of the weed, for it grows itself in distinct patches. It is desirable, how- er, and even necessary, that it should be dried pidly, and good help might be given to the people providing large drying sheds of a simple and in- pensive type.

I believe that this kelp-making industry, coupled th fishing, was the original cause of the large pulation in many congested districts along the ast.

I once managed a kelp agency myself for four years, ving had a good deal of experience for several years ior to that date, so that I have had every oppor- nity of studying the process of production.

My district extended along the coast from the outh of the Killery Bay to High Island and the ands of Boffin, Shark, and Innishturk. £6 10*s.* £7 per ton is the highest price I remember; it opped to about £4 or £4 10*s.* when iodine was dis- vered in mines somewhere in South America (I ink). In addition to the dropping in the price, season for making kelp was shortened to a couple months in the year, from about the end of April the end of June. (I remember when it was pur- ased up till October, or as long as the weed could dried sufficiently for burning.)

For the last twenty-five or thirty years the business s been dwindling; the short season in addition to w prices, did not allow of the people making enough lp to make it pay.

For over forty years the kelp made all over Ire- nd has been, I may say, purchased by one firm in otland. I remember when other firms started, but ey did not last long, being put out of the market the old-standing firm. Like other products, there a good and bad kelp. When competition set in lp makers increased the adulteration, and what the firm would not purchase, except at a very low re (some at no price), was sold to the new com- anies. Many a bad load has gone to them from the ast I managed, which I found after testing was not orth more than a certain price, or perhaps worth othing to my firm. (I worked for the old firm.)

Kelp in these days, and ever since other sources of ocuring iodine were discovered, must contain a very rge proportion of iodine to be profitable. There re by-products from kelp; I think black bottles and ap and some kinds of soda; but my knowledge on is point ends with putting kelp on board a coaster r Glasgow.

The entire coast from which the company got its supply was superintended by a Mr. John Stephens in my time. He visited all the agencies frequently during the season, tested and took samples of the kelp, compared prices to see that too high a price was not given by the local agents, and that the bad kelp was not purchased. The kelp-makers of those days depended entirely, I may say, on drift-weed for supply. To remedy this I remember Mr. Stephens tried all he could, even to the extent of advancing money to purchase boats, or getting the landlords to assist in supplying boats, in order to start the people to cut the weed, instead of depending on the mere drift. This ended in failure; the people could not be got to change from the old way, or add to their profits by cutting.

I believe one ton of kelp made from cut weed is worth two made from drift, especially after 1st June.

Certain other weeds produce no iodine, but these unprofitable weeds make much harder kelp than the iodine-producing weed. Agents had to constantly visit the different shores to see that the people did not save the bad weed, and when found either have it destroyed or find out the people who were saving it. This was done more in the people's interest than anything else, as an experienced agent could tell by testing if bad weed had been used. In fact, in most cases I could tell before testing, and it was only where bad weed was used that I tested, so as to convince the seller that I knew what had been done.

Another trouble was sand and stones. Kelp was burned on a sandy beach, so that sand and small gravel stuck to the bottom of the kelp to the extent of one or two or more inches, and some round stones would get in somehow into the centre of the blocks; in such cases the agent had to make deductions in weight for sand, etc., or impose a fine where kelp was burned on certain shores ordered to be excluded.

Kelp absorbs moisture even in the store, and it was often left out too long after burning, and not properly covered before bringing to the stores. This had to be taken into account in the weight, as it injured the quality.

If the kelp industry was properly worked I believe the profits would far exceed those expected from the fishing industry.

A chemical factory could be started in some central place on the coast, say Westport or Sligo, and then develop the cutting of weed. In my time if the weed was cut it had to be cut out of an open three-ton boat, with a large hook like a reaping hook with curved irons to catch the weed; this was attached to a long pole which it took two or three men to work. One boat-load would be as much as could be got at a tide, as it had to be cut at low water.

Means of procuring this weed on a large scale with less labour could be devised, just as steam trawlers have come in to supersede the old ways of fishing. There are plenty of people who know how to burn kelp, so the young men would not have much difficulty in learning.

If the kelp industry was revived I believe the population in these congested districts would be doubled. I also believe that if the Government or the Congested Districts Board insist on removing these people, and that later on what I propose is done, those removed will either sell or leave the land given to them, and go back to their old quarters, and follow the business of their forefathers.

Although weed grows along most shores on the West and North Coast, it only drifts into certain places in rough weather. I suppose this is owing to currents.

I am only acquainted with the west coast but there must be weed along the north coast of Antrim, as Mr. Stephens offered me an agency that he intended starting there some years after I had given up the work.

APPENDIX I.

Kelp-making requires a good deal of ground for drying the weed unless it could be dried in sheds.

The advantage of cutting weed is that you get it all along the coast, and can procure it day after day, and dry the weed on shores where the drift-weed does not come in, thus enlarging the area and quantity.

As a rule, when drift-weed does come in it arrives in such quantities that it rots on the shore before it can be removed, and a large quantity is thus lost.

Between now* and next April a great deal could be done in preparing for experiments on suitable parts of the coast.

First of all find out (1) where the weed is growing in sufficient quantity, (2) the most convenient shore to unload at, and (3) where the weed could be dried free of sand or small shingle.

If two or three families joined in a boat of three or four tons with proper tackle, and divided the profits, it would be the best plan. My recollection is that in former years this used to be done.

A great advantage of kelp-making is that it gives employment to so many members of a family. The men cut the weed, and bring it to shore, when their wives and children can assist in carrying it to the spreading ground, after which the work is much the same as saving hay until it is put into large cocks. The weed must be left in these cocks for some time to heat or get into a dry, soft condition. If burned fresh, when dry and crisp, the return would not be so good.

I daresay the purchasers would be prepared to give a fair price, and purchase all the kelp that could be made, provided the quality was kept up to the proper standard.

Sea rods collected in the winter add considerably to the quantity and quality of kelp. It is much easier to burn the weed when you have sea rods, as they prevent the weed from getting clogged in the kiln.

Kelp, to be well burned, must be kept in a liquid state from start to finish, so that when tempered or mixed with iron rakes in the evening it will cool down into one hard block like lead.

From what I have heard of the Parish Committee system of the Congested Districts Board I am inclined to think such committees might be made the means of reviving this great industry, of extending it beyond anything that has hitherto been attained, and of getting the workers to understand that it would pay them to make the best article, or to save the "Coughlagh" weed in the best possible condition, and carefully avoid every form of adulteration.

Passing from the subject of kelp, I wish to say something of my experience as a farmer. I farm nearly 200 acres, principally grazing, and I manage over 600 acres for landowners, buying and selling all classes of cattle from calves to stores, springers, and fat cattle, according to the class of land I have to manage.

I consider that the Irish graziers have been the means of keeping a high-class breed of stock in the country, not only to perpetuate the species, but to get the best price for the finished article, either as springer, milker, or beef. I have been buying and selling cattle for over thirty years, attending fairs and competing with the cattle dealers, and I have always considered that it paid me to secure a well-bred animal, even if I gave up to ten shillings more for it than a dealer would give. I believe it will be disastrous for the small farmers of Ireland if by any change of system they are left depending on cattle dealers and English markets for the sale of their calves and young stores. Ireland can produce first-class grass-fed beef. In England and Scotland most of the beef has to be finished by hand-feeding.

The congested districts are on the sea coast, and in order to relieve congestion it is proposed that the Government Departments and the Board should work inland by getting rid of the large grazing farmers, buying them out, dividing their lands into small holdings, and giving them to people who have been accustomed to making a living by other means (such as fishing, kelp-burning, or migrating to England or Scotland as labourers), who know little or nothing about farming, and whom it will take generations to instruct (in the meantime to be spoon-fed at the expense of the taxpayers), and even then it is a question to be solved whether the change will be a success or not.

The principal products of Ireland for food and export are beef, butter, pork, fowl, and eggs. The production of beef is the principal source of revenue to the Irish farmers, large and small, from the farmer who can only keep one calf till it is six months old to the large grazier who turns out the finished article.

Farm produce, like other commodities, has its different stages of production before it comes to the final stage and is ready for consumption.

I now propose to take beef through its different courses, and will begin at the bottom or first course.

Any person who has experience of Irish fairs knows that if he wants to purchase, say, thirty or forty calves he must buy them in ones or twos. Very rarely will he find a farmer who has from three to six calves in one lot to dispose of. The man with two or three calves is the class the Congested Districts Board wish to increase. A calf is not beef. Why does the farmer sell it? because he has only got from five to fifteen acres of land, and can't keep it longer.

The farmer with from twenty to thirty acres keeps three or four cows on the portion of his land outside what is required for tillage, a couple of heifers to take the place of cows, or to keep up the stock of milkers. He must get rid of the calves when they are nine months to a year old; having no room or feeding for them, he passes them on to the next stage.

Matters might be made easier if farmers could order heifer calves as required, but the course of nature provides for them bull calves (latter turned into bullocks) in the proportion of nearly three to one.

Small farmers cannot afford to keep even one bullock calf once it has reached nine months or a year old, for several reasons; in the first place they have not room, and in the second place the land, even if they could keep it, is not capable of turning it into beef.

There are many farmers in mountain districts holding large tracts of land suitable for keeping milch cows; also farmers in low-lands who cannot keep the calves after they get to the weaning stage, for the reason that they are too well-bred, the cows having been served by a well-bred shorthorn. It pays these farmers to rear calves by good bulls to a certain age, but when it comes to dispensing with the hand-feeding they must be handed over to the man who has land suitable, and a sufficient area to keep a number of them. If these farmers sent their cows to an ill-bred bull they would not get a remunerative price for their calves.

Who keeps these well-bred shorthorn bulls? The large grazier.

Farmers arrange the class of their cows by sending a certain number to bulls whose progeny is likely to suit the class of land (this remark refers to mountain and poorer districts) that is to produce the heifers they wish to keep, to take the place of milkers when the latter get too old to be profitable.

Leaving out the mountains and moors suitable as grouse preserves one might say that nine-tenths of Ireland is as suitable for tillage as for grazing, but in stating this I do not class all the grazing as fattening land.

I have got to the stage when the calf is nine to twelve months old, but has twelve or eighteen months longer to live before it is ready to turn into beef; who is to keep it in the interval? From this age of nine or twelve months, when the calves are sold by small farmers (who cannot keep them longer) until they reach the age when they are ready to fatten by large graziers (say, 2½ year olds), it is not necessary to feed them to a greater extent than is required to develop their growth, and keep them in a healthy condition. A larger class of grazing farmers take these calves over, buying according to the class of land they are to be fed on, and keeping them as long as the land is fit to feed them. I might say in many cases there are two or three changes between the nine or ten months and the 2½ year old stage, as some lands are only suitable for summer grazing, all the stock being removed during the winter months, with the exception of a few head.

It would not pay to keep these cattle on fattening land from start to finish, and even if it would, there is not sufficient fattening land in Ireland to do it.

The large grazier who finishes these cattle looks to small profits and quick returns during the six or seven grazing months of the year, buying his stores in April and May, and selling at intervals up to November, or middle of December if it is an open winter.

* September, 1907.

Some graziers keep the different classes of land required, so that they can pass them on through the different stages by changing them to different farms. In this way many lay in their supply as calves from the small farmers.

I have already stated that nine-tenths of the land is as suitable for tillage as for grazing. According as you increase the tillage and small farms you increase the production of young cattle (calves from nine to twelve months old), but you reduce the area required for keeping the young stock till they have reached the age suitable for beef, and you also reduce the area that is required to turn them into the finished article.

The law of supply and demand that has been adjusting itself for generations in a natural way according to requirements must be considered.

In order to produce a good calf the small farmer must get the service of well-bred bulls (they need not be pure-bred), costing at age of thirteen to fifteen months from £10 to £20 and £35, or more, according to breeding and quality. A small farmer cannot afford to buy a good bull, and if he could, in nine-ten out of twenty cases the bull could not be fed; he must get good pasture in the season and hand-feeding in the winter—in fact, a certain amount of hand-feeding all the year round. These bulls are purchased by the large farmers or graziers, and for their service small fees are charged, from 2*s.* to 3*s.*, and in a few cases more, where the animal is above the ordinary run of bulls.

The farmers who keep these bulls are the men on whom the small farmer depends to buy his one or more calves, when he must pass them on; they are also the men some of the official and other witnesses want to do away with.

These grazing farmers as far as possible purchase their young stock in their own neighbourhood from small farmers whose stock they know. According as the small farmer is increased in numbers so will the demand for young stock diminish.

If the sources from which the Irish farmers and people get their living improve, or allow of more workers, so will the population increase; but to try and increase the population first by cutting up the country into small farms, and building houses before the problem of how they are to live is settled, is a case of putting the car before the horse, and should be seriously considered before it is too late.

Civilisation, education, and machinery, and, I might add, Land Acts, have changed the Irish farmers; they have learned to live better than their forefathers, and to do this they must have more room. Young people, who must attend school till they are fourteen, get a fair education, at any rate, sufficient to make them decide that they are not going to begin life by sitting down on a small farm, and working it with the spade for the rest of their lives when they feel they can do better. Unless a farmer has a reasonable-sized farm he cannot employ machinery and horses, and he cannot work a larger farm unless you provide him with additional capital. APPENDIX I.

Thousands of labourers' cottages are being built with acre plots added. It may be decided later that one acre is not sufficient, and that they must get three or more acres. At whose expense will these plots be given—at that of the industrious farmer who is just beginning to feel that he can live comfortably, and perhaps before his days are ended be able to settle some of his children on similar-sized farms to his own.

There must be hewers of wood and drawers of water till the end of the chapter. The present condition of the labour market in rural districts does not show that the supply is in excess of the demand—quite the other way.

Families (so-called labourers') are taking these houses and plots of ground just because they think there is something to be made by them, in the same way as people took seed potatoes, thinking they were getting the seed for nothing at the expense of somebody else.

Will the children of these labourers (who must attend school till they are fourteen) take their parents' places, and work the few acres with their spades.

You cannot raise the level of one class without lowering the others, if it is tried by artificial means, which I say is the course advocated by many of the witnesses. One class cannot live without the other, and in order that both may make a living there must be a higher to keep the lower going; if all were in the same level the world would not be worth living in.

Improve the resources of the country by every means possible, and the people will improve themselves. Don't try to increase the population first.

APPENDIX II. APPENDIX II

Document put in by Mrs. Caroline Blake.

Notes on Conditions of Life in Renvyle.

Board of Works loan, £1,500 to Henry Blake. The reason that the whole £1,500 was not taken by Henry Blake after the famine was that he had to sell half of his estate (now Kylemore Estate), on which the money not spent on Curragh farm was to have been spent. £106 had been spent on one part of it before sold, and £36 on Renvyle Demesne; all the rest on Curragh farm of the £904 19*s.* taken.

I paid some of this loan since I was left a widow—when trustee of my son.

It is those who allowed the poor man a chance of living who are getting trouble. People came from other estates, and even from Scotland, on account of the cheap land, seaweed for manure, and work given. Renvyle had been before the famine one of the great herring fisheries. Three hundred boats used to go out from our beach, and large ships used to come to take the fish. With the blight of the potatoes came also the fish leaving the coast, so of course the people suffered much; there was then no kelp here. It was my husband, Edgar H. Blake, R.N., who brought the trade back here. He gave and secured spread ground, and brought men to teach the people. Kelp had been made forty or fifty or more years before, but the people had put in sand, and broken up the business. Mr. Steven, the Messrs. Patterson's agent (now Kaisly and Co.), called one day about 1852, and told my husband that if he could secure spread ground, he thought money was to be made, and Mr. Steven it was who arranged that the royalty was to be 1*s.* 5*d.* Afterwards, when the price fell, I, without being asked, reduced it to 1*s.* 4*d.* Mr. Hazel, the present agent, it was who asked me to take a settled amount. He mentioned 10*s.*, but I had just bought all my lands, and paid a large sum, and I said I could not take less than 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton. If my farm was taken from me it would stop the trade, and so also injure my demesne and islands. The kelp manufacturers have paid thousands and thousands to Renvyle tenants since 1862.

Grazing.

The mountain which with the demesne I hold as tenant proprietor I set in grazing always both for sheep and cattle; also sometimes I have sheep and cattle of my own. I want all I have for my business. After I opened Renvyle House as hotel I bought *the tenant-right* of the mountain from a tenant who was selling it. I paid for this £100. I have the fishing and shooting on the whole of the Renvyle Estate secured to me by lease, and bought afterwards in Land Judges Court. If game, which they never had, was given to the tenants there would be no game either on holding or on my land.

If you were wanting to buy one of the small holdings on Renvyle you would then know the value the people put on them. One of the questions I was

APPENDIX II.

asked, whether I thought it right to keep land when people round me had only small holdings, would apply to more than land. There were many, even in the Clifden Courthouse, who might like to have got any of the Royal Commissioners' wardrobes if they would get the Government to buy it for them at half the value, leaving the Commissioners without, and certainly many who live in great houses in London, while others have to struggle for a livelihood in small hovels in the poor towns in Ireland might be asked the same question. People have come into Renvyle Estate without, as the people say, a "second porringer," and are now well off. The people often tell me of this one and that; and even within the last forty years I know of some myself and a great many return from America and settle down here.

APPENDIX III.

APPENDIX III.

DOCUMENT put in by Mr. DENIS KIRWAN.

PAYMENT OF RENTS ON ESTATES MANAGED BY WITNESS.

COUNTY.	Estate. (2.)	Period. (3.)	Rental for the Period in Col. (3). £ s. d. (4.)	Rents Received in the Period in Col. (3). £ s. d. (5.)	Number of Tenants on Estate. (6.)	Average Yearly Rent per Tenant. £ s. d. (7.)
	"A."	For year ended 1st Nov., 1904, ..	3,314 19 0	3,304 19 4	382	8 13 6
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1905, ..	ditto, ..	3,101 0 0		
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1906, ..	ditto, ..	3,200 0 0		
	"B."	For year ended 1st Nov., 1904, ..	1,816 18 3	1,776 0 0	217	8 7 5
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1905, ..	ditto, ..	1,731 0 0		
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1906, ..	ditto, ..	1,818 0 0		
	"C."	For year ended 1st Nov., 1904, ..	1,224 9 9	1,210 16 11	155	7 18 0
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1905, ..	ditto, ..	1,224 5 5		
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1906, ..	ditto, ..	1,231 2 5		
	"D."	For year ended 1st Nov., 1904, ..	4,419 19 3	4,363 0 0	443	9 19 6
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1905, ..	ditto, ..	4,405 0 0		
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1906, ..	ditto, ..	4,400 0 0		
	"E."	For year ended 1st Nov., 1904, ..	3,296 17 3	3,330 0 0	211	15 12 6
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1905, ..	ditto, ..	3,264 0 0		
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1906, ..	ditto, ..	3,320 0 0		
	"F."	For year ended 1st Nov., 1904, ..	2,036 0 0	2,089 0 0	71	28 13 6
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1905, ..	ditto, ..	2,146 0 0		
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1906, ..	ditto, ..	2,036 0 0		
	"G."	For year ended 1st Nov., 1904, ..	1,060 0 0	1,026 0 0	76	13 19 0
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1905, ..	ditto, ..	1,043 0 0		
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1906, ..	ditto, ..	1,055 0 0		
	"H."	For year ended 1st Nov., 1904, ..	2,709 15 11	2,639 0 0	167	16 0 0
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1905, ..	ditto, ..	2,599 0 0		
		For year ended 1st Nov., 1906, ..	ditto, ..	2,737 0 0		

APPENDIX IV.

Documents put in by The Right Hon. The Viscount Gough.

Consolidation of Small Holdings.

A.—Abstract of Dr. Gentrsch's Report.

1. Consolidation implies an exchange of lands in the same locality, so situated as to make economical working impossible.

2. Object of exchange is to give each proprietor a compact holding.

3. Such exchange must often be effected against will of part of the proprietors. What proportion must apply for it must differ according to local circumstances.

4. Consolidation likely to be especially beneficial where owners can only reach their holdings by passing over lands belonging to others.

5. Compromise between parties interested to be effected by giving of lands of equal value, but payment of money to be allowed only in special cases.

6. Lands received in exchange to bear burden of mortgage debt attaching to lands given in exchange.

7. Formation of companies to promote consolidation of holdings and watch over common interests.

B.—Saxon Law of July 23, 1861.

§§ 8. Negotiations to be initiated, even if the request be made by a single owner.

A special Commission effects the consolidation. Consolidation obligatory in some cases.

§§ 10. Pieces of ground from a neighbouring district can be brought in.

§§ 13. Participators must obtain land of the same value as what they gave up, and must not suffer in any way.

SAXE-COBURG AND GOTHA.

A.—Law of June 23, 1863.

Evils of Scattered Holdings.

1. Loss of space along each boundary.

2. Opportunities for strife and law suits.

3. Waste of time and labour for men and animals in the journey from one holding to another.

Paths are sure to be bad if they exist at all. This injures the carts, which are also not filled.

Advantages of Consolidation.

1. Gain of cultivable acreage.

At Altingottern, in Nassau, before consolidation the boundary paths were, roughly, 1,220 miles in length: after its accomplishment they were reduced to 80 miles.

2. Clear boundaries, diminution of picking and stealing. The smaller holdings are generally put together near the village, the larger ones further off.

3. Saving of manure and seed; also horse labour. In travelling from one plot to another much manure is lost.

4. Saving of time.

In a year this comes to a great deal, the man not losing time going from plot to plot.

5. Convenient shape of farm.

As far as possible each farm is made four-cornered.

6. Betterment of cultivation.

Drainage is impossible with sub-division.

Use of ploughs and other implements is made difficult.

Method Employed in Coburg.

Arable land carefully examined by experts, and divided into eleven classes according to yearly value, and marked by posts. Meadows divided into two classes.

A difficult series of reckonings are made, and each man gets the same value as he had before, though it may be a different class of land. So far as possible each man's preference is attended to.

Consent of Interested Parties.

In Coburg, where consent of half of proprietors was required, Act had been almost inoperative, but widely resorted to in Gotha, where consent of quarter was sufficient.

B.—The Laws in the Kingdom of Saxony relative to the Advancement of Agriculture, and particularly to Present Holdings.

Acts Relating to the Consolidation of Land.

1. Purpose and object of consolidation.
2. Kinds of land which may be consolidated.
3. Compromise between the persons interested in the consolidation of the land.
4. Proceedings on the consolidation.
5. Companies for the purpose of consolidation.
6. Acts as to the alteration of water-courses and the execution of drainage and irrigation works, and the establishment of a rent bank having for its objects the advancement of agricultural interests.

The State of Saxony has shown a Desire to Promote the Consolidation of Small Holdings.

(*a*) By provisions which for the advantage of the parties interested make possible—on the application of one party only—the releasing of the land from burdensome servitudes and other incumbrances, as well as the division and the alienation of lands vested in the parish, and of which the individual members thereof have the direct use; to raise the peasant class, as also to advance all agricultural developments, and it has for the attainments of these objects passed the Act of the 17th of March, 1832, relating to the redemption and division of land held in common, and several supplementary Acts, and particularly the Act of the 17th of March, 1832, as to the constitution of a land rent bank.

(*b*) By the passing of the Act of the 23rd of July, 1861, respecting the consolidation of lands, and in conjunction herewith of the Act of the 29th of April, 1890, relating to matters in common of the companies formed for the aforesaid purpose, *i.e.*, the consolidation of land, to cause—even against the will of a part of the occupants—the consolidation of lands, *i.e.*, such an exchange of lands belonging to different owners, but which are situated promiscuously, by

APPENDIX IV.

which a site is intended to be given to each owner as near and adjoining and favourable to the management of his estate, as possible.

(*c*) By making compulsory regulations.

(i.) For carrying out the alteration of a watercourse and maintaining the same, the execution of which, being highly in the interests of the cultivation of land, has been proposed by an interested party, and has been sanctioned by the State, for the owners of those lands and waterworks the value of which is enhanced by the alteration.

(ii.) Concerning the permission given for the necessary preparation for the purposes of executing drainage or irrigation works that have been sanctioned by the State—including the plant necessary for the stemming and deviation of water—to be executed by each owner of land against compensation for the servitudes imposed or the damages arising thereout or therefrom, and has minutely specified these compulsory regulations in the Act relating to the alteration of water-courses and the execution of drainage and irrigation works of the 15th August, 1855, and the Act of the 9th February, 1864, explaining the former, as well as in the notification of the 22nd February, 1870.

(*d*) By opposing an uneconomical severing into small portions of lands, situate and being in the country, by passing the Act relating to the divisibility of the ownership of land of the 30th November, 1843.

As to the details thereof the following may be stated:—

The Act dated the 17th of March, 1832, relating to the redemptions and divisions of lands held in common, and the supplementary Acts of the 21st of July, 1846, and of the 15th May, 1851, as also the notification of the 18th of February, 1876. The Act as to the establishment of the Land Rent Bank, of the 17th of March, 1832, besides the Order for carrying into effect the same, dated the 30th December, 1833, as well as supplementary Acts of the 20th September, 1855, Notification of the 21st January, 1860, and the Act of the 25th February, 1888.

1. *Purpose and Object of the Redemption.*

Until the passing of the Act of the 17th of March, 1832, the present holdings in the kingdom of Saxony were in many ways burdened with different kinds of oppressive servitudes and incumbrances. These burdens caused great hardship to the occupiers of such holdings, and hindered agricultural progress. Besides the burden of the general public taxes due to the State, municipality, and parish, the peasant farmer had to bear numerous taxes which were charged upon his holdings, and which arose out of rights of landowners and landed proprietors, Vogteiherrschaft, Government officials with petty jurisdiction, and through the power wielded by the Church. All these duties which consisted of services to be rendered, the obligation to pay money, and of payment in kind, or of a tenth, formed a hindrance to the development of a well-to-do, free peasant class. The purpose and object of the aforesaid Acts was to remove such a hindrance. The provisions of the said Acts permit generally, to every landowner, and where the ownership is disputed, to every occupant of the land who has a right to the performance of a duty which may be redeemed, or is compelled to perform such a duty, to apply for relief, *i.e.*, on his own behalf, and even against the will of the other party, to bring about the redemption, or the extinction of a legal relationship which has for its object the performance of a duty, which may be redeemed by payment of compensation to the party entitled thereto. All contracts already entered into on the publication of the Act, *i.e.*, all contracts entered into voluntarily by the parties interested and having for their object the extinction of the duties, were not to be effected by this Act (17th March, 1832), in their validity, in so far as in the contracts there are no continuous services or duties stipulated for, or such servitudes are agreed upon, which according to the provisions of the Act may be redeemed. Should there be such stipulations the said Act shall be applicable thereto, and the said services or duties shall be also redeemable on the application by one party.

2. *Subject Matter of the Redemption.*

The redemption extends to all payments and incumbrances charged upon ground or landed property, and which have to be rendered to private persons, companies, charitable and other kindred institutions, and especially to the State.

(1.) Services and personal services.

(2.) Payments which are charged upon land or which are continually payable by certain persons.

(3.) Servitudes with the following rights over the land of another:—

(*a*) All rights relative to the tending of cattle on arable land, meadow, grass lands, ponds, forests, woodlands, and other places of pasture.

(*b*) Rights of forest relating to the felling of wood, the right of gathering litter and loose wood, plucking roots and pulling wood, and the right of scraping resin.

(*c*) Rights to fetch grass, reeds, and sods, as well in woods as on other property.

(*d*) Rights for digging and fetching on the land of third parties the sand and clay for building purposes.

(*e*) Rights to use stone beds belonging to others.

4. Erbpachtsqualitat lands having the quality of hereditamentary lease, *i.e.*, land held by a lessee who is obliged to pay a rent to the lessor varying with the profits, but generally having power to sell or devise such lands, the lessor having the right of re-purchase and pre-emption.

Or Erbzinsqualitat lands granted by the owner under contract on payment of rent by the occupant as an acknowledgment of the grantor's title, but with power for the occupant to devise the land to his heirs or to sell, in case of the devise being to others than the heirs of the occupant, then the grantor is entitled to a money payment from the devisee the grantor has on sale the right to object to an unfit purchaser. If the occupant dies without issue, then the lands revert to the grantor.

5. Rent issuing out of Erbpacht—Erbpachtscanons rents of real Erbzinsland, Allodificationscanons and canons for Lehnpardens—rents paid on converting a fief into free ownership—freehold—and other ways of pardoning the performance of services by the Sovereign.

The above is not Applicable to:

(*a*) The duties having the character of State, municipal, or parochial duties.

(*b*) Tenths and other duties relating to mining and the getting of stone, lignite, and peat.

(*c*) Interest upon capital which has been sunk for endowment purposes.

3. *Legal Methods of Redemption.*

Provided the interested parties do not agree amongst themselves upon some other method of redemption, the redemption takes place:—

(1.) In cases of personal services and other duties by means of:—

(*a*) Payment of a definite sum of money.

(*b*) By agreeing to pay a yearly rent.

(2.) In cases relating to servitudes, besides the beforementioned methods of redemption in (1) (*a.*) and (*b.*).

(*c*) By the conveyance of land.

(*d*) So far as particularly respects the rights of felling wood, of plucking roots and pulling weed, and of gathering loose wood, by payment of a yearly tribute consisting of a certain quantity of wood.

The choice of the different legal methods of redemption rests with the party liable, and in such way that he can make compensation on redemption, in part, in one of the hereinbefore stated methods, and in part in the other. Only the party liable who has on his own account applied for redemption has a limitation placed upon his rights as to whether redemption shall be allowed upon payment of a definite sum of money, or the payment of a rent. In such a case the party entitled may demand payment of a definite sum of money when by this he is enabled to pay for the alterations rendered necessary by virtue of the redemption, *e.g.*, that for the purposes of husbandry, he must provide more cattle or tools and implements, or must erect new buildings

r alter buildings already erected on the ground of
n increase in his servants, or desires to make other
utlays for the purposes of husbandry rendered ne-
essary by virtue of the redemption. Whether a
ufficient reason exists for the demand has to be in-
estigated by the Special Commission (compare 7,
.), which is also empowered to fix the sum to be
aid.

The amount payable for the redemption of the rent
s paid on the understanding that if the redemption
akes place by payment of a definite sum, twenty-five
imes the amount of the yearly value in money of the
ede mable duty or servitude is to be paid. On the
edemption by agreement to pay a rent, this rent is
o be fixed according to the yearly value of the re-
emable duty or servitude ascertained in the pro-
edings for redemption. If the party liable has
eclared his intention to pay a yearly rent then the
arty entitled thereto has the choice between ac-
epting an annuity bond or direct payment of the
ent by the party liable, excepting particular cases
nentioned in the Act, in which cases the rent is
ot payable to the Rent Bank, but absolutely to the
arty entitled. In case of the acceptance of annuity
onds the money rents are not to be paid by the
arty liable to the party entitled thereto, but to the
nstituted Land Rent Bank (compare 8), and this
ank issues annuity bonds, with the effect, that on
ssignment of the rent to the Land Rent Bank the
laim of the party entitled, which has arisen by
irtue of the redemption, together with his legal
ight against the estate liable, passes to the Land
Rent Bank.

All money dues charged as real incumbrances on
he land or property, or on rights which the law con-
iders land and property, may, on application of the
arty entitled or liable, be redeemed in such manner
hat the party liable has the choice either of direct
edemption, and that by a money payment of twenty
imes the amount, as hereinbefore stated, or by giv-
ng annuity bonds to the value of twenty-five times
f such amount, or in both ways at the same time,
r for purposes of indirect redemption, may assign
he money dues to the Land Rent Bank. Redemp-
ion rents which have not been assigned to the Land
Rent Bank can at any time, on previous notice, be
edeemed by the party liable on payment of a
lefinite sum of money.

The legal nature of the rent, whether payable to
he Land Rent Bank or the party entitled thereto,
whether payable in money or kind—assuming that
he transfer has been carried out according to the
provisions of the law—is considered according to
aw to be a real incumbrance (onus reale), which is
harged upon the land or property liable, and which
s not extinguished by a change of ownership aris-
ng in any manner whatsoever, but passes with the
roperty chargeable therewith, without further Acts,
o each and every subsequent owner.

From the time of the notification of the Act duties which are subject to redemption according to the provisions thereof cannot in future be acquired by contract.

3. The hereditary lease (Erbpacht) and the here-
ditary ground rent (Erbzins) are redeemed in the
following manner:—

(*a*) The hereditary lessee and lessor are at liberty to release the land from the hereditary lease by raising the yearly rent to be paid thereout by five per cent. By this increase of rental the right of pre-emption which the lessor has is redeemed and extinguished, so that the leased property becomes absolutely free (freehold). The increased amount of the yearly rent, as well as this rent itself, remains chargeable as a ground rent on the incumbered property. With the release of the hereditary lease the land takes the qualities of an ordinary freehold farm, in the complete ownership of the occupant, charged with a rent (not hereditary ground rent).

After the publication of this Act hereditary leases can no more be validly entered into.

(*b*) The occupier of the property charged with hereditary ground rent (Erbzinsmann) and his landlord are authorised at any time to effect the redemption of the legal relationship existing between them, and the conversion of the land or property into property of a complete and free ownership (freehold) on the occupant agreeing to increase the yearly hereditary rent by three per cent., and by virtue of this, the ownership of the landlord, together with his right of pre-emption being extinguished. With the redemption of the rent of a hereditary lease, or of a hereditary ground rent not yet converted into a bare ground rent according to the provisions of the Act, must be connected the releasing of the land from its qualities of hereditary leased land, or of land charged with a hereditary ground rent, by means of increasing the rent of the hereditary lease by five per cent. or the hereditary ground rent by three per cent.

4. *Extinguishing of the Redeemable Incumbrances and Servitudes.*

All incumbrances and servitudes which may be extinguished on application of one of the parties, with the single exception of the redeemable rents and money dues, are, as and from the 1st of January, 1854, abolished (provided that no application had been made before this date) in such manner that they continue only as personal obligations of the occupant in possession on the 1st January, 1854, and of his heirs, so long as the former or the latter do not convey the land to a third party. After the expiration of this period the incumbrance, if entered in the Land and Mortgage Register, is extinguished on the certificate of the General Commission that the redemption of the aforesaid incumbrance or servitude has not been applied for by any party.

On the 1st of January, 1884, also, the then subsisting personal obligations of the owners still in possession of the property liable are extinguished.

5. *Purpose, Object, and Subject Matter of the Divisions of the Land.*

The division of the lands which have been used in common, so-called Allmenden, "was to make possible a rational course of husbandry," as up to that time a division of the property belonging to the community could take place only through resolution of the representatives of the parish, and so far as such resolution was permitted, and with regard to that property belonging to the parish to which were attached no personal rights of user by the individual members of the parish, for this reason: it was to the interest of the peasant farmers, and for the purpose of raising his position to divide also these common lands which could not be alienated to the individual members owing to the direct rights of user attaching thereto by the individual members of the community. According to the provisions of this Act, only such lands shall be available for common division which are in the ownership of municipal corporations or parishes, and to which the members of te community or of the parish are entitled to the direct use. The Act, however, exempts from a common division such lands situated in the towns and in the country the use of which is intended for the profit and interest of the entire community. Each and every member of the municipality or parish settled within the limits thereof, and entitled to take part in the use as and in manner hereinbefore mentioned, has the right to make application on his own account for division of the land being available for division in common, and to obtain the portion of such land due to him for his own absolute property (freehold). Those parties who are entitled to the right or user in the property—but have not become settled in the municipality or parish as aforesaid—can only claim compensation by a rent. The right of participation in the user of those not settled in the parish, must be redeemed by fixing a rent, which they are to receive from those members of the community who obtain a share or portion of the land; the amount of the rent is to be calculated according to the value of their aforesaid rights of participating in the user. Such rent shall be paid yearly so long as the said circumstances entitling them to such participation exist.

APPENDIX IV.

In case of the death of the parties entitled to the rent, or in case the aforesaid circumstances which entitled them to the participation in the user cease to exist, then the rent goes to the funds of the municipality or parish. On application for division it must be proved that the division can be carried out, and that it is advantageous, with the exception of those cases where the division of lands held in common for the tending of cattle (waste lands, green swards, and similar places), or of meadows and fields belonging to the municipality or parish is applied for. The division of forests and woods belonging to the parish is only then to be considered advantageous if either the separate lots remain favourable for use as forests or the soil can be used with greater advantage as fields or meadows after the removal of the wood.

The Division takes place in proportion to the rightful interest of each party entitled to participate in the user of the land in question. If the rightful interests of the individual members of the municipality or parish are specially determined by local custom, local statutes, contract, or a final judgment, then such divisions must take place according to the proportions as determined by such local custom, statutes, contract, or final judgment. Each participator in the division shall have his portion allotted in that locality most advantageous to him, and so far as this can be accomplished without prejudice to the remaining participators. No participator in the aforesaid division is by reason of such division to be hindered in the use and enjoyment of the land already belonging to him, nor is his use and enjoyment to be made difficult or in any wise prejudiced. In so far as it may be necessary to remove such a hindrance or difficulty, new servitudes may be imposed. Instead of a division taking place a sale of the land belonging to the municipality or parish may take place, provided that the money to be realised by the sale shall be applied for the continual benefit of the whole community, or of all its members interested in the division of the money realised.

6. *Consideration of the Rights of Third Parties on Redemptions and Divisions.*

Should the land or property to be taken for division be subject to any claim by creditors, viz., creditors whose claims are mortgage claims or other real incumbrances on the land subject to division, feudal lords, persons having estates tail, hereditary lessors, persons entitled to hereditary ground rents, persons entitled to other rents, persons entitled to re-purchase the land or property, then in these cases the aforesaid persons have no right to oppose the redemption or division of the land or property. However, the rights of the aforesaid parties must be taken into consideration in cases of redemption cases on the adjustment of the paid capital and the distribution of the annuity bonds which have been issued. The party entitled may for the purpose of securing the aforesaid parties deposit the annuity bonds with the Court, according to the amount of the sum to be secured, or may sell them. If redemption takes place by payment of a definite sum of money, then all those creditors who have any claims against the land have a right to demand payment in order of priority out of the monies paid on redemption, or to demand that such sum owing as aforesaid shall be placed on deposit until satisfaction of their claims is made. The officials of the Mortgage Registry in which the land affected by these provisions is registered, or those officials whom they may authorise, have to attend to the protection of these claims. The owner of the affected land has, however, a claim to a share or portion of the money paid or of the annuity bonds, so as to enable him to pay for alterations or new erections on the same grounds upon which (as stated above under No. 3) the party entitled may demand payment of capital for the necessary alterations, additions, or erections for the management of his estates.

On the division of lands held in common the officials of the Mortgage Department have only then to protect the rights of third parties in case the occupant desires either on allotment to relinquish or transfer the portion of land allotted to him or subsequently to sell it. The purchase money for this portion of land is to be applied for securing the rights of third parties who may be interested in the manner as hereinbefore mentioned in cases of redemption by the payment of money.

7. *Proceedings on Redemption and Division Matters.*

The officials for redemption and division matters, and all matters in connection with these are:—

(*a*) Separate Special Commissions.

(*b*) The General Commission.

(*c*) The Superior Courts.

(*d*) The Ministers of State (Minister of Justice and Home Office).

(*a.*)

The Special Commission is the lowest tribunal, and is appointed by the General Commission in such cases of division which may arise. The members thereof are:—

(i.) A person with the necessary legal knowledge qualifying him to act as a judge.

(ii.) An agricultural expert with the necessary theoretical and practical knowledge of his profession, and in connection herewith regard is to be had to those proprietors who are possessors of their own land or rent large holdings.

Those parties interested in the redemption of the division are permitted to make fit suggstions to the General Commission for the purpose of appointing a Special Commission. The proceedings of the Special Commission have to take place at the *locus in quo*, with the assistance of the parties. The division of the work of the Commissioners is as follows:—The discussions concerning the redemption or the divisions are generally carried out until the final termination by the Agricultural Commissioner, and by him alone, in so far as no particular complications and legal difficulties render it otherwise necessary. The termination and the drawing of the scheme is left in the hands of the legal Commissioner.

The Special Commission has to prepare protocols of the proceedings, and give a report of such proceedings to the General Commission.

(*b.*)

The General Commission is a tribunal for the whole country, and is appointed by the King, and is to continue so long as any matters remain to be performed in connection with the redemptions and the divisions. It consists of four councillors (barristers) and two agriculturists and a president, and in appeal matters the Commission is strengthened by two councillors (barristers) from the Superior Courts. The General Commission appoints the Special Commissions, conducts and supervises their proceedings, and decides complaints and appeals (recurs and appellations). The General Commission for matters relating to redemptions and divisions has since the 1st of March, 1876 (see Notifications of the 18th of February, 1876), been dissolved as a self-subsisting body. The functions appertaining to this body are transferred to the Kreishauptmannschaft (administrative body of a district) at Dresden, for all matters throughout the country what has the official designation, "The Royal Kreishauptmannschaft," Dresden, acting as the General Commission for the redemptions and divisions.

(*c.*)

As the highest Court in third and last instance appeals against the proceedings of the General Commission are decided by the Landesjustizcollegium (the highest Court), and since the 1st of October, 1879, by the Oberlandesgericht (Court of Appeal) at Dresden, the latter Court, *i.e.*, the Oberlandesgericht, decides appeals against decisions of the General Commission which the latter have given on appeals to them from the judgments of the Courts of first instance. In both cases it is necessary that the Court should consist also of one agricultural member of the General Commission, who in deliberations and decisions has the right of voting.

(*d.*)

The highest tribunal which decides complaints against the General Commission, or against the Superior Courts (see (*c.*)) on account of their procedure in cases heard and decided in the matters relating to the severing of the lands, is the Ministry of Justice. The Home Office (Ministerium des Innern), however, decides all other complaints against the decisions of the General Commission, particularly those matters relating to redemptions and divisions.

The proceedings at the Special and General Commission are of a summary and official nature, and the necessary evidence for the decisions is to be demanded and perfected by the Court itself. The parties interested have to appear in person, but their representatives are allowed to attend, and counsel can be heard. Subpœnas to attend may state that in non-attendance the party will be fined or other legal disadvantages will ensue. The non-attendance of a party at the first hearing does not prevent the proceedings from being heard and evidence being taken. A subsequent non-appearance of such party after a further adjournment—and after having been informed by the Court of the statements made by the party who appeared—gives the Court power to decide as if the party who had not appeared had admitted the facts adduced by the other. After the determination of the proceedings a plan for the severing of the land is drawn up and laid before the the parties interested for the purpose of enabling them to express their opinions. The protocol of the proceedings and the decisions which have already been given form the basis of the scheme to be drawn. The draft of the scheme is to be shown to the parties, and to be forwarded to the General Commission, who examines the same, and sends back to the Special Commission any objections to be settled, and directs the issue of a public summons by the Special Commission, in which those parties directly or indirectly interested in the severing of the lands are to be requested within a period of twelve weeks—which is pre-emptory—to lodge the necessary application for the consideration of their interests. Any objections which are not lodged within the necessary time are precluded from subsequent consideration. Those objections and applications which are lodged within the specified period, as hereinbefore mentioned, are adjudicated upon by the Special Commission. The draft of the scheme is, after signature by the interested parties, together with the applications and objections which have been determined upon, returned to the General Commission, which examines its contents and construction, and confirms the scheme if approved of. By this approval the scheme acquires the nature and force of a judicial document, which is enforceable without further formalities by execution. Certified copies of the scheme have to be given on demand to the interested parties.

Legal methods of appeal are two: Recurs and appellation. The recurs are allowed against decisions and judgments of the Special Commission which only relate to the severing of lands, and to matters of redemptions where the legal rights in question are not in dispute. In these cases the General Commission is the highest tribunal giving judgment, and only a complaint against such judgment may be brought before the Home Office. Appellation may be made against judgments which relate to procedure or decide legal rights which have been disputed on the severing of the lands. Appellations may also be lodged against the latter decisions which are to be heard by the Oberlandesgericht. No further appeal is allowable. Complaint against officials and individual persons acting in these matters are to be heard by:—

(i.) The Special Commission so far as they relate to the persons appointed by the Special Commission.

(ii.) The General Commission so far as they relate to the Special Commission.

(iii.) The Ministry of Justice or the Home Office so far as they relate to the General Commission, *i.e.*, by the Ministry of Justice if such complaints are in respect of legal disputes, and by the Home Office if only reference to procedure.

8. *The Land Rent Bank.*

By virtue of the Act of the 17th of March, 1832, and the Order dated the 30th of December, 1833, carrying into effect the same, a Land Rent Bank was established on the 1st of January, 1834, for the Kingdom of Saxony, having its head office in Dresden, and comprises three Commissioners, appointed by the King, who are under the control of the Ministry of Finance. The Land Rent Bank is an institution guaranteed by the State, and its duties are to pay all money rents which, in consequence of the passing of the laws relating to redemptions, have been agreed to be paid, and which have, by the choice of the party entitled according to the provisions of the law, not been paid to himself, but assigned to the Land Rent Bank. The redemption rents agreed to be paid for each piece of land or property are, after approval of the redemption contract, forthwith entered into a rent register (Rentenkataster), which is to be kept in every place. By virtue of the assignment of the rents to the Land Rent Bank the legal claim which has arisen out of the redemption, and to which the interested party is entitled, together with the rights against the property (Realrecht), has passed to the Land Rent Bank, against which the bank has issued annuity bonds to the party entitled. The annuity bonds are issued in sums of 1,000 thaler, 500 thaler, 100 thaler, 50 thaler, 25 thaler, 12 ngr., together with talons and coupons. They are bonds payable by the bank to the bearer whereby the principal is agreed to be paid a half year after future drawing (Auslosung). Until such period interest is payable half-yearly at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum. The annuity bonds have the same legal rights as Government Stock. The two-thirds of profit which is gained by the Land Rent Bank by reason of charging the parties liable on the principal of the annuity bonds which have been issued interest at the customary rate of 4 per cent., and paying interest only at the rate of 3½ per cent. to the parties entitled thereto, will be applied to cover the expenses of administration, the redemption of the annuity bonds by drawings or by purchase in own account, and by these means it is sought in course of time to extinguish the liability for payment of rent. The calling in of the annuity bonds takes place by way of drawings in such a manner that the annuity bonds are by a continual payment throughout a period of 54¼ years extinguished (Act of the 25th of February, 1888). On the redemption of the bonds the entry in the register is officially cancelled, and that without application of any party. Each party who is liable is at liberty after giving a half-year's notice to pay, wholly or in part, the principal, either by a payment in cash or on delivery of annuity bonds, and thereby to extinguish his rents or diminish them. The Land Rent Bank has since the 31st of March, 1859, ceased to accept the assignment of rents, and since the 1st of October, 1859, to issue annuity bonds, for at that time the General Commission for redemptions and divisions and the Land Rent Bank had arranged all requisite matters necessary for the purpose of accepting the redemption rents and rents derived from revenue, and which, according to the provisions of the Act, might be accepted.

"B."

The Acts passed in Saxony as to the consolidation of lands dated the 23rd day of July, 1861, and referring to the common matters of the companies formed for the purpose of consolidation dated the 29th day of April, 1890.

(1.)

Purpose and Object of Consolidation.

On the final settlement it was frequently omitted so to lay out the agricultural lands that a rational course of cultivating the allotments was impossible for the occupants. Also the consequences of the severing of the lands—into small portions—which was permitted, until the limitation of the divisibility of the ownership of the land, were, that the agricultural holdings of the individual occupants

often consisted of a number of parcels and small plots of land which were scattered and situated at long distances from each other, and which could only be worked at the sacrifice of much trouble, cost, and expenditure, and on this account were in proportion to such labour and expenditure of little profit. The consolidation of such lands is an exchange of lands which belong to different owners, but are situated promiscuously, by which a site is intended to be given to each owner as near and adjoining and favourable to the management of his estate as possible. Such exchange shall not only take place by agreement, but even against the will of one part of the occupants; (*a*) when more than one-half of the intended owners of the land have voted to apply for such exchange, (*b*) when thereby the dissolution of a society is affected whose members have a pasture which they possess in common, or over which they have certain common rights (Koppelhutungsverbandes), and without distinction as to whether cattle or other animals of one or different kinds are concerned, or making a passage always giving access to such lands, which lands are so locally situated that they can only be reached for purposes of tilling and using by means of passing with carts or driving cattle over the lands of third parties (closed lands).

(2.)

Kinds of Lands for which Consolidation may be applied.

Consolidation may be enforced in such cases where the following kinds of lands are affected:—

(*a*) Fields, (*b*) meadow, (*c*) waste lands and grass lands.

Lands which are principally used for growing wood or fruit are under this necessity only so far as by reason of bringing the same under the consolidation depends the beneficial carrying out of the consolidation of the lands as hereinbefore stated under (*a*), (*b*), (*c*). The property in pit, coal, lignite, and other minerals not subject to the right of the Crown, and which lie under the surface of the lands to be consolidated, passes, as a rule, with the ownership of the ground and soil to the new owner. By way of exception a particular adjustment is required in reference to the respective ownerships before consolidation of the lands is effected if before commencement of proceedings for consolidation, either the getting of minerals of a like kind has already begun, or the right of getting the same has been transferred to third parties, or even if the separation of the minerals which lie under the surface is applied for before application for the consolidation has been made.

(3.)

Compromise between the persons Interested in the Consolidation of the Lands.

The compromise between the parties interested in the consolidation has, as a rule, to be effected by the giving of land. To each participator is to be granted in lieu of the land which he is compelled to relinquish, ground and soil of the same value, and which is favourably situated for the management of his estate, and as near and adjoining thereto as possible, and with a full indemnification. Payment of money is only permitted by way of exception, and only in cases where, in consequence of local circumstances, and for the purpose of removing disputes about small plots, it cannot be avoided. The lands or property exchanged become the property of the new possessor, and if the lands given in exchange by him were subject to any mortgage debt, then the lands taken in exchange become liable to the same mortgage debt. Information of the draft and plan of the consolidation is to be given by means of certified extracts to the land and mortgage officials (Registry for Landed Property), so as to enable them to enter the necessary particulars into the Land and Mortgage Register.

(4.)

Proceedings on Consolidation of Lands and Property.

The proceedings are conducted according to the provisions contained in the Acts of the 17th of March, 1832, and the 15th of May, 1851, as to redemptions and divisions (compare A. 7). The same Official Act. Also since the 1st of March, 1876, the Kreishauptmannschaft at Dresden has jurisdiction in the matters.

(5.)

Companies for the Purpose of Consolidation.

The formation of consolidation companies for the purpose of watching their interests in matters which relate to their common ownership of lands and their other common rights is permitted by law, and even during the proceedings for consolidation (Act of the 29th of April, 1890), such consolidation companies may, by consent of the General Commission for redemptions and divisions elect a Board of Directors, which represents the company in legal proceedings or otherwise, and in so far, moreover, as representatives have been appointed, the company has the rights of a legal person. In this case a further administrative body of the Company is the members in meeting whose rights and duties are particularly

(*a*) Making general rules as to the enjoyment of land or property held in common, and the maintaining the plant or works in connection therewith, fixing fines for disobedience of the rules.
(*b*) Resolutions respecting the alienation of lands or property and rights, as also the disposition of the moneys thereby obtained.
(*c*) Resolutions respecting the purchase of lands or property and rights.
(*d*) To elect a Board of Directors, and to fix the periods of election.
(*e*) To approve of the accounts to be submitted by the Board of Directors.

For the purpose of acquiring and alienating land or property and rights the consent of the General Commission is required.

"C."

The Acts passed in Saxony respecting the alteration of watercourses and the execution of drainage and irrigation works, dated the 15th of August, 1855. Act explaining the same, dated the 9th of February, 1864, with the Notification of the 22nd of February, 1870. Acts for the establishment of a Rent Bank having for its object the advancement of agricultural interests (Landesculturrentenbank), and dated respectively the 26th of November, 1861, and the 1st of May, 1888.

(1.) Purpose and Object of the Act.

(*a*)—*In Reference to the Alteration of Watercourses.*

If the Home Office has sanctioned the alteration of a watercourse on account of its being highly in the interests of the cultivation of land, the owners of those lands and works the value of which is enhanced by the alteration are liable to carry out and maintain the same in proportion to the increase in value arising thereout. All owners of land or property, and all parties entitled to the user of the same, are obliged to permit, on payment of full compensation, the construction of the works rendered necessary for the aforesaid alteration, to tolerate the disadvantages arising therefrom, and in case of need to surrender the ground required.

The permission for the alteration of a watercourse or of parts thereof can only be given after a plea has been made showing and describing the works necessary to carry out the alteration, and the changes in the water supply of the affected district. The plan is to be made by the Home Office. The Minister is, however, not to give his sanction if parties representing more than one-half of the interests affected by the undertaking (and, according to paragraph 1 of the Act, imposing a liability to contribute to the alteration), object to it. The parties liable form a company, whose duty it is to shore all the banks, and make all necessary works having the object of regulating the course of the water, and protecting the same against damage (with the exception of the plant employed in making use of the water), and to maintain the banks and the aforesaid works, and also in those cases where

he alteration will make no change in the working of he bank or of such plant or works. The rights and uties of the members amongst themselves are regu- ated in proportion to their interests by rules of the ompany, which rules are drawn and approved of by he Home Office. The company acquired the rights f a legal person by Government grant.

b) In Reference to the Execution of Drainage and Irrigation Works.

Each owner of the property, provided that the cheme has been sanctioned by the State, is bound even though the project of the scheme may not be n the highest interest of land cultivation), on pay- nent of compensation, to permit the necessary acts or the purpose of carrying out the drainage or rrigation inclusive of those acts required for stem- ming and diverting the water, to grant the neces- ary servitudes, and to bear all damage arising hereout.

The possessor of works for the purpose of drainage nd irrigation works is bound to permit the owners f land to use in conjunction with him the same ipes so far as such may answer their purpose, and as may be necessary) to extend the preparations or orks made for carrying out the scheme, provided hat this shall not be prejudicial to the original bject.

Permission to construct drainage and irrigation orks is to be granted by the officials (compare 2 elow) after proceedings with the interested parties ave taken place, and at which a plan has been greed upon, in cases where it is recognised that the onstruction of the said drainage or irrigation works s impossible without using the ground or soil of thers, or only possible by an expense out of propor- ion to the circumstances of the case, and that there s no objection by the police, and the undertaker ubmits to conditions which might be imposed for he purpose of rendering sale or maintaining the eans of traffic which is affected by the aforesaid onstruction. The officials can, after application, ut an end to the imposed servitudes and duties definite sums on recurrent payments) when the rainage and irrigation works have become useless, r if they are not further required.

2.) Proceedings on the Alteration of Water-courses and on the Execution of Drainage and Irrigation Works.

For the purpose of attending to all matters in onnection with the alteration of a watercourse a egally competent Commissioner is appointed by the Home Office, who is the lowest administrative official n these matters. For the carrying out of drainage nd irrigation works the Amtshauptmannschaften administrative officials of the smallest district) are he lowest officials. The General Commission for edemptions and divisions (compare above A. 72) s the Court of Appeal against decisions as to the lteration of a watercourse. The Kreishauptmann- chaft is the Court of Appeal in all other matters hich have to be determined upon according to the Act. he duties of these officials are to investigate the acts essential for their decision without application y any party, and they are for this purpose em- owered to bring experts to their assistance. Against he decisions of the lowest officials the legal method f appeal is the "Recurs" to the intermediate fficials, and against the decisions of the latter there s a further "Recurs" to the Home Office, which is nal.

The compensation to be paid and the prices to be iven for "buying out" the parties affected are etermined by experts under the direction of the ials, who have to make known the result to the terested parties, and to transfer to the undertaker f the works the land, or property, or rights to which becomes possessed by the "buying out" of the rties affected. The compensation is, in so far as ot settled by the giving of land, to be made by pay- ent of one definite sum of money, or in recurrent y payments. Parties who are interested in a ter degree within the meaning of the Redemp- on Act (compare A. 6) are not entitled to object the "buying out" or to the transfer to the under- , of the said land, property, or rights bought. the compensation which has to be given by the undertaker consist of the giving of land, or of a rent, then this compensation becomes subject to the rights of the parties remotely interested in lieu of the property so "bought out," but if the compensa- tion consists of a sum to be paid at once, or in a price to be given on the "buying out," then for the purpose of securing the same to the parties remotely interested, such sum has to be paid to the officials of the Land and Mortgage Registry, and the latter have, before payment to the party "bought out," to protect the interests of those remotely interested according to the provisions of the Redemption Act of 1832. (Compare above A. 6.) Appendix IV.

(3.) Landesculturrentenbank.

A Rent Bank having for its objects the advancement of Agricultural interests.

For the purpose of arranging the payments which have to be made by the parties interested on account of the beforementioned undertaking, the Landesculturrentenbank has been established, which is an institution guaranteed by the State. The adjustment of the invested capital is carried out in the following manner:—On payment of a yearly rent for a period of forty-one years, amounting to five per cent. of the sum to be paid, and divisible by four pfennigs, without leaving a fraction, the Land Rent Bank pays to the party liable twenty times the amount in bonds carrying interest at the rate of four per cent., and so far as necessary, cash.

For the rents the payment of which have been assigned from the 1st of July, 1888, only $4\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. is to be paid yearly, and the time for the duration of the same has been fixed at 38 years, and carries interest on the issued bonds at the rate of $3\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. The rents have to be entered in the Land and Mortgage Registry as real incumbrances, and can be redeemed after giving a six months' notice by payment in cash, and are to be paid in four instalments—which are not payable in advance—to the tax collectors of the place, and in other respects resemble the land rents. The Landesculturrenten bonds, by which the principal is paid out, are bond debts of the Land Rent Bank, and made payable to the bearer, and in which the principal is expressed as being 6,000 marks, or 1,500 marks, or 300 marks, and wherein repayment is stated to be made at a fixed period of six months following each drawing, and the interest is stated as being payable every six months, viz.—the 30th of June and the 31st of December, and that the bonds are guaranteed by the State. The redemption to be carried out within a period of forty-one years is accomplished by the use of the one per cent. which the bank takes as profit, as it obtains from the party liable to the rent 5 per cent. or $4\frac{2}{3}$ per cent., the bonds only carrying interest at 4 per cent. or $3\frac{1}{3}$ per cent.

"D."

The Act passed in Saxony relating to the Division of the Ownership of Land, and dated the 30th of November, 1843.

1. *Purpose and Object of the Act.*

By reason of the feudal relationships being abolished at the commencement of the nineteenth century the peasant farmers acquired unrestricted liberty to parcel out their holdings, which had the effect of ruining the well-to-do peasant class. To oppose the disadvantages connected with the free division of land is the purpose and object of this Act. According to the said Act the division shall be restricted only as to estates of gentlemen farmers or fiefs, and those lands which are situated and lie within rural parishes, and are considered as closed lands, with the exception of pasture land or grass land belonging to the village, and parish lands being held in common. From lands the division of which is restricted only so much may be severed at once, or from time to time, that two-thirds of the parcels separately assessable to taxation which (exclusive of the buildings) belong to the estate at the time of passing the Dismemberment Act (Dismembrationsgesetz) remain with the original estate.

Exceptions are, however, permitted in so far as an eighth of the unseverable parcels may be severed in the following cases:—On exchange, severing for carrying on a gardener's business, for the building of dwellings in case the requirements of the pla-

render the same necessary, further on severing for the purposes of husbandry, especially the irrigation of meadows, for the purposes of husbandry and the enlargement of the farm yards with the buildings thereon (Hopheeden), as also for the finishing or rounding off of the circuit of the estate. Where the severing takes place for public purposes, particularly for the object of making ways, vineyards, the erection of trade and manufacturing establishments, etc., no restrictions are placed on the rights of severing, even with respect to "closed lands."

Closed lands are to be considered such parcels of land entered in the old registers (Flurbuch), which, on establishment of the new Land Registers, 1843 (Grundbucher), have received a common page in the "Grundbuch." What is separated from a closed piece of land takes the quality of what is known as a "walzendes" (moveable) piece of land not subject to the before-mentioned limitations respecting its severance, and if it does not by exchange become part of a number of parcels of land which are considered as closed lands. In this case, as also when separated lands or other moveable (walzend) lands become consolidated by an express declaration with closed lands, as lastly hereinbefore described, they become subject to the limitations as to severance. If on lands recently added to closed lands (Avulsen) or other moveable (walzend) lands, new sources of gain arise (through cultivation or otherwise), then, so far as the parcel (so added to the closed lands) together with the new sources of gain lastly hereinbefore referred to, are separately amenable to taxation—after a new regulation of taxes—they form a new set of closed lands, upon which on future severance the above-mentioned limitations are again applicable. The Government officials are, nevertheless, empowered in single instances to grant dispensations as to the severing of the lands otherwise then provided by law.

2. *Proceedings in Matters Relating to the Severing of Lands.*

The competent officials are:—

(1.) The officials of the Land and Mortgage Registry.

(2.) Amtshauptmannschaft.

(3.) Tax collectors of a district or the Town Council.

(4.) The Income Tax Assessment Committee of a County (Kreisstueramt) and the Ministry of Finance.

The official work is so regulated that the officials of the Land and Mortgage Registry (1) have first of all to see whether the applicants are legally qualified or entitled to dispose of their lands; then the Amtshauptmannschaft (2) has to examine in the public interest if the severing of lands is allowable; also to decide if such severing is to be allowed by way of dispensation; then the tax collectors of the district or the Town Council, and the latter body in towns with municipal law (3) has to distribute the taxes and redemption rents; the Amtshauptmannschaft (2) has to distribute the rest of the public taxes finally; the said officials in the Land and Mortgage Department (1) have to transcribe and to alter the title of the possessor in the Register. The Court for Appeals and the Court for further Appeals in cases of decisions as to whether the severing of lands if permissible or not are the Kreishauptmannschaft and the Home Office, in decisions as to the distribution of redemption rents, the Income Tax Assessment Committee (Kreissteurrat), and the Finance Ministry Result.

Result.

The endeavour of the State of Saxony by means of the legal provisions discussed in A., B., C., D. to further the development of agriculture, to bring about the release of the ground and soil from oppressive servitudes and duties, to make it possible or easier to carry out works and institutions advantageous to agriculture, and to prevent an uneconomical severing of peasant holdings has had a good result.

The peasant holdings in the kingdom of Saxony are at this time free of oppressive servitudes and duties (Erbpachts liabilities and Erbzins liabilities), and it has become impossible to burden anew the holdings of the peasant farmer with services, servitudes and duties subject to redemption, and to impose fresh Erbspachts and Erbzins liabilities. The compulsory provisions as to the division of lands, the consolidation of the same, and the alteration of watercourses, and the carrying out of drainage and irrigation works have had the effect of advancing the development of agriculture, and brought about a more advantageous course of husbandry of land in the possession of the peasant holders. The said provisions will also in the future advance the interests of this class in a most beneficial manner. The restrictions imposed on the division of land since the coming into force of this Act finally guarantees to the country a protection against the weakening and decay of a strong class of free peasant farmers indispensable for the welfare of a nation.

APPENDIX V.

Documents put in by the Right Hon. The Lord Ashtown.

A.—Summary Table showing Gross Rents, Arrears, and Salaries on the Woodlawn Estate.

	1906. Yearly Rents.	1906. Arrears.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Twenty-seven Agricultural Tenants who live on their farms, ...	537 12 6	219 14 9
Thirty-five Agricultural Tenants who labour, ...	262 7 6	106 9 9
Fifteen Grazing Tenants (yearly and eleven months'), ...	1,330 15 0	309 5 0
	2,130 15 0	—
Rent of lands in hands, including Demesne, ...	2,493 10 0	—
	4,624 5 0	635 9 6
In addition to the tenants who have work in the demesne and farm either by themselves or their sons, there are twenty-two cottages on the demesne and lands in hands containing twenty-six labourers, exclusive of steward, gardener, forcater, and heads of departments.		
	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
Acreage of farms in hands worked with demesne, ...	3,740 1 0	—
Demesne, ...	800 0 0	—
		4,540 1 0

MEMO. OF LABOUR. FARM, DEMESNE, STUD. &c.

Inclusive of Salaries to Heads of Departments	Year.	Exclusive of Salaries to Heads of Departments.
£ s. d.		£ s. d.
2,563 5 11	1900	2,438 5 11
2,664 7 11	1901	2,464 7 11
2,772 6 8	1902	2,530 13 4
2,890 0 8	1903	2,690 0 8
3,034 1 0	1904	2,810 1 0
3,130 17 0	1905	2,906 17 0
3,002 15 10	1906*	2,778 15 10
20,057 15 0		18,619 1 8

* 1906:—In addition to £2,778 15*s.* 10*d.*; Garden, Game, and House, I spent £953 15*s.*—Total, £3,732 10*s.* This sum does not include gardeners' and gamekeepers' salaries, or stable, yard, or house servants.

	£ s. d.
Farm Produce bought, 1901 to 1906, ...	2,878 7 9

B.—Particulars as to Uneconomic Holdings on the Woodlawn Estate.

Uneconomic Holdings in Killaan District, from the Rate Books.

Rental No.	Names.	Townland.	Rent.	Poor Law Valuation.	Wages per week.	Observations.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
16	Michael Kindrigan,	Ballinlough, ..	7 19 0	4 15 0	0 15 0	Son gets 15*s.* per week.
15	Patrick Kenny, ..	Do., ..	3 19 6	4 0 0	0 11 0	Son gets 11*s.* per week.
14	Patrick Kearney, ..	Do., ..	4 19 0	3 [illegible] 0	1 2 0	Kearney, 12*s.*; son, 10*s.*
—	John Fahey, ..	Ballintobber, ..	—	—	—	Tenant to C. O'H. Trench.
—	Mary Colohan, ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	Do.
30	Thomas Earls, ..	Carrowholla, ..	6 19 0	7 0 0	1 14 0	Earls, 24*s.*; son, 10*s.* Employed two other sons, who are now well situated.
31	Catherine Naughton,	Do., ..	2 0 0	2 10 0	—	Widow of old ploughman.
35	Fanny Walker, ..	Do., ..	44 10 6	43 5 0	—	Valuation on Carrowholla, £5 10*s.*; valuation on Carramore, £37 15*s.* Has a shop, not uneconomic.
—	Michael Bienhein, ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	Was in labourer's cottage; is dead.
23	John Quinn, ..	Do., ..	11 19 0	10 5 0	—	Was in employment; had two sons in employment, who went to America.
33	Margaret Scarry, ..	Carrowmore, ..	8 19 0	7 10 0	—	Dead.
28	Cornelius Kelly, ..	Do., ..	7 19 0	7 15 0	—	Wife formerly laundress: had two sons in employment—one dead, one gone to America.
—	Reps. J. Keating, ..	Do., ..	2 12 0	—	2 3 0	Three brothers, £1, 13*s.*, 10*s.*; live in labourer's cottage, get milk, fuel, and small garden.
—	Reps. P. Kerrigan,	Do., ..	—	—	—	Cripple; lives with Catherine Norton; gets 2*s.* 6*d.* a week.
—	Michael Cavanagh,	Do., ..	—	—	—	Bootmaker; formerly employed son.

APPENDIX V

B.—Particulars as to Uneconomic Holdings on the Woodlawn Estate—*continued.*

Uneconomic Holdings in Killaan Districts from the Rate Book,—*continued.*

Rental No.	Names.	Townland.	Rent.	Poor Law Valuation.	Wages per week.	Observations.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
—	John Sweeny, ..	Carrowmore, ..	—	—	—	All gone to America; lived in cottage; go constant employment.
	John Sweeny, ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	Do.
—	Thomas Turner, ..	Do., ..	2 12 0	—	1 15 0	Four brothers, 12*s.*, 9*s.*, 8*s.*, and 6*s.*; cottag with big garden, fuel and milk.
36	Denis Madden, ..	Do., ..	9 19 0	10 7 0	—	Was dismissed from the police for drink won't take work.
—	Workman's house,	Do., ..	—	—	—	——
—	John Coy, ..	Castlebin South, ..	—	—	—	Tenant of C. O'H. Trench.
—	Patrick Ryan, ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	Do.
—	Anne Cahill, ..	Cloonahinch, ..	—	—	—	National School mistress.
—	Pat Dooley, ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	Housed; gets milk, fuel, and 12*s.* a week.
—	Edward Campbell,	Clonatloukaun, ..	—	—	—	National School teacher.
49	Patrick Higgins, ..	Cloonymorris, ..	12 13 0	10 5 0	3 4 0	Three daughters in laundry, £2 a week two sons, 12*s.*, 12*s.*
50	Michael Cannon, ..	Do., ..	10 19 0	9 10 0	0 11 6	Son employed in garden, 11*s.* 6*d.* a week.
—	House and land, ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	——
—	John Quinn, ..	Gortfadda, ..	—	—	—	Tenant of C. O'H. Trench.
—	Pat Lally, ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	Do.
—	Bridget Feeny, ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	Do.
—	John Cannon, ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	Do.
53	Martin Quinn, ..	Cloncallis, ..	28 18 0	21 10 0	—	Holding about 30 acres; not uneconomic.
198	John Cahill, ..	Gortlemon, ..	3 9 0	5 0 0	0 11 0	One son gets 11*s.* 4*d.* a week; employed another, but he went to America.
196	Owen Dwyer, ..	Do., ..	8 0 0	9 0 0	0 12 0	One son employed all year round, another in winter; he has other farms as well.
—	Thomas Murray, ..	Gortmore, ..	—	—	—	Not known.
67	Fanny Griffin, ..	Do., ..	3 14 0	5 5 0	0 12 0	Son gets 12*s.* a week.
—	John Menton, ..	Greenhills, ..	—	—	—	Bought out his holding.
79	James Hughes, ..	Killaan, ...	8 18 0	8 5 0	1 0 0	Two sons 10*s.* a week; father a road contractor; gets odd jobs.
78	Edward Shea, ..	Do., ..	7 19 0	7 15 0	0 12 0	Son gets 12*s.* a week.
73	Michael Mullen, ..	Do., ..	4 19 0	5 5 0	—	Gets odd jobs; employed two sons, who have gone to America.
74	Martin Higgins, ..	Do., ..	7 0 0	7 5 0	—	Crank.
71	Widow M'Donagh,	Do., ..	9 19 0	9 0 0	1 4 0	Two sons get 12*s.* a week each.
77	Thomas Fahey, ..	Do., ..	8 19 0	8 0 0	—	Used to employ one son; is very industrious.
84	Michael Brien, ..	Do., ..	6 9 0	3 10 0	—	Gets employment elsewhere; is very industrious.
81	Patrick Kelly, ..	Do., ..	8 19 0	0 5 0	—	Self and sons dismissed.
—	Workman's house,	Do., ..	—	—	—	——
—	Do., ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	——
—	Do., ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	——
—	Do., ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	——
—	Margaret Colohan,	Loughaunavaage,	—	—	—	Has a small field adjoining large farm of O'H. Trench.
—	Richard Brien, ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	Not known.
83	B. Mannion, ..	Do., ..	8 19 0	9 5 0	1 4 0	Now Lyons; he gets 24*s.* a week.
—	Thomas Dooley, ..	Moneyveen, ..	—	—	—	Gone.
—	James Gallagher, ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	Gone. Sergt. R.I.C. in Castleblakeney.
—	Peter Finn, ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	Gone.
—	Peter Finn, ..	Do., ..	3 2 0	—	0 13 0	Cottage and bit of land for 10*s.*; gets fuel and cottage; employed all family; gone to America.
—	Dan Kelly, ..	Do., ..	—	—	—	Dead.
—	Michael M'Donagh,	Do., ..	—	—	0 10 0	Gets 10*s.*, cottage, garden, fuel.
—	Bridget Mullen, ..	Do., ..	2 12 0	—	—	Dressmaker.
—	Pat Brien, ..	Lisnamoltaun, ..	—	—	—	Herd to O'H. Trench.
92	Richard Byrne, ..	Moyarwood, ..	2 15 0	2 0 0	—	Dismissed.
93	Michael Dwyer, ..	Do., ..	10 19 0	6 15 0	—	Used to employ brother; gone to America.
91	Patrick Kelly, ..	Do., ..	5 19 0	4 0 0	0 11 0	Gets 11*s.* a week.
96	Thomas Cavanagh;	Radullaun, ..	4 19 0	6 15 0	1 14 0	Gets 24*s.* a week; son, 10*s*
97	Robert Grant, ..	Do., ..	3 0 0	2 15 0	0 12 0	Gets 12*s.* a week; lives in lodge.
—	John Earls, ..	Coppanagh, ..	—	—	1 1 0	Gets 13*s.* 6*d.*; son, 7*s.* 6*d.*; gets cottage, garden, milk, and fuel.
—	John Skehill, ..	Castlebin East, ..	—	—	—	Herd.

C.—Table showing Amount allowed to Tenants for Improvements.

Period	Allowed Tenants for Improvements.	Estate. Building.	Drains, Fences. Roads.	Grazing, Building.	Farms, Drains, Fences.	Labour, generally.	Bills.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1859-1881	513 0 8	3,368 15 5½	1,139 3 4	465 10 5	2,877 19 0½	500 8 4	—	8,864 17 3
1881-1889	1,017 9 2	32 19 10	27 15 2	269 14 4	452 6 8	236 15 3	128 1 10	2,165 2 3
1889-1906	1,537 3 1	179 12 0	209 18 3	274 10 2	1,048 19 8	1,184 6 6	248 11 5	4,683 1 1
	3,067 12 11	3,581 7 3½	1,376 16 9	1,009 14 11	4,379 5 4½	1,921 10 1	376 13 3	15,713 0 7

D.—List of Agricultural Tenants on Woodlawn Estate who work as Labourers.

Agricultural Tenants.

Rental No.	Names.	Yearly Rent.	Arrears last Account.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
27	Richard Kelly, ...	18 4 8	9 2 4
28	Do., ...	20 0 0	10 0 0
25	Do., ...	32 15 0	16 7 6
34	James M'Culla, ...	6 19 0	3 9 6
40	Do., ...	32 16 0	16 8 0
32	Maria Kelly, ...	0 15 0	0 7 6
26	Do., ...	32 18 6	16 9 3
59	Patrick Reilly, ...	6 0 0	—
77	Thomas Fahy, ...	8 19 0	4 9 6
80	James Higgins, ...	13 9 0	—
81	Patrick Kelly, ...	8 19 0	4 9 6
84	Michael Bryan, ...	6 9 0	3 4 6
92	Reps. Patrick Byrnes, ..	2 15 0	—
95	Thomas Jackson, ...	39 17 0	—
194	Thomas Dolan, ...	1 10 0	0 15 0
197	Eliza Mullen, ...	11 2 10	7 5 8
199	Patrick Donohoe, ...	9 10 0	4 15 0
22	Joseph Kelly, ...	24 17 0	12 8 6
23	John Quinn, ...	11 19 0	5 19 6
24	Ellen Neill, ...	13 18 0	6 19 0
29	Ellen Glynn, ...	15 19 0	7 19 6
35	Reps. George Walker, ..	44 10 6	11 0 0
36	Denis Madden, ...	9 19 0	4 19 6
37	Patrick Quinn, ...	14 19 0	7 9 6
38	Connor Kelly, ...	7 19 0	3 19 6
43	Michael Grady, ...	10 0 0	—
53	Martin Quinn, ...	23 18 0	11 19 0
60	Bridget Tarpey, ...	20 11 0	10 5 6
74	Martin Higgins, ...	7 0 0	—
82	George Phillips, ...	32 7 0	16 3 6
94	R. J. Clarke, ...	46 17 0	23 8 6
		537 12 6	219 14 9

Grazing Tenants.

Names.	Yearly Rent.	Arrears last Account.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Thomas F. Falkiner	183 0 0	91 10 0
Patrick Quinn, ...	4 10 0	2 5 0
Holland's Farm (Lowry and Clarke),	215 0 0	—
Carrane Island, ...	15 0 0	—
John D. Lowry, ..	166 0 0	83 0 0

Grazing Tenants—*continued.*

Names.	Yearly Rent.	Arrears last Account.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Thomas Jackson, ...	25 0 0	—
Thomas Jackson (Junior), ..	50 0 0	—
John D. Lowry, ...	110 0 0	—
Fanny Griffin, ...	0 15 0	—
John D. Lowry, ...	100 0 0	—
Mary M'Culla's Farm (Fahy and Jackson).	67 10 0	—
James Jackson, ...	66 10 0	—
Thomas F. Falkiner, ...	90 0 0	40 0 0
Patrick Raftery, ...	185 0 0	92 10 0
Patrick Collins, Summerville, ..	52 10 0	—
	1,330 15 0	309 5 0

Agricultural Tenants who also Labour.

Rental No.	Names.	Yearly Rent.	Arrears last Account.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
14	Patrick Carney, ...	4 19 0	2 9 6
17	Martin Cannon, ...	2 19 0	1 4 6
20	Bridget Feeny, ...	0 10 0	0 5 0
30	Thomas Earls, ...	6 19 0	—
31	Catherine Norton, ...	2 0 0	1 0 0
33	Margaret Scarry, ...	8 19 0	4 9 6
39	Peter Finn, ...	0 10 0	—
49	Patrick Higgins, ...	12 13 0	—
51	Malachi Norton, ...	10 19 0	—
71	Ellen M'Donagh, ...	9 19 0	—
72	Michael Mitchell, ...	16 17 0	8 8 6
73	Michael Mullen, ...	4 19 0	2 9 6
78	Edward Shea, ...	7 19 0	—
83	Bridget Mannion, ...	8 19 0	4 9 6
87	John Coulahan, ...	4 0 0	4 0 0
91	Anne Dwane, ...	5 19 0	2 19 6
96	Thomas Kavanagh, ..	4 19 0	—
97	Mary Anne Grant, ...	3 0 0	—
100	Thomas Cahill, ...	12 19 0	6 9 6
101	William Forde, ...	11 0 0	—
191	Owen Dwyer, ...	4 0 0	4 0 0
192	Michael Murray, ...	8 19 0	8 19 0
193	Patrick Murray, ...	4 19 0	4 19 0
195	John Burke, ...	4 12 0	9 5 0
196	Owen Dwyer, ...	8 0 0	8 0 0
198	John Cahill, ...	3 9 0	1 15 0

APPENDIX V.

D.—List of Agricultural Tenants on Woodlawn Estate who work as Labourers—*continued.*

Agricultural Tenants who also Labour—*continued.*

No.	Names.	Yearly Rent.	Arrears last Account.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
13	Patrick Ward, ...	14 18 0	7 9 0
15	Patrick Kenny, ...	3 19 6	1 19 9
16	Michael Kindregan, ..	7 19 0	3 19 6
48	Bridget Mullen, ...	11 19 0	—
50	Kate Cannon, ...	10 19 0	—

Agricultural Tenants who also Labour—*continued.*

No.	Names.	Yearly Rent.	Arrears last Account.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
62	Martin Geoghegan, ...	14 5 0	8 0 0
67	Fanny Griffin, ...	3 14 0	—
79	James Hughes, ...	8 18 0	4 9 0
93	Michael Dwyer, ...	10 19 0	5 9 6
		262 7 6	106 9 9

APPENDIX VI

APPENDIX VI.

Documents put in by Mr. J. P. Hayden in connection with the Evidence given by him before the Commission.

A. REDUCTIONS IN THE NUMBER OF HABITATIONS IN THE COUNTY ROSCOMMON FROM 1841 to 1901.

(*a*) Non-Congested (Rich Lands).

District Electoral Divisions.	Average Valuation of Land per Statute Acre.	Number of Inhabited Houses.		Number of Inhabitants.	
		1841.	1901.	1841.	1901.
	£ s. d.				
Castleplunkett, ..	0 16 0	385	121	2,221	638
Castleteheen, ..	0 16 0	246	58	1,351	261
Ogulla, ..	0 18 6	246	73	1,471	330
Carrowduff, ..	0 14 0	247	81	1,423	406
Rossmore, ..	0 14 6	256	98	1,527	405
Cloonygormican, ..	0 15 0	316	89	1,928	478
Total, ..	0 15 8	1,696	520	9,921	2,518
				Reduction 75 per cent.	

(*b*) Congested (Poor Lands).

Fairymount, ..	0 5 6	568	389	3,264	1,668
Buckhill, ..	0 7 0	439	328	2,483	1,552
Artagh North, ..	0 6 6	531	558	2,763	2,664
Artagh South, ..	0 3 2	405	393	2,197	1,860
Loughglynn, ..	0 7 6	653	418	3,636	1,981
Cloonfower, ..	0 3 2	345	307	1,987	1,446
Coolougher, ..	0 4 6	537	342	3,082	1,693
Ballintlough, ..	0 4 0	676	582	3,641	2,877
Kiltullagh, ..	0 5 9	740	541	3,788	2,841
Totals, ..	0 5 3	4,894	3,858	26,841	18,582
				Reduction 30 per cent.	

(*c*) Poor Lands.

District Electoral Divisions.	Average Valuation of Land per Statute Acre.	Number of Inhabited Houses.		Number of Inhabitants.	
		1841.	1901.	1841.	1901.
	£ s. d.				
Altagowlan, ..	0 3 9	151	80	852	448
Lough Allen, ..	0 5 9	246	153	1,415	769
Keadew, ..	0 6 9	444	174	2,590	792
Ballyfarnon, ..	0 6 3	154	98	915	463
Aghafin, ..	0 4 6	259	144	1,566	662
Crossna, ..	0 5 9	478	195	2,577	908
Ballyfermoyle, ..	0 4 0	225	157	1,344	672
Kilbryan, ..	0 5 0	539	231	3,039	1,068
Tumna North, ..	0 5 9	326	162	1,821	744
Tumna South, ..	0 6 6	365	164	1,989	765
Totals, ..	0 5 6	3,187	1,558	18,108	7,291
				Reduction 60 per cent.	

(*d*) Moderately Rich Lands.

Oakport, ..	0 10 3	330	84	1,854	402
Rockingham, ..	0 12 3	248	104	1,580	528
Killukin (Carrick-on-Shannon).	0 12 6	224	98	1,348	442
Danesfort, ..	0 11 9	334	158	1,930	719
Creeve (Carrick-on-Shannon).	0 12 6	250	83	1,442	374
Aughrim East, ..	0 11 0	441	153	2,584	764
Aughrim West, ..	0 11 0	463	147	2,616	648
Cloonteem, ..	0 10 0	379	137	2,281	683
Totals, ..	0 11 5	2,669	964	15,635	4,560
				Reduction 70 per cent.	

The population of the county fell between 1841 and 1902 from about 260,000 to 100,000.

3.—VALUATION OF AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS IN CERTAIN SECTIONS OF COUNTY ROSCOMMON.

Summary of Groups.

Confines of group of District Electoral Divisions.	Average Annual Valuation per Statute Acre of all the Land in each group.	Number of Holdings classed according to Poor Law Valuations.					Aggregate Area of Holdings valued at or over £50 each	Valuations.	Number of Habitations.
		Under £5.	Under £12.	£12 to £25.	£25 to £50.	Over £50.			
POOR LANDS.	£ s. d.						Statute Acres.	£	
—Western half of Castlerea Union,	0 5 0	4,909	6,201	232	51	41	6,292	25,620	5,047
—Part of county north of Boyle and Carrick.	0 5 6	1,541	2,154	102	28	10	1,755	11,113	1,558
—Part of county bounded by Strokestown, Lanesboro', Roosky, and Kilmore.	0 7 0	1,867	2,606	241	69	14	1,742	15,387	1,589
Total of above, ..	0 5 9	8,317	10,961	575	148	65	9,789	52,120	8,194
RICH LANDS.									
—Part of county bounded by Frenchpark, Castlerea, Creggs, Rahara, Roscommon, Elphin.	0 12 6	2,714	4,041	750	267	432	76,337	90,515	3,639
—Part of county bounded by Knockcroghery, Ballyforan, Drum, Ballybay, and Mount-Plunkett.	0 6 9	1,842	2,786	332	135	100	24,857	29,391	1,788
—Part of county bounded by Boyle, Carrick, Kilmore, Strokestown, and Elphin.	0 10 6	1,427	2,331	410	156	181	27,735	38,965	2,191
Total of above, ...	0 10 2	5,983	9,158	1,492	558	713	128,929	158,871	7,618
—Scattered Divisions, ...	—	3,590	5,641	668	176	112	19,168	48,065	4,242
Total of county, exclusive of Towns.	—	17,890	25,760	2,735	882	890*	157,886	259,056	20,054
Percentages of total number of holdings in the county, exclusive of Towns.	-	60%	85%	9%	3%	3%	33% of the arable land of the county.	—	—

* In a large number of cases two or more of these holdings—as well as those of other classes—are occupied by one person.
Gross Total number of holdings in the county, .. 30,267.

C.—SPECIAL COMPARISONS.

Group of District Electoral Divisions.	Point of Similarity.		Number of Holdings classed according to Poor Law Valuations.					Aggregate Area of Holdings valued at or over £50 each.	Average Annual Valuation per Statute Acre of all the Land in each group.
	Valuation.	Number of Habitations.	under £5.	under £12.	£12 to £25.	£25 to £50.	over £50.		
I.	£							Statute Acres.	£ s. d.
Western half of Castlerea Union, ..	25,620	5,047	4,909	6,201	232	51	41	6,292	0 5 0
District Electoral Divisions of Castleplunket, Castletechan, Oguila, Carrowduff, Rossmore, and Clooneyormican. A group lying between Ballintubber and Elphin, and not already grouped.	27,608	520*	247	393	127	57	149	24,606	0 15 8
The above groups are only three miles apart.									
II.									
District Electoral Divisions of Artogh North.	Nearly 3,000	558	510	698	17	8	5	624	0 6 6
Castleplunket (each of which is 14¼ square miles in extent). Both are in Castlerea Union.	Nearly 8,000	121†	69	110	28	11	40	7,340	0 16 0
			ROSCOMMON RURAL DISTRICT.						
Roscommon Rural District (exclusive of Town).	—	—	907	3,772	648	—	253	46,253	—

* Of which 171 are those of herds and cottiers. † Of which 42 are those of herds and cottiers.

APPENDIX VII.

DOCUMENTS put in by LIEUT.-COLONEL WM. HUTCHESON POË, in reply to Evidence given at Newry and Cookstown in May, 1907.

A.—NOTES OF EVIDENCE.

My attention having been called to the evidence given at Newry and at Cookstown, last month, before the Royal Commission on Congestion in Ireland in connection with a property belonging to my wife, situated near Cookstown, in the County Tyrone, I beg to be permitted to make a short statement, and to submit tabulated returns dealing with the points raised by Mr. John Doris (Q. 37916), and by the Rev. Canon Quinn, P.P. (Q. 35312-23),* wherein they refer to the generally uneconomic conditions of the holdings on this estate, and to the exorbitant terms which, as they allege, Mrs. Poë and myself are demanding for its purchase.

1. The general trend of Canon Quinn's evidence seemed directed towards showing that this estate consisted for the most part of holdings under £5 valuation, and of less than ten acres in area; that the occupants as a rule depended on sources of employment other than land for their livelihood and rent-earning capacity; and that under such circumstances a landlord was not entitled, when negotiating terms of purchase with his tenants, to look for such a price as would bring in his second term net rental.

2. The tabular returns, which I have appended, and which show in detail the area and valuation of all the holdings, will, I think, satisfy the Commissioners that Canon Quinn's evidence on these points is scarcely borne out by facts, while as regards his contention that the rent of these holdings is derived from money earned in Great Britain or America, I have no hesitation in saying that in ninety-nine cases out of 100, the rent is paid solely by the land.

Few, if any, members of the tenants' families, on this estate at any rate, go to England or Scotland for employment, finding quite sufficient work to any spare time they may have in labouring for larger farmers in the immediate neighbourhood of their own homes.

3. I think I am also entitled to point out that all the tenants on this estate have turbary—of an exceptionally good quality—on very favourable terms; those who have it in their own lands get it free, while the remainder are charged at the rate of 5*s.* the Irish rood.

These specially low prices were granted by Mrs. Poë's aunt, shortly before the former succeeded to the property, and she has never departed from them.

4. Canon Quinn is in error in stating that the estate is nine miles from the nearest railway station. This is true only of one townland—Broughderg—the remaining five townlands being from three to six miles only from Cookstown, one of the best market towns in the North.

5. That Canon Quinn has rather over-stated the case when he implies that the majority of the tenants live on what he describes as "bogland—miserable bogland" (Q. 35323), and that they have great difficulty in meeting their rent, will, I think be evident when I state that since Mrs. Poë's succession to the property, nearly twenty years ago,

1. There has not been a single eviction;
2. The arrears have decreased from £1,400 to less than £400;
3. In no single year has the agent failed to collect less than the current year's rent;
4. The costs of collection, including agency fees, legal expenses, &c., have not averaged more than 8 per cent. annually.

6. Lastly, with regard to Canon Quinn's contention that for second and third-class land, such as he implies this estate to be, eighteen years' purchase by the tenant, added to 20 per cent. bonus by the State, can be invested so as to give an owner the equivalent of his second term net rental—to which apparently Canon Quinn considers he is entitled—I fail to see how *under any circumstances* such a result could be obtained. I greatly doubt if such a proposition would be true, even in the case of heavily-mortgaged estates, subject to high rates of interest thereon, but I am quite certain that it would fall very wide of the mark, when dealing with an unencumbered property, free of charges of any kind, such as that belonging to Mrs. Poë.

As I have already stated, the costs of collection, &c., are well within the 10 per cent. margin allowed for "deductions" in the Land Conference Report, and the estate being in strict settlement, the proceeds of any sale must be invested in such securities as a reasonably prudent trustee would approve of.

Let me take Canon Quinn's proposition, and assume a second term gross rental of £100 a year.

18 years' purchase, payable by tenant, .	£1,800
20 per cent. bonus, payable by State, .	360
Total proceeds of sale, . . .	£2,160

This sum, invested at, say, 3½ per cent. (beyond which no prudent trustee would go), would yield £75 12*s.*, as against £90, which Mrs. Poë at present receives.

7. If account be taken of the costs involved in carrying through a sale—not desired by the owner, but solely made in the interests of the tenant and of the State—(such as proving title, compensating agent, &c., which it was never contemplated in the Land Conference recommendations that the owner should pay), twenty-four and a half years' purchase, *plus* the bonus of 12 per cent., are the lowest terms, which would give an owner the equivalent of his second term net rental, and I see no reason, when all the circumstances of this particular estate are taken into consideration, for asking less.

* See Appendix to the Seventh Report of the Commission [Cd. 3785, 1907], pp. 17 and 98.

B.—Sales of Tenants' Interests on Estates of Witness in Co. Tyrone, since 1st January, 1882.

TABLE I.

Name of Tenant (Vendor and Purchaser).	Area, Statute Measure.	Griffith's Valuation.	Rent. Original Rent.	Rent. Judicial Rent.	If Judicial Rent, insert Date when fixed.	Date of Sale of the Tenancy.	Amount obtained for the Tenancy.	Number of Years' Purchase of the Rent.	OBSERVATIONS. (*Inter alia*, information would be useful as to quality and condition of land and buildings at date of sale, and whether improved or deteriorated by the outgoing tenant.)
	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£		
Bridget Monaghan, sold to Hugh M'Cullach.	5 2 23	5 5 0	4 17 0	1 10 8	1st Term rent, 1884.	24th Nov., 1903,	65	43	All arable.
Bridget Monaghan, sold to Edward Donaghey.	4 1 0	1 15 0	2 9 4	1 19 7	Do., ..	2nd Oct., 1897,	76	40	2nd Term rent, £1 13*s.* 7*d.* Feb., 1900. All arable.
William Bell, sold to Robert Bell.	14 1 0	—	7 2 8	5 12 0	Do., ..	2nd April, 1892,	184	33½	2nd Term rent, £41 3*s.* June, 1900. All arable.
Exors. John Mooney, sold to John Hagan.	26 1 30	4 10 0	5 12 4	4 10 0	Do., ..	3rd Oct., 1896,	200	44½	2nd Term rent. £31 6*s.* 6*d.* Nov., 1901.* All arable.
Reps. Wm. Magill, sold to William Crooks.	12 3 25	46 15 0	Lease.	5 13 3	—	2nd Feb., 1901,	200	35	About 6 acres arable; remainder mountain.
Reps. Wm. Magill, sold to James M'Garvey.	41 1 27			21 0 0	—	Do., ..	1,100	52½	All arable.
John M'Cracken, sold to John M'Annulla.	6 0 0	2 5 0	3 17 8	2 2 6	2nd Term rent, 1904.	22nd Feb., 1905,	90	43	Do.
Patrick M'Ivor, sold to Matthew M'Crory.	56 2 34	11 0 0	14 2 6	7 18 0	2nd Term rent, 1899.	3rd Mar., 1906,	450	57	About 30 acres arable; remainder mountain.
John Hagan, sold to Patrick M'Garvey.	26 1 30	4 10 0	5 12 4	3 16 6	2nd Term rent, 1901.	10th Nov., 1904,	270	73	*See above; this farm sold in 1896 (1st Term rent) for £200. About 14 acres arable; remainder mountain.
Michael M'Garvey, sold to Patk. M'Garvey.	25 1 6	6 5 0	6 11 4	4 12 0	2nd Term rent, 1900.	8th July, 1902,	375	81½	About 17 acres arable; remainder mountain.
Felix Hagan, sold to Patrick M'Garvey.	87 3 24	4 0 0	0 5 6	5 17 4	2nd Term rent, 1902.	29th Dec., 1903,	295	50½	About 45 acres arable; remainder mountain.
James Quin, sold to Patrick Quin.	67 0 0	*	*	6 0 0	1st Term rent, 1881.	1st Nov., 1893,	214	35½	About 18 acres arable; remainder mountain.
Henry M'Cullough, sold to James M'Cullough.	44 1 20	5 0 0	4 10 6	3 17 6	1st Term rent 1889.	13th Mar., 1896,	144	37	Arable.
Peter O'Neill, sold to Michael M'Crory.	15 0 10	3 10 0	3 18 0	2 13 0	2nd Term rent, 1900.	13th April, 1905,	200	75½	About 8 acres arable: remainder mountain.
Hugh O'Neill, sold to Patrick Brady.	160 0 20	20 10 0	16 0 0	12 0 0	1st Term rent, 1882.	6th May, 1905,	410	34	About 80 acres arable; remainder mountain.
Edward Donaghey, sold to Patk. Donaghey.	9 0 15	—	6 12 10	5 6 4	1st Term rent, 1884.	3rd Mar., 1906,	160	30	All arable.
Eliza Kempton, sold to Wm. Bradford.	6 3 0	4 10 0	4 4 6	3 7 8	Do., ..	1st Jan., 1898,	100	29	2nd Term rent, £2 17*s* 6*d.* May, 1900. All arable.
John M'Cracken, sold to Wm.Crooks (Dunmore)	3 1 24	2 10 0	2 10 6	2 0 6	Do., ..	27th Feb., 1903,	95	47½	All arable.
John Magione, sold to Wm. Crooks (Ballypriest).	19 0 30	2 0 0	3 10 0	1 16 0	Do., ..	4th Jan., 1902,	120	66½	——

* Part of a much larger holding. Difficult to apportion valuation or original rent.

TABLE II.

Holdings sold to Landlord, who exercised the Right of Pre-emption.

	A. R. P.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.			£		
Thomas Kempton, sold to Mrs. Poe.	167 0 0	4 0 0	—	2 8 0	1st Term rent, 1884.	January, 1900,	105	14 nearly.	About 10 acres arable, remainder mountain.
Jane Dunn, sold to Mrs. Poe.	102 0 0	10 10 0	—	8 10 0	2nd Term rent, 1895.	October, 1905,	220	26 nearly.	About 40 acres arable; remainder mountain. The farm had been so badly cared for that at the date of owner exercising his right of pre-emption a large part of the arable land had gone back to mountain.

C.—Showing Area and Valuation of Holdings.

Valuation.	Number.	Area.	Number.
Under £5, ...	86	Under 10 acres, ...	31
Between £5 and £10, ..	58	Between 10 and 20 acres, ..	43
„ £10 and £20, ..	23	„ 20 and 40 acres, ..	44
„ £20 and £42, ..	6	„ 40 and 100 acres, ..	35
		„ 100 and 200 acres, ..	11
		„ 200 and 300 acres, ..	2
		„ 300 and 400 acres, ..	4
		„ 500 and 600 acres, ..	1
		Over 1,000 acres, ...	2
Total, ...	173		

The proportion of arable to mountain, approximately, same as shown in Tables I. and II.

Total annual rental (exclusive of bog rents to tenants and out-tenants), £1,222, the valuation being £1,555. About £300 of above are 1st Term rents.

APPENDIX VIII.

APPENDIX VIII.

RETURN put in by Mr. JOHN FITZGIBBON.

TABLE showing Area, Number, and Valuation of Holdings in County of Roscommon, exclusive of Towns.

Confines of group of District Electoral Divisions.	Names of District Electoral Divisions.	Number of Holdings classed according to Poor Law Valuations.		Aggregate Area of Holdings valued at over £50 each.
		Under £5.	Total under £12.	Statute Acres.
A.—Western half of Castlerea Union.	Ballaghaderreen, ..	768	863	341
	Edmondstown, ..	414	462	138
	Fairymount, ..	288	438	214
	Buckhill, ..	251	398	158
	Artagh North, ..	510	698	624
	Artagh South, ..	429	488	380
	Loughglynn, ..	438	624	1,063
	Cloonfower, ..	350	415	542
	Coolougher, ..	332	423	744
	Ballinlough, ..	600	722	473
	Kiltullagh, ..	529	670	1,615
	Totals, ..	4,909	6,201	6,292
B.—Part of county north of Boyle and Carrick-on-Shannon.	Altagowlan, ..	95	131	—
	Loughallen, ..	144	206	—
	Keadew, ..	193	276	1,001
	Ballyfarnon, ..	135	162	119
	Aghafin, ..	162	239	278
	Crossna, ...	254	324	181
	Ballyfermoyle, ..	181	226	7
	Kilbryan, ..	160	208	176
	Tumna North, ..	116	184	—
	Tumna South, ..	101	198	—
	Ten divisions. Totals, ..	1,541	2,154	1,755
C.—Area bordered by the following places:—Strokestown, Lanesboro ugh, Rooskey, and Kilmore.	Kilglass North, ..	292	407	320
	Kilglass South, ..	170	284	372
	Rooskey, ..	342	397	—
	Tarmonbarry, ..	275	341	—
	Bumlin, ...	123	221	570
	Killavackan, ..	171	256	—
	Kilgefin, ..	250	362	—
	Cloontuskert, ..	244	338	480
	Eight divisions. Totals, ..	1,867	2,606	1,742
D.—Area comprised within the chain formed by the following places:—Frenchpark, Castlerea, Creggs, Rahara, Roscommon, Elphin.	Frenchpark, ..	262	420	2,377
	Ballinagare, ..	265	391	5,831
	Castleplunket, ..	69	110	7,340
	Castlerea, ..	341	427	3,226
	Ballintubber, ..	205	294	5,018
	Castleteheen, ..	18	32	3,583
	Carrowduff, ..	57	78	2,202
	Rosamore, ..	34	73	2,743
	Cloonyquin, ..	168	287	2,229
	Ogulla, ...	18	31	3,475
	Tulsk, ...	140	204	1,427
	Killukin (Strokestown).	65	112	1,490
	Kilbride North,	54	104	2,533
D—*continued.*	Kilbride South, ..	58	116	
	Cloonygormican, ..	51	69	
	Donamon, ..	113	148	
	Rosmoylan, ..	134	173	
	Cams, ...	79	135	
	Roscommon Rural,	234	322	
	Fuerty, ...	225	312	
	Athleague East, ..	70	123	
	Lackan, ...	54	80	
	Totals, ..	2,714	4,041	
E.—Between following places:—Knockcroghery, Ballyforan, Drum, Ballybay, and Mountplunket.	Scregg, ...	140	198	
	Lecarrow, ..	170	242	
	Carnagh, ..	172	244	
	Caltragh, ..	56	99	
	Turrock, ..	127	183	
	Kilcor, ...	77	120	
	Rockhill, ..	69	107	
	Kiltoom, ..	220	302	
	Ballinamona, ..	138	210	
	Taughmaconnell, ..	100	130	
	Castlesampson, ..	91	146	
	Thomastown, ..	154	239	
	Ballydangan, ..	126	219	
	Creagh, ...	117	219	
	Culliagh, ..	30	48	
	Cloonburren, ..	55	80	
	Sixteen divisions, Totals, ..	1,842	2,786	
F.—Between following places:—Boyle, Carrick-on-Shannon, Kilmore, Strokestown, and Elphin.	Oakport, ..	50	85	
	Rockingham, ..	53	87	
	Rushfield, ..	32	93	
	Croghan, ..	168	248	
	Killukin (Carrick-on-Shannon).	41	93	
	Dancsfort, ..	94	158	
	Killummod, ..	40	78	
	Creeve (Carrick-on-Shannon).	37	72	
	Aughrim W., ..	74	154	
	Aughrim E., ..	112	181	
	Cloonteem, ..	96	144	
	Kilmore, ..	95	154	
	Creeve (Strokestown).	117	173	
	Elia, ...	37	73	
	Cregga, ...	47	115	
	Ballygarden, ..	152	245	
	Strokestown, ..	182	178	
	Seventeen divisions. Totals, ..	1,427	2,331	

showing Area, Number, and Valuation of Holdings in County of Roscommon, exclusive of Towns—*continued*. APPENDIX VIII.

...s of group District ...al Divisions.	Names of District Electoral Divisions.	Number of Holdings classed according to Poor Law Valuations.		Aggregate Area of Holdings valued at over £50 each.
		Under £5.	Total under £12.	Statute Acres.
... ..	——	4,909	6,201	6,292
... ..	——	1,541	2,154	1,755
... ..	——	1,867	2,606	1,742
	Poor Areas Totals,	8,317	10,961	9,789
... ..	——	2,714	4,041	76,337
... .	——	1,842	2,786	24,857
... .	——	1,427	2,331	27,735
	Grazing Areas Totals,	5,983	9,158	128,929
...3.—Scattered ...roughout ...e County.	Boyle Rural, ..	268	274	785
	Tivannagh, ..	148	216	420
	Breedogue, ..	103	213	323
	Estersnow, ..	69	111	334
	Kilcolagh, ..	93	146	663
	Mantua, ...	103	170	396
	Kilmacumsey, ..	76	168	489
	Lisgarve, ..	64	140	930
	Elphin, ...	88	193	820

Confines of group of District Electoral Divisions.	Names of District Electoral Divisions.	Number of Holdings classed according to Poor Law Valuations.		Aggregate Area of Holdings valued at over £50 each.
		Under £5.	Total under £12.	Statute Acres.
G—*continued.*				
	Baslick, ...	66	132	189
	Annaghmore, ..	228	375	211
	Cloonfinlough, ..	125	228	500
	Lissonuffy, ..	150	223	1,428
	Drumdaff, ..	134	261	731
	Kilteevan, ..	195	270	1,898
	Mote, ...	142	225	2,477
	Lismaha, ..	160	225	2,226
	Athleague W., ..	182	311	1,793
	Taghboy, ..	157	222	658
	Dysart, ...	210	287	408
	Carrowreagh, ..	200	253	125
	Athlone W. Rural,	284	385	137
	Cranagh, ..	131	223	629
	Clonown, ..	54	92	299
	Drumlosh, ..	27	77	299
	Moore, ...	133	221	—
	Twenty-six divisions, Totals, ..	3,590	5,641	19,168
Total of County	(exclusive of Towns),	17,890	25,760	157,886

In many cases two or more of these holdings are occupied by one family.

APPENDIX IX.

APPENDIX IX.

DOCUMENTS put in by Mr. E. WHITE in connection with his Evidence before the Commission.

A.—LEAFLETS PUBLISHED BY THE IRISH GAME PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

(*a.*)—OBJECTS OF THE IRISH GAME PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

The objects of the Association are to secure, by the means enumerated below, the improvement of Irish Shootings in the interests of Sport, and for the prosperity of the country at large.

I. To secure the proper enforcement of the existing Game Laws and all regulations relating thereto by the Excise and Constabulary officials.

II. 1. To suppress the taking or killing of Game out of season.

2. To suppress dealing in Game out of season.

3. To suppress taking or killing of Game by unlicensed persons.

4. To suppress dealing in Game by unlicensed persons, including those selling Game, who do not hold the full £3 Game Licence Certificate.

5. To suppress Sunday Shooting.

III. To undertake private prosecutions for trespass, poaching, &c., in approved cases, for Members, who in such cases defray the costs.

The Association takes legislative action in Parliament and otherwise when such is required to secure improvements in the Game Laws or their administration; it also appoints and looks after inspectors in approved districts, and sends inspectors on temporary duty to any part of Ireland, and in numerous other ways seeks to carry out the above programme.

(*b.*)—COPY OF LETTER which appeared in "*The Field*," "*Land and Water*," and the leading English and Irish Daily and Sporting Journals, December 6th, 1902:—

THE PRESERVATION OF GAME IN IRELAND.

SIR,—Every sportsman must admit that game in Ireland becomes scarcer year by year, owing, in a great measure, to the number of guns steadily increasing. To such an extent is this the case that, without protection, game will ultimately become extinct in many parts of the country. To prevent this I would urge all sportsmen and those interested in the protection of game to join the Irish Game Protection Association, which is the only association that I am aware of likely to improve this state of things; for I frequently see reports in the daily papers of prosecutions and convictions obtained by this society which should call forth the admiration and support of sportsmen throughout Ireland.

It certainly surprises me to find in a country like this, where there are so many sportsmen, that more have not become members and contributed to its funds. Yet the work of this society is dependent mostly on subscriptions; consequently, with very limited means it does valuable work.

If the objects of this useful association were more generally known the number of subscribers, I do not doubt, would be considerably increased. These objects are:—

(1.) To prevent game being killed on Sundays.
(2.) To prevent game being killed out of season.
(3.) To prevent the illicit sale of game.

APPENDIX IX.

(4.) To assist the Excise in obtaining convictions against persons killing or dealing in game without licence, and to press the Government to direct the Constabulary to assist in enforcing the law in these respects.

(5.) To take such other steps for the preservation of game as may be deemed advisable.

The minimum subscription for admission of a member being only £1 per annum, brings it within the reach of all. To those landowners who cannot afford, or perhaps do not consider it necessary, to go to the expense of paying a permanent keeper to preserve their lands, I would recommend this association as being most useful. They would, at a moderate expense, be able to obtain the services of inspectors, whose occasional visits would have a deterrent effect on poachers in their neighbourhood. To others who own no property, but shoot over the broad acres of unpreserved land, of which there are many legitimate and fair sportsmen, I say they should hail an association of this kind with delight, and be amongst the foremost to join it. If more funds were at its command the association would endeavour to have the close season more rigidly enforced, and the number who now shoot without game licences considerably reduced, as well as stricter supervision kept over the game dealers.

In calling attention to these facts I hope that many will be induced to join and give their support to an association deserving of their sympathy, if only from a spirit of fair play.

Yours truly,

HENRY C. FITZHERBERT.

Abbeyleix, Queen's County.

(*c.*)—DEALING IN GAME.

No person may deal in game without having procured (i.) Licence granted by not less than two Justices of his division or district; (ii.) an Excise Licence.

No Excise Licence to deal in game will be granted except upon production of the Justices' Licence.

Penalty, £20 for dealing in game without Excise Licence. 1 and 2 Wm. IV., Cap. 32, Sec. 18; 23 and 24 Vic., Cap. 90, Sec. 14.

No licensed Game Dealer may buy or obtain any game from any person except another licensed Game Dealer, or person holding a game certificate.

Penalty, £10 and costs of conviction, whereupon the Licence becomes null and void. 1 and 2 Wm. IV., Cap., 32, Sec. 28. (Two Justices.)

Game Dealers to have the words "Licensed to deal in Game" legibly printed after his own name on his shop front.

Penalty for non-compliance, or for printing same without being licensed, £10 and loss of licence. 1 and 2 Wm. IV., Cap. 32, Secs. 18, 28.

No licensed Game Dealer shall buy or sell or knowingly have in his house, shop, stall, possession or control any bird of game after the expiration of ten days (one inclusive and the other exclusive) from the respective days in each year on which it shall become unlawful to kill or take such birds of game respectively.

Penalty, £1 per head of game. Costs of conviction and loss of license, which becomes null and void upon conviction.

1 and 2 Wm. IV., Cap. 32, Sec. 4. (Two Justices.)

(*d.*)—REGULATIONS prescribing the manner in which SPORTING RIGHTS vested in the LAND COMMISSION, pursuant to the provisions of SECTION 13 of the IRISH LAND ACT, 1903, are to be dealt with by the LAND COMMISSION.

By the Lord Lieutenant-General and General Governor of Ireland.

ABERDEEN.

WE, John Campbell, Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Lieutenant-General and General Governor of Ireland, hereby make the following Regulations under Section 13 (1) of the Irish Land Act, 1903:—

I. In these Regulations the expression "Sporting Rights" shall be taken to mean Sporting Rights subject to the provisions of the Ground Game Act, 1880, previously enjoyed by the vendor, exclusive of the tenant, which have been, or are proposed to be vested in the Irish Land Commission (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission"), pursuant to the provisions of Section 13 (1) of the Irish Land Act, 1903.

II. In all cases where Sporting Rights have been vested, or are proposed to be vested, in the Commission, pursuant to the above-mentioned Section the Commission shall inquire:—

(*a*) As to the nature and value of such rights.

(*b*) As to the probable expense necessary for the proper preservation, and for the improvement of such rights, and as to any method proposed therefor.

(*c*) When it is considered that such rights are of value, having regard to the probable expense of preservation and improvement, how such rights can be dealt with, preserved and improved.

III. Where it appears to the Commission, as the result of such inquiries, that these rights are in any particular case, of little or no value, or that the expenses of preservation would be out of proportion to the value of such rights, the Commission may permit such rights to be exercised by the tenant purchaser or occupier, free of charge.

IV. Where it appears to the Commission, as the result of such inquiries, that these rights are of value and should be preserved, the Commission may, in their discretion:—

(1) Advertise such rights as being to let or for sale.

(2) Sell or dispose of such rights in such manner, and for such consideration as they may think right.

(3) Make leases, or lettings, of such rights, either by the season, by the year, or for any term of years, to such persons and upon such terms as the Commission may determine.

(4) Issue licences to exercise such rights, or any of them, for any period to any person, and upon such terms as the Commission may determine.

(*a*) Any such lease or letting as aforesaid, and any such licence may provide (in addition to the payment to the Commission of a stipulated payment or rent) for a payment by the lessee or licensee to the proprietors or occupiers of the different holdings over which the rights are granted, such payment to be calculated upon the number of the game killed, or in such other way as may be determined upon by the Commission; the amount to be distributed amongst such proprietors or occupiers respectively, either in proportion to the game killed on each holding respectively or in proportion to the acreage of each holding, or in such other way, and to be calculated by such other person or persons as the Commission may from time to time determine.

(*b*) Every such lease or letting shall, unless it is specially agreed to the contrary, provide for the preservation of the game and fish by the lessee in such way and by such persons as the Commission may from time to time determine.

(*c*) Any such lease or letting may, where the Commission think it expedient, provide that the payment to be made to the said Commission for the first part of the term created by such lease or letting, shall be of a nominal amount or of a less amount than the amount of the rent to be ultimately payable to the Commission.

(*d*) Every such lease, letting, or licence shall provide that any person entering upon land in pursuance of any right thereby conferred shall be liable to make reasonable amends and satisfaction for any damage done or occasioned thereby.

(5) Take such steps and institute and carry on such actions or proceedings, either in Law or Equity, as the Commission may consider necessary for the preservation of the game or fish, the subject of such rights.

(6) Take such steps as may be, from time to time, determined upon, with the consent of the Lord Lieutenant, for re-stocking and improving such Sporting Rights in such ways as may be determined upon.

V. The net receipts derived from any Sporting Rights, after first deducting thereout all outgoings and expenses, shall be paid to the credit of an account to be opened in the books of the Irish Land Commission, to be entitled "The Improvement Fund No. 2."

VI. Any balance to the credit of the Improvement Fund No. 2 shall be available for any of the purposes in connection with Sporting Rights which may require expenditure, and subject thereto for the same purposes as those for which the Reserve Fund is now available in cases where the Commission may consider a free grant desirable.

VII. No expenses or liability shall be incurred by the Commission without the previous sanction of the Treasury for any of the purposes specified in clause IV. (5) and (6) of these Regulations unless the Commission are in a position to defray the necessary current expenditure of the funds to the credit of the Improvement Fund Account No. 2. APPENDIX IX.

Given at His Majesty's Castle of Dublin, this 20th day of March, 1907.

By His Excellency's Command,
J. B. DOUGHERTY.

(*e*) WILD BIRDS.

Irish Game Protection Association.

The police are authorised to institute proceedings against any person shooting, trapping, killing, or taking any Wild Bird during the Close Season, commencing generally on 1st March, contrary to the Wild Birds Protection Acts. The Irish Game Protection Association is prepared to prosecute for similar offences in the case of any of the Game Birds included in the Act.

110, Grafton-street, Dublin.

(*f*) BURNING.

The police are authorised to at once prosecute any person setting fire to any furze, heather, moss, or ferns, upon any mountain, moor, bog, or waste ground, after the 2nd day of February. Penalty, £5.

10 Wm. III., chap. 8, s. 7, as amended by 27 Geo. III., chap. 35, s. 3.

Private persons are also authorised to prosecute.

Irish Game Protection Association,
110, Grafton-street, Dublin.

B.—THE £ S. D. OF SPORTING RENTS.

The author of a recent work on the laws for the protection of game points out that, though formerly denounced as relics of barbarism and a means of oppression by landlords, they have now become a valuable source of revenue to the country. So they have, in a sense, for the sum paid in licenses to kill game amounted last year to £184,488. But this, though a means of public revenue, is not a source of individual *wealth*, nor can the sum paid to the public Exchequer for State permission to kill game be compared with the vast rent-roll now poured into the pockets of private owners and occupiers of land for the practical exercise of the same rights.

The fund so expended elsewhere than in Scotland is now of such magnitude that it deserves consideration, if only from the economic side. The effect of this increment of rent, first felt in the Highlands, where poor landowners were raised from penury to comfort, and then from comfort to wealth, by the demand for grouse moors, has now extended to the remotest counties of England, where at all points within reasonable distance of London or the larger towns prices for shooting and fishing are ever on the rise, though the quality of the sport, owing to the indifference of many occupiers and their ignorance of the profits which a little care would ensue, tend to become yearly rather worse than better.

The values of good English shooting and fishing often stand now at double and treble what they were even twenty years ago.

Really first-class English pheasant shootings are more valuable than grouse moors, as the following instances show: 2,500 acres of good mixed shooting, with no house, a railway within two miles, and a thoroughly good record of game killed for four seasons, let for eleven months, excluding January, the last month of the shooting season, for 850 guineas! The landlord paid all wages and "rearing expenses," while the tenant paid for the beaters. £150 would amply cover keepers' wages and hire of sitting hens for so small an area. So we may set the value of the sporting rights of this 2,500 acres at a clear £700 per annum. It is doubtful if the *net* profit to the owner from agricultural rent for this property amounted to £2,000 per annum. Hence his sporting rights represent more than one-third of his income from his land. The average bag of game was about 4,000 head. In Hampshire we find 50 guineas asked for the shooting of 800 acres for the month of September alone; and in Hertfordshire 1,500 acres of partridge shooting, for which £250 is wanted for the season. The bag expected is 250 to 300 head of partridges, 200 hares, and 600 rabbits. This price is the highest we have seen demanded for so small a bag; but as the ground is within easy reach of town it was probably obtained. The rental gives 3*s.* 4*d.* per acre.

There can be no better instance of the increment from this source to the occupiers of purely agricultural farms than the recent history of the rents for partridge shooting in North Norfolk. On many of the large estates of this district the sporting rights have always been reserved by the owners. But on a very large proportion the tenant farmers have the sporting rights in their own hands, and have so held them for the last fifteen years or more. The greater part of this land is famously well farmed, not the poor, sandy, heathy soil which one sees round Thetford, and what is called the "breck" land of Norfolk, much of which is hardly fit for anything else but game farming and rabbit warrens; though there is some of this at Sandringham. It is light chalky soil, which drains itself; and though near to the sea, the crops never seem to suffer from the sea-fogs. This land is divided into very large fields, with small weak fences between them, and very little artificial cover, except the strips of wood and plantations for partridges to nest in. The big bare fields are all farmed "high," with crops set like patterns, and great flocks of sheep, and turnip fields to feed them. *Nothing whatever is conceded to the needs of game.* Not a thistle patch, or a rough uncleaned ditch, or a late crop of thin barley is to be seen to hold birds late or give them nesting-places early. High farming no drawback.

The land is, in fact, farmed on thorough "business" principles; all the rabbits are killed off and a large percentage of the hares, and yet the shooting rents are simply enormous, because this district is, for some cause not clearly understood, the *second best* natural partridge ground in England. The best is on the Norfolk "breck" lands; but the country from Wolverton (the station for Sandringham) past Docking, Heacham, Stanhoe, Holkham, and on to Cromer, swarms with partridges; and as all of it has the same natural advantages, except that that which fringes the reclaimed marshes of the coast is perhaps the best, the demand for shootings there is keen. Now these stocks of partridges do not cost the tenant farmer one single penny, either to rear or to protect. The men on his farm give an eye to the nests, and fortunately shooting has so long been recognised as a valuable asset in that part of the country that no one ventures an inch across the border when shooting neighbouring land, and egg-stealing is reported and punished promptly, as it ought to be. There are no rabbits left, and the Ground Game Act enables the tenant to keep the Cost—not one single penny.

APPENDIX IX.

stock of hares as low as he likes. Consequently, in letting this shooting, he lets only partridge shooting; and to maintain this, as we have said, costs him nothing.

Before seeing exactly what it brings him in now, we may go back fifteen years, when farming was at its worst, after a period of great prosperity. If he did not hold the right of sporting then, he probably received it gratis, or plus a big reduction of rent about that time. This was fair enough, for times were shocking, and the landlord was often only too glad to part with sporting rights in place of cash. Rents then went lower still, and on these big farms of from 500 to 1,200 acres the new tenants generally entered naturally into the sporting right. It was not, in fact, attempted to be withheld; times were still too bad. Neither did the tenants, though anxious to make all the money they could, set any high monetary value on this right. A very few years ago hardly one of these farmers let his shooting. They kept it to amuse themselves and their friends. Then one or two set the example of letting; and the prices made, followed by the steady increase in the demand for shooting, and the subsequent rise of its letting value per acre, have made this practice almost universal.

The farmers did not know how much they were losing.

There is no doubt that the prices paid for this North Norfolk shooting are too high, even in the face of the demand for it. One farm of 1,000 acres, with no wood on it at all, purely partridge shooting, let for £110. The farm itself is rented at only £540 per annum, so *for his sporting right the occupier netted a little over one-fifth of the rent he was paying.* Three years ago he did not let it at all, and fifteen years ago he might perhaps have made £30 or £40 for his shooting, a rent which would have entitled the shooting tenant to keep up enough rabbits to do £10 worth of damage at least. This "unearned increment" represents to such a tenant a reduction on his rent of twenty per cent., a very welcome and real addition to the value of landed property.

20 per cent. off his rent.

Quite recently on land in Norfolk rented by the agricultural tenants at 6*s.* per acre, the sporting rights were at once sublet at 2*s.* per acre.

Generally speaking, it is cheaper to rent English shooting from the landlord than from the tenant. The former does not drive such a hard bargain. On the other hand, in this case the area is often much larger than that which can be hired from tenants, and it commonly happens that a large house has to be taken as well.

It is the common experience of land agents that the shooting lets the house. Consequently it is usually reserved for the owner in making leases with tenant farmers.

High rents for Partridge shootings

The valuation of sporting rights in this case is somewhat difficult, because the rent of the house has to be deducted from that of manor and shooting. Often, however, there is an offer to let them separately. Whether these high rents for mere partridge shooting will be maintained is doubtful. The logical course would be for them to continue rising, as the rents of grouse moors have gone on rising. *Grouse moors now fetch on the average* £1 *per brace* of grouse killed in *good* seasons. On the small 1,000-acre shooting above mentioned 300 brace of partridges were killed in one season—at a cost in rent of £110. This is something over 7*s.* per brace, which is unsatisfactory enough when one remembers that last season partridges only averaged 2*s.* per brace to sell through the season. But the bag is a large one, much larger for the area than on most grouse moors. It would be an exceptionally good Scotch moor that would yield anything approaching an average of 300 brace to each 1,000 acres. So comparing these bags, and taking the rise in value from shooting as the standard, there would seem to be room for a rise in the rents of partridge manors in England.

"Continue rising"

Partridge and grouse natural products.

It may be objected that as the partridge is to the English fields what the grouse is to the moors of Scotland, the mainstay of highly rented natural sport, the pheasant being an artificial product in both countries, the partridge ought to be capable of making as rapid increase as the grouse have under care and preservation, if English sporting rights are to maintain their rise in value. It is not contended here either that the partridge will increase as grouse have, or that the prices of partridge shooting will reach the fancy price of grouse shooting, though it is *not impossible that they will approximate*, possibly by a lowering of the value of grouse moors, while that of partridge manors rises. But the *partridge on land now neglected will increase enormously.* The writer has known 400 birds killed on 600 acres, where previous to ordinary care being taken not 100 were shot in the season.

If the shooting rights of ordinary English land are a potential silver mine with an increasing yield, a decent trout stream or salmon river is a very Pactolus; it simply flows with gold! The quantity of such fishing, especially of good trout fishing, within reach of London is so limited, and the demand by wealthy fishermen so great, that no limit to the prices asked is yet in sight. £300 was asked this season for 1½ mile on a trout stream in Kent, near to London. I believe there are reaches of the Test and Itchen which let for five shillings a fathom, and that before long a mile of Hampshire trout-stream, without an acre of land except the right to fish from the banks, will be a fair younger son's provision. The price of the short length of the Itchen opposite the Hospital of St. Cross is always quoted as an index to the market value of Hampshire fishing. Even small and distant streams in the South fetch fancy rents. Thus for a fishing on the River Lambourne, above Newbury, yielding 175 trout in sixteen days' fishing—which, it must be admitted, is very pretty sport—eighty guineas are asked for from May 15 to the end of August. This, though only trout fishing, is reasonable enough, compared with the prices asked for by no means first-rate salmon streams. For *nine hundred yards* of the Tweed £80 is required; for two and a half miles on the same river, £300. On the Eden, for nine or ten casts, with a prospect of thirty fish if the water is in good order, £90, or (say) £3 per fish!

The instances given above are evidence both of the actual and possible money value accruing from the letting of sporting rights in England. But apart from any fancy rise in these values from the increase of demand and the limited supply, a very large increment could be obtained by the exercise of a little good sense and intelligence on the part of occupiers and owners in districts where, as the phrase goes, there is "no preserving." This phrase has not the negative significance which its form indicates. "No preserving" means, in nine cases out of ten, entire neglect of any precautions whatever to maintain a stock of game—not of artificially reared pheasants, but the game native and natural to the soil—the partridge, the hare, and the rabbit, especially the partridge. It is a form of that laziness and narrowness which has made the ordinary English agricultural tenant the most helpless, unprogressive, "stick-in-the-mud" class engaged in any commercial industry in this country. They are now well awake to the fact that they can get good money for their shooting. But while always ready to raise the rent on their shooting tenants, they rarely, very rarely, take any trouble to raise the head of game by according the ordinary means of protection so easily given by the occupiers. If they would only give directions to their farm hands to take care of the nests, and pay a small reward for those that hatch off, discourage dogs running loose on their land in the nesting and hatching time, and make their labourers report any cases of netting or wiring hares, they would raise the stock to double or treble its present number. In many parishes farm adjoins farm for miles, on which the occupiers do not expend as many shillings in protecting the valuable asset of game as they do in growing a crop of geraniums and pansies for their flower beds. Over these large areas the shooting is almost worthless. Shooting tenants now require to see the previous year's results; and no sensible man would even rent it, for if he came down after the first week in the season he would scarcely get a shot.

A little combination, a little less of the lazy belief that "game comes of itself," and this kind of ground would be worth 2*s.* per acre, instead of at the outside sixpence or sevenpence. We knew an instance in which one of these neglected areas was gradually secured by one enterprising sportsman, who by taking the shooting of different farms, and adding to his area from year to year, secured, mostly by lease, sixteen hundred acres, for which he paid an average of sixpence per acre. It was very fair partridge ground; but when he secured it there was scarcely a bird or

a hare to be seen after the first few days' shooting. None of the occupiers gave a thought to the game, and *preferred sixpence per acre with no trouble to 2s. per acre at the cost of a little vigilance.* So they let their labourers take what eggs there were, to sell or make puddings of; and any villager who took the trouble could wire the hares, and often sold them back to the owners. Oddly enough, this was near London. The new shooting tenant, with the services of one elderly keeper, has made a good partridge manor of this ground. It has swarmed with birds for the last three seasons, has been regularly shot by four guns, and could be let to-morrow for £140; and all the men's wages amount to £40. But this leaves a difference of £60 between the present value and that which it formerly fetched.

Where numbers of small holdings adjoin, the value of the sporting rights usually lapses entirely. The occupiers are always pottering about their fields, they all keep dogs, and few partridges ever bring off a brood. This is ridiculous and wasteful. The birds sit so close that unless the eggs are actually taken they seldom desert, and the small tenant, being constantly present on his land, could easily see that the nests are not disturbed. His small patchy crops are capital cover, and if he can get £3 for his sixty acres of shooting it means a good deal to him. But as it is, he prefers the company of his terrier, even to his possible £3 or £4, and the dog disturbs in his daily visits every partridge's nest on the holding. All the adjacent holdings are "messed about" in the same way, and the sporting value is nothing. They manage these things better in Germany. In Mecklenburg-Schwerin there are numbers of parishes in which the whole area is broken up into small holdings. The owners combine to protect the partridges and hares, shut up their dogs in the nesting time, and the official who corresponds to our chairman of the Parish Council lets the whole to the highest bidder, and *uses the money to pay the rates*!

It is well known that in Scotland there was a very large proportionate increase in the return of game killed when preserving grouse became universal. Whole ranges of moorland formerly neglected were protected, the grouse being looked after in the nesting season and arrangements made to prevent *wasteful heather burning, which injured the stock of grouse.* When there were *no* neglected areas, all the adjacent ground became better stocked, and gave far less trouble. As English agricultural holdings are very small in comparison with Scotch moors, this extension of preserving is difficult to maintain. But if small occupiers will combine they will find the same good results accruing, and higher rents paid in proportion to the rise in quality of the sporting. Passing from small holdings and their depreciated sporting value, to large ones, where intelligence and industry supplant indolence and stupidity, the following case may be of interest:—

APPENDIX IX.

An example.

Some years ago a private company was formed to take advantage of the very low rents of agricultural land on the western line in Wiltshire, Salisbury Plain, and adjacent counties. This company is now almost the largest farming concern in England. It secured great tracts of land, sometimes as low as 2*s.* 6*d.* per acre. Much was held on long leases at 4*s.* and 3*s.* 6*d.* per acre. For the company the good farmhouses attached to the dozens of farms held by them were no use. All they needed were the bailiffs' and labourers' cottages. Being ahead of the times in more ways than one, they insisted that their managers should make it part of the labourers' duty to give an eye to the game, especially the partridges, and look upon this as one of the regular assets of the farm, just as much as the poultry. There was soon a good head of game, and, as much of the land was contiguous, the company's game preserves helped each other, according to the obvious and (in Scotland) well-recognised rule, that the more general and widespread the care of game the more satisfactory the results over that area. *The company then let all their shooting at high prices, and let all the old farmhouses for shooting-boxes.* These houses were included in their leases of the farms, and as the "company" could not live in twenty houses the profit made on them was wholly to the good. The result was that the rent of thousands of acres, held on long leases, of this very low-rented land was paid for by the shooting rents and the rent of the farmhouses as shooting-boxes. The latter depends on the existence of the former, for no one would take these houses, often far from a station and in out-of-the-way places, unless they were headquarters for sport. Here, then, is a very striking instance of the economic part played by "sporting rights" properly used.

of the economic part played by "sporting rights."

Where possible, in all English shootings it is far preferable, after the first year, to obtain a lease for a term of years following. The times make it likely that the price of shootings will rise, so there is little chance of a loss; while the tenant has some chance of recouping himself for "unexhausted improvements."

C.—DRAFT OF DEED OF CONVEYANCE OF SPORTING RIGHTS.

THIS INDENTURE Made the day of
BETWEEN
(hereinafter called the Grantors) of the ONE PART and of (hereinafter called the Trustees) of the OTHER PART.

WHEREAS the Grantors have purchased their holdings in the First Schedule hereunder written with all the Game Sporting and Fishing Rights therein respectively. AND WHEREAS for the better protection and development and economical management and disposal of the said rights and to provide for the letting and the division of the proceeds of the Letting of such rights amongst the said Grantors in the proportions in the Second Schedule hereto set out it has been agreed amongst them that the said Game and Game Sporting and Fishing Rights should be granted to the said Trustees upon the Trusts for the purposes and with the powers hereinafter declared.

NOW THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH that in pursuance of the said agreement the said Grantors do and each of them being doth grant and convey to the said Trustees the sole and exclusive right of shooting hunting coursing fishing fowling and sporting over and taking all and all manner of Game wood-cocks snipes quails landrails hares rabbits wild fowl and fish and of trapping vermin upon and from the lands and hereditaments now respectively in our occupation and described in the First Schedule hereto with power to enter upon all the said premises for the purposes aforesaid and for preserving the Game wild fowl or fish thereon. TO HOLD the same unto and to the use of the said Trustees their heirs and assigns upon the trusts following.

1. The Trustees shall have the sole and exclusive power of managing and regulating the game and sporting rights on or over the hereditaments comprised in the Schedule hereunder written and for that purpose may employ and remunerate Gamekeepers and Watchers and may make special allowances to and arrangements with the Grantors or any one or more of them should special circumstances so require (and of this the Trustees shall be the sole judges) and may make arrangements and contracts with owners or tenants of neighbouring lands in respect of the game and wild fowl hares and rabbits thereon or in respect of game coverts thereon and in respect of the fish in the rivers lakes and streams thereof and may do all such things and may out of the rents and profits of the sporting rights expend such moneys as may to them seem expedient or necessary for the due management and development of said rights and for enhancing the value thereof in the interests of the said Grantors.

2. The Trustees may at their sole and uncontrolled discretion let by Lease for any period not exceeding five years ALL or ANY of the rights hereby granted to them.

3. The lettings shall be made at the best rents that can be obtained.

4. The Leases shall contain covenants (*inter alia*): (*a*) to pay the rent (*b*) to exercise the rights and privileges thereby demised in a reasonable and sportsmanlike manner (*c*) not to assign or underlet without the previous consent in writing of the said Trustees

APPENDIX IX

(*d*) that such other provisions as in the opinion of the Trustees may be necessary for carrying into effect the purposes of this deed including power to determine lettings pursuant to the provisoes contained in paragraph 7 hereof.

5. The Trustees shall apply the rents first in the discharge of the expenses of preserving the said lands and waters thereon and neighbouring lands and waters and if they see fit of rearing game thereon and of maintaining and letting the game and fish and shall divide the residue after deducting 5 per cent. as hereinafter provided amongst the Grantors in the shares and proportions set forth in the Second Schedule hereunder written.

6. If in any season the Trustees shall fail to let the game and other rights hereby granted for the season or for a term of years they shall nevertheless utilise the same to the best advantage of the Grantors either by issuing temporary licenses for fishing or shooting at such prices as can be obtained for same or by employing persons for reward to take and kill the game and fish for purposes of sale, and the proceeds from such licenses or such sales shall after payment of expenses be distributed amongst the Grantors in the proportions in said Second Schedule set forth.

7. The Grantors may at any time after the expiration of ten years from the date hereof, but no sooner, determine the trusts of this deed and discharge the Trustees from acting thereunder but without prejudice to any contracts or leases then existing. Such determination and discharge shall be by resolution duly proposed and carried by the votes of the majority of the Grantors present at a meeting thereof, notice of the time and place of holding same and of the resolution to be proposed thereat, shall have been duly given to each of the Grantors by leaving same at his place of abode seven clear days before the date appointed for the holding of said meeting. The said meeting shall be held only upon the requisition of one or more of the said Grantors who shall personally sign the said notice and the quorum for such meeting shall be Grantors personally present not being less than————in number. The members present shall choose one of their number to be Chairman and in the case of an equality of votes the Chairman shall have a casting vote in addition to the vote to which he is entitled as a member.

8. The Trustees shall in each year receive as their remuneration for acting in the trusts hereof a sum of 5 per cent. on the net income derived in each year from the lettings licenses or sales aforesaid and once in every year the accounts of the Trustees shall be examined, and the Grantors may by the votes of the majority of them appoint any fit and proper person annually to audit such accounts and the auditor shall be supplied with a copy of the balance-sheet and it shall be his duty to examine the same with the accounts and vouchers relating thereto and to report to the Grantors thereon, and the Trustees shall not be required to furnish any other account than that to be so submitted annually to audit as aforesaid.

9. There shall not be less than two Trustees hereof and if any Trustee shall at any time be desirous of withdrawing or being discharged from the trusts hereof it shall be lawful for him to do so by notice in writing under his hand given to the said Grantors and the Trustee giving the same shall thereupon cease to be a Trustee to all intents and purposes.

10. The power of appointing a new Trustee or n Trustees of these presents shall be vested in the sa Grantors and the appointment shall be made by votes of the majority of the said Grantors subject far as they are applicable to the provision of s tion 7 hereof.

11A. The term "Grantors" shall include all p sons for the time being registered as owners of t respective holdings in the Schedule hereunder writt and if, at any time, there shall be more than o such registered owner of any such holding then f all purposes of this deed they shall be deemed to co stitute but one registered owner thereof and sha have in respect of the occupation of the said lan and rights and powers under this deed of the origin Grantor only and in case of dispute between su registered owners of such holding the Trustees sha have the sole power to nominate one of them to e ercise on their behalf such rights and powers aforesaid.

11B. The term "Trustees" shall include the Tru tees or Trustee for the time being of these present

12. The Grantors hereby do and each for himsel his heirs and assigns doth hereby covenant with th Trustees that they and each of them and their respe tive heirs and assigns will not at any time hereafte interfere with or disturb the Trustees their lessees o licencees in the exercise of their rights under thi deed in preserving and maintaining all game, wil fowl, hares, rabbits and fish, and of beating shoot ing, fishing, fowling, in over and upon said lands rivers, lakes, and streams or permit or suffer an other person or persons to trespass upon their sai respective lands, rivers, lakes or streams in pursui of game, wild fowl, hares, rabbits or fish or other wise interfere with or disturb the Trustees thei lessees or licencees in the exercise of such rights a aforesaid and will, if necessary, join or permit thei name to be used in any legal proceedings which th Trustees may consider requisite to give effect to th trusts and purposes of this deed. AND THAT in case of any breach of this covenant by any Grantor or Grantors (whereof it is hereby agreed that th Trustees shall be the sole judges) the Trustees shall be at liberty to withhold from such Grantor or Grantors his or their annual proportion of rent or income to which he or they would be otherwise entitled under the provisions of these presents or such part thereof respectively as the Trustees in their sole discretion shall think fit and any Trustee or Trustees so entitled shall be divided amongst the other Grantors in such proportions as the Trustees shall determine PROVIDED ALWAYS that nothing in the last preceding clause contained shall interfere with or prejudice any other remedy at law or in equity which the Trustees may be entitled to in respect of any such breach of covenant as aforesaid.

SCHEDULE.

Name of Grantor.	Proportion to be paid to him

D.—MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION AMONG TENANT PURCHASERS WHO HAVE ACQUIRED THE SPORTING RIGHTS ON THEIR FARMS.

Have you considered what you will do with your Game rights?

There is money in these rights which you can realise if you will.

You may say that the Sporting Rights over your own holding are not worth much.

True: but the Sporting Rights over the whole property, of which your farm is a part, are either valuable now, or with a little care may become valuable, and you and your co-owners may share that value.

Farmers in England, Scotland and Wales often make handsome returns from letting the Game Rights on their holdings—Why should not you do the same?

There is a desire all over Ireland to utilise our national resources—they have indeed been too long neglected.

Do you sympathise with this desire?

The climate and soil of Ireland are as well adapted for the production of game as the climate and soil of any part of the Kingdom, and a little care and attention on the part of our landowners will easily make our game a most valuable national asset.

To produce this result a hearty co-operation with your neighbours is necessary: the cultivation and protection of game must be undertaken on a large scale so that all may reap the benefit.

armers elsewhere make substantial profits from
system of co-operative game preservation: if you
your co-purchasers don't reap equal benefits the
t will lie at your own doors. And the effort will
you nothing—either in money or labour. Or-
ation alone is necessary. It is suggested that
agree to vest your Game Rights to Trustees, to
elected and appointed by yourself, who will
lertake on an Agreement the letting of your Game
l the distribution of the proceeds of the letting in
ain proportions, to be agreed upon between your-
and your co-owners.
ll information as to how this can be done and a
n of deed to carry out the scheme will be supplied
you free of charge upon application either to the Estates Commissioners, 25, UPPER MERRION-STREET, DUBLIN; the Congested Districts Board, 23, RUTLAND-SQUARE, DUBLIN; or the Irish Game Protection Association, 110, GRAFTON-STREET, DUBLIN, all of which bodies are most anxious that you should reap every benefit which your new position as an owner of land entitles you to enjoy. But you must act *at once*, and get your neighbours to join with you: *no time is to be lost*: every day during which your lands and theirs are free to trespassers and poachers is a loss to you and them without any compensating advantage. The trespasser and the poacher won't put any money into your pocket—the honest sportsman will: he will pay his way, and you must choose, and choose quickly, between him and them.

E.—EXTRACT FROM THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION.

n presenting the Sixteenth Annual Report and tement of Accounts the Executive Committee of Association have much satisfaction in being able show a substantially increased income and mem-hip, with a corresponding amount of solid useful k accomplished. They are gratified that their licy and efforts during former years have so com-nded the Association to the approval of sports-n, that in several counties which heretofore gave support, there are now well organised branches, rticipating in the advantages of regular inspec-n, and the general assistance in game preservation t the Association affords. The further ex-sion of the influence of the Association's opera-ns into some counties (still apathetic) in the th-east and South-west of Ireland during the ing season is greatly desired, and your Com-tee appeals to owners of shootings and sportsmen these counties to guarantee the necessary support order to secure local inspectors, and otherwise re in the beneficial results of working in co-opera-n.

Eleven meetings were held by your Committee ring the year which were well attended, and be-s these, thanks are due to several Dublin mem-s of your Committee for frequent consultations, l who privately rendered much assistance from e to time.

n this connection your Committee specially desire record its sense of the obligations due by the sociation to Mr. John R. Patchell, K.C., and Mr. ward White, who continue to ungrudgingly and h increasing frequency place their exceptional owledge and experience of the Game Laws of Ire-d at its disposal.

The Association has suffered loss by the death of eral subscribers during the year now past, and it with much regret your Committee deplores the oval (amongst others) of the following supporters many years:—Professor G. F. Savage-Armstrong, D.; Messrs. Guy Lloyd, J. H. Payne, and Major-neral White.

The tabulated summary of prosecutions, to which rticular attention is directed, affords evidence of s branch of the Association's work being vigorously intained. In all some 120 cases were reported to ir Committee for consideration, out of which 91 secutions were instituted, the majority resulting convictions and substantial fines, while the few missals recorded are again accounted for by the n sympathy with offenders displayed by some gistrates in certain districts.

The increased funds enabled your Committee to ploy a larger number of inspectors and watchers an has been found possible in previous years. Most the new appointments proved successful, though re have been a few exceptions. Even in places ere the inspectors did not secure cases for prosecu-ns, most encouraging reports have been received m members of the good preventive effect of the pector's presence in the district, and the marked provement in conditions in the areas allotted to em.

The Association's inspectors visited the following ms during the past season for the purpose of deal-g with cases of illicit dealing in game, and in some s made important detections, while in others their esence proved a wholesome check on this traffic, as well as enabling them to secure convictions for breaches of the Game Laws in the neighbourhood of several of these towns:—

Abbeyleix, Arklow, Athenry, Athy, Ballinasloe, Ballinrobe, Ballyshannon, Banagher, Belturbet, Birr, Boyle, Bray, Bundoran, Cavan, Castlebar, Charleville, Clara, Clonmel, Collooney, Cootehill, Dromahaire, Dungannon, Edgeworthstown, Enniscorthy, Galway, Kildare, Killaloe, Letterkenny, Limerick, Longford, Manorhamilton, Maryborough, Maynooth, Mountmellick, Mullingar, Newcastle West, Newtownstewart, Omagh, Pettigo, Rathdowney, Rathkeale, Sligo, Strabane, Stranorlar, Tuam, Tullamore, Westport, Wicklow.

In three instances suspected packages, which the inspectors were satisfied contained considerable quantities of game and wild birds, were followed by them to their destinations. Two of the offences have been reported to the Inland Revenue, whose action is awaited, and in the other case your Association prosecuted and secured a conviction. Your Committee attach the highest importance to every effort to stop this outlet for poached game, and regret that certain game salesmen in Dublin and London, whose reputation should be above suspicion, constantly accept and sell game from unlicensed dealers.

Owing in a great measure to the efforts of the Association the Inland Revenue are deriving nearly £23,000 yearly from game and gun licences in Ireland, and your Committee protest in the strongest manner against this money going out of the country, while such a very small proportion of it is applied to the prevention of the extermination of game in this country. The Department is most tardy in instituting prosecutions in breaches of the Excise Game Laws reported to them by your Association, although only carefully authenticated cases are sent forward, in which reliable witnesses are willing and available, and in very many cases your Association has previously shown the absolute proof of the offence by successful prosecution on other charges.

Before the opening of the shooting season your Committee had the question of the need of the protection of game on estates vested in the Land Commission (referred to in last Report), raised in the House of Lords by Lord Massy, who kindly brought the matter forward. The reply of Lord Denman, on behalf of the Government, to the effect that there are many more pressing subjects to be dealt wtih in the administration of the Land Purchase Act than the preservation of game, must be considered very unsatisfactory, as it indirectly infers that the Treasury continues to withhold the necessary funds from the Department to enable them to take steps for the preservation and letting of the sporting rights they hold, and the Committee consider it lamentable that the value of such an important national asset should be disregarded by the responsible authorities.

Your Committee are also indebted to Mr. Fethersonhaugh, M.P., for putting questions in the House of Commons relating to the enforcement of the Game Laws, and the laxity of the Inland Revenue concerning game licences.

The spirit of combination to preserve game amongst tenant purchasers, referred to in last year's Report, continues, it is pleasant to be able to state, in some districts, and several bodies of farmers have now formed game protection societies of their own, to

APPENDIX IX.

whom the Association gives every possible assistance and encouragement. Your Committee's help and advice was also constantly applied for by coursing clubs throughout the country, and freely responded to, several prosecutions in their interest having been undertaken.

It is becoming increasingly manifest that the professional poacher, usually drawn from town and village idlers, is receiving less tolerance every year from holders of land, and that the recognition of the worth and possibilities of sporting rights as a definite asset are obtaining greater attention. Your Association endeavours to give the widest disseminaton of a knowledge of the Game Statutes and the penalties attaching, from which there is slowly but nevertheless surely, the production of good results.

Under the provision of the Hares Preservation Act, the close season for hares has been extended in twenty-two counties, and now runs in most of them from 1st March to 20th September. The varying of the dates and lengthening of the close seasons is welcomed by your Committee, who believe it will prove of much benefit, and they trust sportsmen in the remaining ten counties, viz., Antrim, Donegal, Dublin, Fermanagh, Galway, Mayo, Meath, Queen's County, Roscommon and Tyrone, will bring pressure on their Grand Juries to present the application to the Lord Lieutenant, required by statute, for the necessary Orders varying the dates, and thus bring about a practically uniform close season for the entire country.

Your Committee are of opinion, and suggest to members, that woodcock should not be shot in the month of February, as at that period of the year they have in most places begun to "pair." It is hoped, therefore, that members of the Association will use their influence to dissuade others from shooting woodcock after January 31st.

Your Committee take this opportunity of tendering their thanks to the daily and sporting Press of Ireland and England for the very valuable support which they have given the work of the Association during the past year. To the Irish daily Press special thanks are due for the good effects produced by their regulation of the reports of the Association's prosecutions.

In conclusion, your Committee submits that their work is entitled to continued and increased support, and again urges upon all members the importance of recommending the Association to their friends, and bringing in new subscribers. They desire to draw attention to the fact that the expenditure of the past year exceeded the entire income, and that they cannot afford to further encroach on the balance shown in the account, which now represents all the reserve fund they possess.

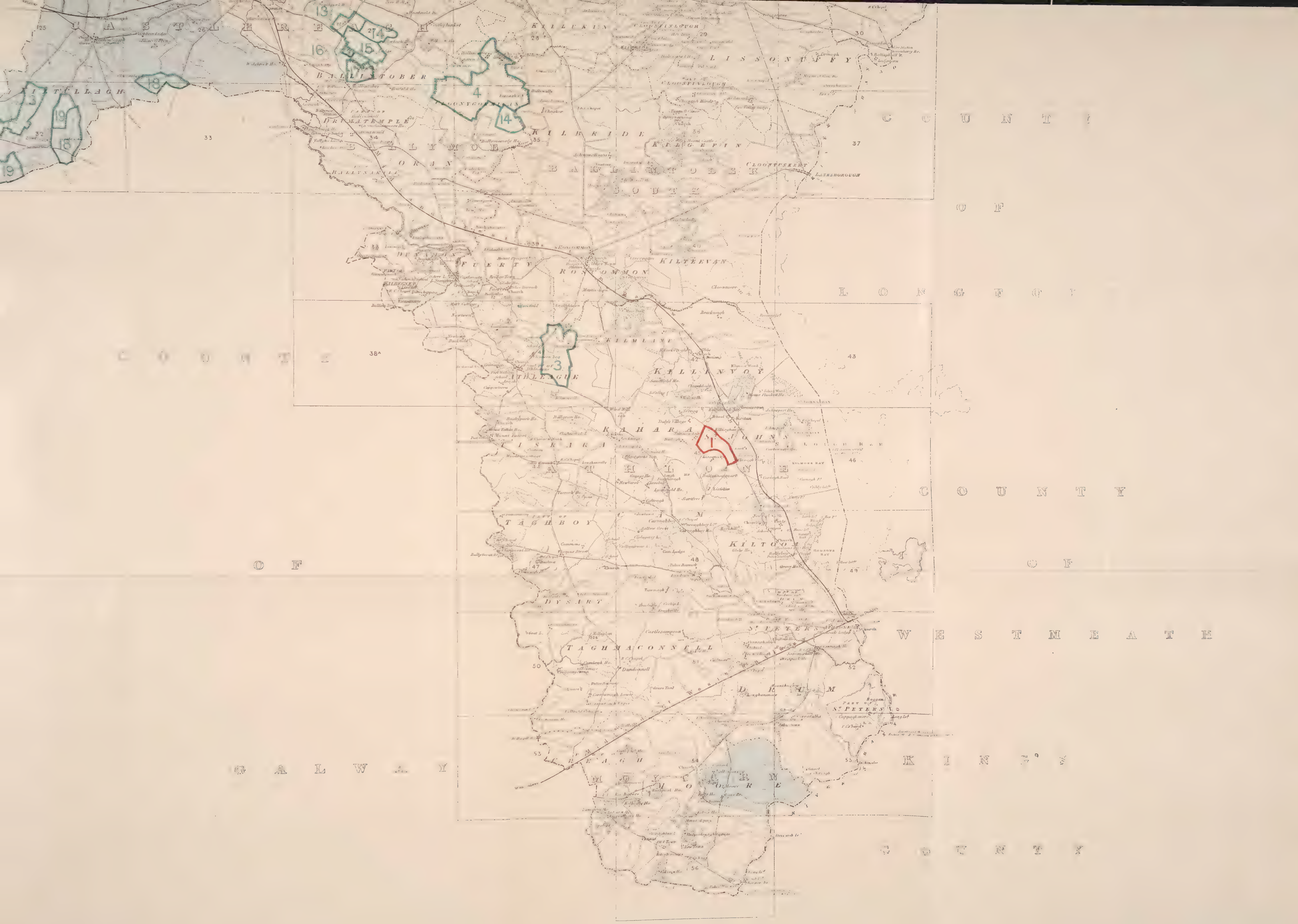
Signed on behalf of the Executive Committee.

MASSY, *Chairman.*

B. J. NEWCOMBE, *Secretary.*

23*rd March*, 1907.

MAP SHOWING ESTATES PURCHASED BY THE CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD IN THE COUNTY OF ROSCOMMON.



Printed at the Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton, 1907.

All Rights of Reproduction Reserved.

APPENDIX X.

APPENDIX X.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT COUNTY GALWAY.

A.—PREFATORY NOTE.

Special statistics relating to County Galway have been prepared for the Commission by the Commissioner of Valuation (see pp. 305–9), the Registrar-General (see pp. 310–34), and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction (see pp. 335–44), and certain returns have been furnished at the request of the Commission by the Local Government Board, the Congested Districts Board, and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction. Other information about County Galway is available in different publications, *e.g.*, the Census Returns, the Annual Agricultural Statistics, the Annual Reports of the Irish Land Commission, the Estates Commissioners, the Congested Districts Board, &c.

All this statistical information has been brought together in the following pages, added to, and collated; and explanatory notes have been added where required (*e.g.*, pp. 305, 310, 350, 366, and 375), with a view of forming a compact Statistical Abstract of the chief points of interest in County Galway which may prove of assistance to the Commissioners during their sittings in County Galway, and subsequently be helpful to readers of the evidence.

WALTER CALLAN,

10*th September*, 1907. *Secretary.*

B.—GENERAL STATISTICAL INFORMATION TAKEN FROM THE CENSUS REPORT, 1901, COUNTY GALWAY BOOK [Cd. 1059–IV., 1902. pp. vii. and viii.].

The (Administrative) County of Galway covers an area 1,519,699 statute acres, or 7·3 per cent. of the total area of the country.

The number of persons in the County of Galway according to the Census was—in 1881, 238,078; in 1891, 211,227; and according to the recent Census, 192,549 (97,923 Males and 94,626 Females), or 8·8 per cent. less than in 1891.

The number of distinct Families in the County at the time of the late enumeration was 36,762, the average number of persons in a family being thus 5·1; and the number of Inhabited Houses was 36,219, showing an average of 5·2 persons to each house. In calculating these averages, the Special Inmates of Public Institutions have been omitted.

The following Statement shows, by County Districts, as constituted under the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, the number of persons in 1891 and 1901; and the increase or decrease during the decade:—

County Districts.	Population.		Increase or Decrease between 1891 and 1901.		
	1891.	1901.	Increase.	Decrease.	Rate per cent.
Ballinasloe Urban,	4,642	4,904	262	.	5·6
Galway Urban,	13,800	13,426	.	374	2·7
Ballinasloe No. 1 Rural,	11,921	10,694	.	1,227	10·3
Clifden Rural,	20,569	18,768	.	1,801	8·8
Galway Rural,	24,915	23,039	.	1,876	7·5
Glennamaddy Rural,	18,486	16,577	.	1,909	10·3
Gort Rural,	14,201	12,286	.	1,915	13·5
Loughrea Rural,	22,244	20,126	.	2,118	9·5
Mountbellew Rural,	16,476	15,019	.	1,457	8·8
Oughterard Rural,	18,979	17,732	.	1,247	6·6
Portumna Rural,	10,363	9,054	.	1,309	12·6
Tuam Rural,	34,631	30,924	.	3,707	10·7
Total,	211,227	192,549	.	18,678	8·8

From the foregoing Statement it will be observed that there was an increase of 262 persons in Ballinasloe Urban, and a decrease in each of the other County Districts. The highest percentage of decrease took place in Gort Rural and Portumna Rural, viz., 13·5 and 12·6 respectively; and the lowest in Galway Urban and Oughterard Rural, viz., 2·7 and 6·6 respectively.

Towns having, in 1901, a population of 2,000 and upwards are classified as Civic Areas.

The County contains four such Areas, viz.:—Ballinasloe, Galway, Loughrea, and Tuam. In 1891 the population of these Areas amounted to 24,269; in 1901 it was 23,783, showing a decrease of 486 persons or 2·0 per cent.; in the rural portions of the County the decrease was 9·7 per cent.

The following Statement shows the Educational status of the Inhabitants of the County of Galway in 1891 and 1901, in so far as relates to the degrees of elementary education relative to which inquiry was made on the Census Forms, the numbers on which the per-centages are based being those for the County as constituted in the respective years :—

Degrees of Elementary Education.	Rate per cent. of Total Population	
	1891.	1901.
Read and Write, ...	50·7	61·3
Read only, ...	8·5	5·6
Illiterate, ...	40·8	33·1
Total, ...	100·0	100·0

From the above it will be seen that whereas, according to the Returns of 1891, only 50·7 per cent. of the inhabitants, at all ages, could "read and write," in 1901, 61·3 per cent. could do so; that the per-centage of the population who could "read only" in 1891 was 8·5, and in 1901, 5·6; and that the per-centage of the illiterate" fell from 40·8 in 1891 to 33·1 in 1901.

In 1891 33·9 per cent. of the inhabitants aged five years and upwards were illiterate (32·3 per cent. of the males, and 35·6 of the females); in 1901 the per-centage was but 25·4 (24·7 of the males and, 26·1 of the females).

The number of children attending school in the County of Galway, according to the Census of 1891 (week ending 30th May), was 30,803, or 38·0 per cent. of the persons aged 5 years and under 20 in the County as then constituted; in 1901 the number returned (for week ending 11th May), was 28,678, or 43·1 per cent. of the persons aged 5 and under 20.

In 1891 the number of persons in the County of Galway (as then constituted) returned as sick on the night of the Census, was 1,324, or one in every 162 of the population; in 1901 the number so returned was 1,305, or one in every 148 of the population; of the latter number 708 were at their own homes, and 597 were in hospital.

The number of persons returned in 1891 as receiving relief under the Poor Law System was 4,131, or one in every 52 of the population; of this number 1,627 were inmates of Workhouses, and 2,504 were in receipt of outdoor relief; in 1901 the number returned was 3,853, or one in every 50 of the population; 1,480 of these being in the Workhouses, and 2,373 on outdoor relief.

According to the Returns of the Registrar-General, the number of marriages registered in the County of Galway during the ten years ending 31st March, 1901, was 6,722, equal to an average annual rate of 3·3 per 1000 of the population. The number registered in the whole of Ireland during the same period, affords an average annual rate of 4·8 per 1,000.

The number of Births registered in the County during the ten years was 44,912, affording an average annual rate of 22·2 per 1,000 of the population, the average annual rate for the whole of Ireland during the same period being 23·0 per 1,000.

The Deaths registered during the decennium amounted to 30,779, being equal to an average annual rate of 15·2 per 1,000; the corresponding rate for the whole of Ireland was 18·2 per 1,000.

The number of Emigrants during the ten years ending 31st March, 1901, who stated that they were from the County of Galway, amounted to 36,820 (15,125 males, and 21,695 females); the number for the decade ending 31st March, 1891, was 51,121; for that ending 31st March, 1881, 23,665; for that ending 31st March, 1871, 38,758; and for that ending 31st March, 1861, 50,838, making a total of 201,202 for the fifty years.

C.—Return showing the Population, Area, Valuation, and Average Valuation per Head of Valuation in each Poor Law Union in the County of Galway containing Congested Districts.

Supplied by the Congested Districts Board.

Union.	Population.			Area.			Valuation.			Average Valuation per Head of Population according to Census of 1901.		
	Congested portion of Union.	Non-congested portion of Union.	Total.	Congested portion of Union.	Non-congested portion of Union.	Total.	Congested portion of Union.	Non-congested portion of Union.	Total.	In entire Union.	In Congested Districts.	In Non-congested Districts.
				Acres.	Acres	Acres.	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Clifden,	16,185	583	18,768	159,339	34,543	193,882	17,108	1,275	18,383	0 19 7	0 18 9	2 3 8
Oughterard,	17,732	—	17,732	173,506	—	173,506	15 624	—	15,624	0 17 7	0 17 7	—
Galway,	12,489	23 976	36 465	108,103	90,433	198,536	10,880	55.972	66,852	1 16 8	0 17 5	2 6 8
Glennamaddy,	8,328	8.249	16,577	37,904	62,367	100 271	10.762	21,104	31,866	1 18 5	1 5 10	2 11 2
Oranmore,	6,217	24,707	30,924	27,101	164,163	191,264	9.408	67,924	77,332	2 10 0	1 10 3	2 14 11
Mountbellew,	1,385	13.634	15,019	5,236	97,168	102,404	1,667	38,847	40,514	2 13 11	1 4 0	2 16 11
Roscrea,	1,718	18,408	20,126	25,401	173,526	189,927	1,675	74,971	76,646	3 16 2	0 19 5	4 1 5
Tuam,	437	8,617	9 054	8.080	69,184	77,264	481	34 912	35 393	3 18 2	1 2 0	4 1 0

APPENDIX X

D. List of Electoral Divisions scheduled as "Congested" in the County of Galway, showing Ratio of Population to Valuation in respect of the years 1891 and 1901, also Poor Rates for the year ended the 31st March, 1901.*

. *Where the average valuation per head was in* 1901 *not less than* 30*s. the name of the Electoral Division is printed in italics.*

Union and Electoral Division.	Population. 1891.	Valuation. 1891.	Amount of Valuation per head of Population, 1891.	Population, 1901.	Valuation, 1901.	Amount of Valuation per head of Population, 1901.	Poor Rates for year ended 31st March, 1901. On Agricultural Land.	Poor Rates for year ended 31st March, 1901. On Other Hereditaments.
		£	£ s. d.		£	£ s. d.	In the £ s. d.	In the £ s. d.
UNION OF CLIFDEN.								
Ballynakill,† ...	782	1,222	1 11 3	750	1,226	1 12 8		
Bunowen, ...	1,374	1,112	0 16 2	1,171	1,124	0 19 2		
Cleggan, ...	613	748	1 4 5	553	768	1 7 9		
Clifden, ...	2,905	2,955	1 0 4	2,575	3,313	1 5 8		
Cushkillary, ...	465	676	1 9 1	454	682	1 10 0		
Derrylea, ...	283	398	1 8 2	255	399	1 11 3		
Dunloughan, ...	504	646	1 5 8	505	646	1 5 7		
Errislannan, ...	839	681	0 16 3	726	683	0 18 9		
Illoin, ...	344	116	0 6 9	337	123	0 7 3	3 0	5 9
Inishbofin, ...	997	572	0 11 6	891	581	0 13 0		
Knockboy, ...	2,261	1,195	0 10 6	2,027	1,254	0 12 4		
Moyrus, ...	1,066	887	0 16 8	974	1,131	1 3 2		
Owengowla, ...	837	378	0 9 0	825	388	0 9 4		
Rinvyle, ...	2,280	1,998	0 17 6	2,086	1,976	0 18 11		
Roundstone, ...	1,365	1,104	0 16 1	1,393	1,201	0 17 3		
Sillerna, ...	1,588	916	0 11 6	1,335	915	0 13 8		
Skannive, ...	1,457	668	0 9 2	1,328	698	0 10 4		
Totals ...	19,960	16,272	0 16 3	18,185	17,108	0 18 9		
UNION OF OUGHTERARD.								
Camus, ...	556	217	0 7 10	550	223	0 8 1		
Cloonbur, ...	2,411	3,202	1 6 6	2,059	3,167	1 10 9		
Cong, ...	1,749	1,254	0 14 4	1,671	1,261	0 15 1		
Crumpaun, ...	2,263	903	0 7 11	2,383	1,035	0 8 8		
Cur, ...	525	454	0 17 3	495	461	0 18 7		
Gorumna, ...	2,506	897	0 7 2	2,349	972	0 8 3		
Kilcummin, ...	386	166	0 8 7	346	174	0 10 0	2 9	5 4
Letterbrickaun, ...	688	726	1 1 1	656	768	1 3 4		
Letterfore, ...	591	699	1 3 8	518	870	1 13 7		
Lettermore, ...	1,408	457	0 6 6	1,272	493	0 7 9		
Oughterard, ...	2,329	2,414	1 0 8	2,079	2,680	1 5 9		
Ross, ...	327	438	1 6 9	328	438	1 6 8		
Turlough, ...	1,490	832	0 11 2	1,476	738	0 10 0		
Wormhole, ...	1,750	2,280	1 6 0	1,550	2,344	1 10 3		
Totals, ...	18,979	14,939	0 15 8	17,732	15,624	0 17 7		
UNION OF GALWAY.								
Annaghdown, ...	1,367	1,617	1 3 7	1,243	1,615	1 5 11		
Furbogh, ...	726	863	1 3 9	728	874	1 4 0		
Inishmore, ...	2,907	1,576	0 10 10	2,863	1,592	0 11 1		
Kilcummin, ...	1,848	915	0 9 10	1,739	954	0 10 11		
Killanin, ...	983	670	0 13 8	977	675	0 13 9		
Liscananaun, ...	1,134	1,642	1 9 0	1,033	1,638	1 11 8	3 0	5 1
Moycullen, ...	673	940	1 7 11	665	1,032	1 11 0		
Selerna, ...	1,191	653	0 11 0	1,145	692	0 12 1		
Slieveaneena, ...	1,067	982	0 18 4	948	963	1 0 3		
Spiddle, ...	1,324	822	0 12 5	1,148	845	0 15 7		
Totals, ...	13,220	10,680	0 16 1	12,489	10,880	0 17 5		
UNION OF GLENAMADDY.								
Ballinastack, ...	891	1,323	1 9 7	841	1,330	1 11 7		
Boyounagh, ...	756	804	1 1 3	675	805	1 3 10		
Glenamaddy, ...	1,877	2,043	1 1 9	1,735	2,080	1 3 11		
Island, ...	1,284	1,271	1 0 6	1,075	1,266	1 3 6	2 1	3 9
Kilcroan,† ...	1,335	1,823	1 10 4	1,232	1,856	1 10 1		
Raheen, ...	1,555	1,576	1 0 3	1,417	1,586	1 1 11		
Templetogher, ...	1,513	1,837	1 2 4	1,323	1,839	1 7 9		
Totals, ...	9,161	10,677	1 3 3	8,328	10,762	1 5 10		

* This return is taken from a similar return for all Counties containing Congested Districts, which was prepared by the Congested Districts Board, and published in the Appendices to the First Report of the Commission, pp. 282 *et seq.*

† Included by Order of the Lord Lieutenant.

D.—List of Electoral Divisions scheduled as "Congested" in the County of Galway, showing Ratio of Population to Valuation in respect of the years 1891 and 1901, also Poor Rates for the year ended 31st March, 1901—*continued.*

Union and Electoral Division.	Population, 1891.	Valuation, 1891.	Amount of Valuation per head of Population, 1891.	Population, 1901.	Valuation, 1901.	Amount of Valuation per head of Population, 1901.	Poor Rates for year ended 31st March, 1901. On Agricultural Land.	Poor Rates for year ended 31st March, 1901. On Other Hereditaments.
UNION OF TUAM,		£	£ s. d.		£	£ s. d.	In the £ s. d.	In the £ s. d.
Addergoole, ...	1,688	2,053	1 4 4	1,479	2,090	1 8 3		
Belclare, ...	1,350	1,729	1 5 7	1,191	1,756	1 9 5	2 4	4 1
Dunmore, ...	3,125	4,243	1 7 2	2,793	4,295	1 10 9		
Levally, ...	852	1,268	1 9 9	754	1,267	1 13 7		
Totals, ...	7,015	9,293	1 6 5	217	9,408	1 10 3		
UNION OF MOUNTBELLEW.								
Cloonkeen, ...	1,583	1,654	1 0 10	1,385	1,667	1 4 0	2 3	3 7
Totals, ...	1,583	1,654	1 0 10	1,385	1,667	1 4 0		
UNION OF LOUGHREA.								
Derrylaur, ...	532	384	0 14 5	473	387	0 16 4		
Loughatorick, ...	374	295	0 15 9	375	299	0 15 11	2 8	4 2
Woodford, ...	1,068	930	0 17 4	870	989	1 2 8		
Totals, ...	1,974	1,609	0 16 3	1,718	1,675	0 19 5		
UNION OF PORTUMNA								
Moss, ...	473	480	1 0 3	437	481	1 2 0	2 4	3 9
Totals, ...	473	480	1 0 3	437	481	1 2 0		
Total in respect of the Congested Districts in Co. Galway.	72,365	65,604	0 18 1	66,491	67,605	1 0 4		

RETURN SHOWING THE RATIO OF POPULATION TO VALUATION IN CERTAIN ELECTORAL DIVISIONS IN COUNTY GALWAY, AND OTHER PARTICULARS.*

Specially prepared for the Commission.

EXPLANATORY NOTE.

Return (prepared by the Commissioner of Valuation) shows the total rateable valuation (1906), the ion (1901), and the average valuation per head of population in each Electoral Division.

Where that average is under 30*s.*

Where that average is between 30*s.* and 50*s.*, but is brought below 30*s.* by the exclusion from the dividend (*i.e.*, the total rateable valuation of the electoral division) of all ratings valued at over £50. In these cases the acreage and valuation of each excluded area is given.

Where the electoral division, though scheduled as congested, does not come within either of the above classes.

total number of electoral divisions in Galway is 219, of which 213 are rural and 6 urban. The total of electoral divisions comprised in this return is 78, all rural; of these 21 are not scheduled as d and are distinguished by an asterisk.

total number of divisions in County Galway scheduled in 1891 as congested was 57, of which 2 were below 30*s.* in point of average valuation per head of population. Between 1891 and 1901 the valuation rose about 10 per cent. (owing mainly to the decrease in population). Of the 50 scheduled 12 are not now below 30*s.* Of these 12 divisions, 11 are not below 30*s.* normally, but are when the ation of all ratings above £50 is excluded, and 1 is above 30*s.*, even after these exclusions. The his division is printed in italics.

* This is taken from a similar Return for the whole of Ireland, which was published in the Appendices to the First Report ... pp. 367 *et seq.*

APPENDIX X.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE No. 1.

Electoral Division.	Total Rateable Valuation, 1906.	Population (Census, 1901).	Average Valuation per head of Population.	Average Valuation per head of Population in cases normally between 30s. and 50s. when all Valuations over £50 are excluded.	Area and Valuation of Excluded Holdings		Remarks.
					Area.	Valuation.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	
Total of Rural District,	59,761 19 0	10,694	5 11 9				

RURAL DISTRICT OF CLIFDEN.

Bunowen,	1,134 10 0	1,171	0 19 5	—	—	—	
Cleggan,	804 5	553	1 9 1	—	—	—	
Clifden,	3,407 3 0	2,575	1 6 6	—	—	—	
Doonloughan,	642 3 0	505	1 5 5	—	—	—	
Errislannon,	685 17 0	726	0 18 11	—	—	—	
Illion,	126 1 0	337	0 7 6	—	—	—	
Inishbofin,	595 14 0	891	0 13 4	—	—	—	
Knockboy,	1,345 17 0	2,027	0 13 3	—	—	—	
Moyrus,	1,227 5 0	974	1 5 2	—	—	—	
Owengowla,	405 1 0	825	0 9 10	—	—	—	
Rinvyle,	2,149 8 0	2,086	1 0 7	—	—	—	
Roundstone,	1,221 2 0	1,393	0 17 6	—	—	—	
Sillerna,	926 13 0	1,335	0 13 11	—	—	—	
Skannive,	738 4 0	1,328	0 11 1	—	—	—	
Ballynakill,	1,233 8 0	750	1 12 11	1 7 3	919 3 32 224 1 28 127 3 34	59 10 0 79 10 0 72 5 0	
*Bencorr,	849 11 0	377	2 5 1	1 7 3	679 2 32 21 0 25	255 0 0 81 5 0	Railway and Station
Cushkillery,	687 6 0	454	1 10 3	1 7 11	1,437 1 3	54 5 0	
*Derrycunlagh,	428 19 0	206	2 1 8	0 17 4	—	250 0 0	Salmon Fishery.
Derrylea,	*401 13 0*	255	*1 11 6*	—	—	—	
Total of Rural District,	19,010 0 0	18,768	1 0 3	—	—	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF GALWAY.

Annaghdown,	1,620 3 0	1,243	1 6 1	—	—	—	
Furbogh,	879 5 0	728	1 4 2	—	—	—	
Inishmore,	1,604 8 0	2,863	0 11 3	—	—	—	
Kilcummin,	989 3 0	1,739	0 11 5	—	—	—	
Killannin,	688 10 0	977	0 14 1	—	—	—	
Selerna,	703 16 0	1,145	0 12 5	—	—	—	
Slieveaneena,	967 0 0	948	1 0 5	—	—	—	
Spiddal,	848 9 0	1,148	0 14 9	—	—	—	
*Carnmore,	1,377 4 0	724	1 18 1	1 9 2	174 1 2 244 3 7 391 2 8	61 5 0 107 0 0 154 0 0	
*Claregalway,	1,720 11 0	958	1 15 11	1 6 0	105 0 0 107 3 13 186 1 25 207 1 31 457 0 2	61 11 0 63 18 0 52 15 0 66 0 0 226 4 0	
*Deerpark	1,303 5 0	677	1 18 6	1 4 9	684 1 7 157 3 8 256 2 18 145 1 31 429 2 14	201 3 0 55 0 0 66 0 0 52 15 0 91 15 0	
Liscanaun,	1,651 12 0	1,033	1 12 0	1 7 2	124 3 20 221 2 29 225 0 29	51 10 0 59 10 0 135 10 0	
Moycullen,	1,101 3 0	665	1 13 1	1 3 1	495 2 39 12 1 25 129 1 5	191 10 0 89 11 0 53 10 0	Railway and Station.
Total of all other Electoral Divisions.	24,632 3 0	8,191	3 0 2	—	—	—	
Total of Rural District,	40,091 12 0	23,039	1 14 10	—	—	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF GLENNAMADDY.

Electoral Division.	Total Rateable Valuation, 1906.	Population (Census, 1901).	Average Valuation per head of Population.	Average Valuation per head of Population in cases normally between 30s. and 50s. when all Valuations over £50 are excluded.	Area and Valuation of Excluded Holdings.		Remarks.
					Area.	Valuation.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	
Byounagh.	819 15 0	675	1 4 3	—	—	—	
Glennamaddy.	2,140 10 0	1,735	1 4 8	—	—	—	
Island.	1,268 1 0	1,075	1 3 7	—	—	—	
Laheen.	1,588 0 0	1,447	1 1 11	—	—	—	
Templetogher.	1,831 1 0	1,323	1 7 8	—	—	—	
Tallinastack.	1,328 12 0	841	1 11 7	1 6 10	101 3 0 295 3 3	53 19 0 148 0 0	
Cloonkeen.	1,439 1 0	718	2 0 1	1 6 11	523 1 5 274 0 21 254 0 8 101 2 9 198 1 28	156 5 0 85 10 0 105 0 0 50 10 0 75 0 0	
Creggs.	2,778 11 0	1,174	2 7 4	1 3 2	247 2 22 143 2 39 332 2 16 284 1 0* 361 2 0 217 2 12 484 1 2 365 2 23 123 3 36 196 2 0	106 17 0 72 0 0 158 17 0 76 5 0 172 0 0 98 6 0 319 11 0 176 15 0 76 5 0 163 0 0	* Area includes small plantation, valuation £3, in different occupiership
Curraghmore.	1,168 6 0	493	2 7 5	1 8 0	550 2 3 284 1 21 1,078 3 38 151 0 36	106 10 0 134 16 6 161 5 0 76 0 0	
Kileroan.	1,875 6 0	1,232	1 10 5	1 4 0	1'3 1 16 565 3 32 374 0 25	54 5 0 183 10 0 158 0 0	
Kiltullagh.	1,235 5 0	501	2 9 4	1 6 6	243 2 14 212 2 0 147 2 16 137 1 30 146 2 22 387 1 18	124 19 0 93 0 0 70 0 0 71 17 0 71 7 0 141 0 0	
Moregg.	1,141 16 0	463	2 9 4	0 19 11	306 0 29 380 1 18 222 2 25 321 1 0 309 3 8 608 3 19 386 0 26 293 0 36	78 0 0 55 15 0 50 2 0 50 5 0 110 0 0 161 0 0 51 17 0 123 16 0	
Shankill.	1,511 8 0	670	2 5 1	1 6 5	192 0 0 191 1 9 199 1 39 227 2 4 201 2 2 160 0 0	115 0 0 106 5 0 99 0 0 145 10 0 85 0 0 76 0 0	
Toberadosh.	1,759 0 0	839	2 1 11	1 8 0	326 2 20 434 1 33 147 2 6 165 3 12 160 2 8 146 2 11	125 0 0 170 8 0 70 10 0 76 0 0 66 10 0 72 0 0	
Toberroe.	2,098 17 0	906	2 6 4	1 9 2	277 3 12 253 1 1 86 3 3 110 3 32 172 1 8 220 1 27 179 3 31	147 0 0 117 16 0 53 0 0 58 5 0 126 0 0 147 5 0 129 5 0	
Total of all other Electoral Divisions.	8,080 13 0	2,485	3 5 0	—	—	—	
Total of Rural District.	32,064 2 0	16,577	1 18 8	—	—	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF GORT.

Total of Rural District.	43,399 2 0	12,296	3 10 8

APPENDIX X.

RURAL DISTRICT OF LOUGHREA.

Electoral Division.	Total Rateable Valuation, 1906.	Population (Census 1901).	Average Valuation per head of Population.	Average Valuation per head of Population in cases normally between 30s. and 50s. when all Valuations over £50 are excluded.	Area and Valuation of Excluded Holdings.		Remarks.
					Area.	Valuation.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	
Derrylaur,	394 15 0	473	0 16 8	—	—	—	
Loughatorick,	298 2 0	375	0 15 11	—	—	—	
Woodford,	1,078 10 0	870	1 4 10	—	—	—	
Total of all other Electoral Divisions.	75,135 13 0	18,408	4 1 8	—	—	—	
Total of Rural District,	76,907 0 0	20,126	3 16 5	—	—	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF MOUNTBELLEW.

Clonkeen,	1,667 9 0	1,385	1 4 1	—	—	—	
*Killian,	2,229 7 0	1,198	1 17 3	1 5 8	116 1 12 114 0 22 333 0 30 213 1 35 562 0 29 155 1 34	69 5 0 60 0 0 176 10 0 105 0 0 213 17 0 65 0 0	
*Taghboy,	1,233 8 0	540	2 5 8	1 6 1	300 1 10 219 2 37 208 3 37 112 3 0 181 0 0 180 3 26	56 10 0 75 0 0 68 5 0 53 15 0 143 0 0 132 0 0	
Total of all other Electoral Divisions.	35,663 15 0	11,896	3 0 0	—	—	—	
Total of Rural District,	40,793 19 0	15,019	2 14 4	—	—		

RURAL DISTRICT OF OUGHTERARD.

Camus,	237 19 0	550	0 8 8	—	—	—	
Cong,	1,282 11 0	1,671	0 15 4	—	—	—	
Crumpaun,	1,053 13 0	2,383	0 8 10	—	—	—	
Cur,	470 18 0	495	0 19 0	—	—	—	
Gorumna,	999 16 0	2,349	0 8 6	—	—	—	
Kilcummin,	180 2 0	346	0 10 5	—	—	—	
Letterbrickaun,	790 15 0	656	1 4 1	—	—	—	
Lettermore,	496 0 0	1,272	0 7 10	—	—	—	
Oughterard,	2,777 12 0	2,079	1 6 9	—	—	—	
Ross,	439 0 0	328	1 6 9	—	—	—	
Turlough,	854 2 0	1,476	0 11 7	—	—	—	
Cloonbur,	3,219 11 0	2,059	1 11 3	1 3 11	225 0 28 144 0 11 105 2 5 105 3 0 200 2 20 255 3 25 224 2 0	244 17 0 66 15 0 55 18 0 52 5 0 86 0 0 110 0 0 138 0 0	
Letterfore,	879 10 0	518	1 13 11	1 5 7	211 1 5 33 3 0	91 5 0 124 15 0	Railway and Station House.
Wormhole,	2,366 13 0	1,550	1 10 6	1 6 8	1,053 0 36 8 0 0 440 0 15	90 15 0 51 5 0 160 12 0	Railway and Station House.
Total of Rural District,	16,048 2 0	17,732	0 18 1	—	—	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF PORTUMNA.

ELECTORAL DIVISION.	Total Rateable Valuation, 1906.	Population (Census, 1901).	Average Valuation per head of Population.	Average Valuation per head of Population in cases normally between 30s. and 50s. when all Valuations over £50 are excluded.	AREA AND VALUATION OF EXCLUDED HOLDINGS.		REMARKS.
					Area.	Valuation.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	
Coos, ...	485 14 0	437	1 2 3	—	—	—	
Total of all other Electoral Divisions.	35,187 19 0	8,617	4 1 8	—	—	—	
Total of Rural District,	35,673 13 0	9,054	3 18 10	—	—	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF TUAM.

Addergoole, . . .	2,093 7 0	1,479	1 8 4	—	—	—	
Belclare, . . .	1,769 14 0	1,191	1 9 9	—	—	—	
Abbey West, . .	1,339 17 0	693	1 18 8	1 4 6	192 1 21 270 3 33 5 3 37 130 1 17 111 2 0 215 0 16	103 15 0 84 0 0 66 0 0 83 10 0 70 10 0 82 5 0	Railway.
Ballynapark, .	1,889 15 0	866	2 3 8	1 6 8	448 1 35 4 1 34 7 1 0 6 2 0 194 0 14 265 1 13 226 3 1 124 2 12	209 5 0 60 0 0 59 5 0 54 0 0 61 10 0 137 12 0 100 15 0 52 5 0	Railway. Do. Do.
Dunmore, . . .	4,350 8 0	2,793	1 11 2	1 6 0	177 2 17 87 0 21 188 0 8 130 0 7 120 2 25 175 1 4 156 1 3 139 2 30 116 0 29	95 10 0 63 0 0 82 5 0 52 5 0 107 10 0 87 10 0 68 0 0 97 5 0 71 5 0	
Hillsbrook, . .	1,751 7 0	927	1 17 9	1 7 6	197 3 9 238 0 28 143 0 5 160 3 3 166 3 0 138 2 5	74 15 0 131 0 0 60 10 0 96 10 0 58 0 0 55 15 0	
Kilbennan, . . .	1,591 13 0	756	2 2 1	1 4 11	102 2 12 145 1 26 113 0 16 167 1 5 268 0 18 217 0 4	63 5 0 65 10 0 86 0 0 123 0 0 187 18 0 123 0 0	
Kilshanvy, . . .	1,762 1 0	838	2 2 1	1 7 11	420 2 19 87 0 32 415 2 36 547 0 10 185 1 23	198 0 0 52 10 0 97 0 0 129 5 0 116 15 0	
Orally, ...	1,265 7 0	754	1 13 7	1 6 10	201 3 16 316 3 11 197 2 23	85 5 0 91 15 0 76 0 0	
Moyne. . . .	1,943 8 0	970	2 0 1	1 3 11	188 0 21 531 3 19 115 3 0 205 3 4 288 1 8 373 0 27	76 15 0 291 18 0 64 5 0 77 15 0 122 5 0 150 5 0	
Total of all other Electoral Divisions.	57,914 19 0	19,657	2 13 11	—	—	—	
Total of Rural District,	77,671 16 0	30,924	2 10 3	—	—	—	
TOTAL OF RURAL DISTRICTS IN COUNTY.	441,421 5 0	174,219	2 10 8				

APPENDIX A.

F.—STATISTICS RELATING TO THE NUMBER, ACREAGE, VALUATION AND POPULATION OF VARIOUS CLASSES OF HOLDINGS, AND TO THE CHIEF DIVISIONS OF THE LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY.

Specially prepared for the Commission.

EXPLANATORY NOTE.

The information contained in the Tables I.–IV. has been specially prepared for the Commission by the Registrar-General from the office summaries of the Census of 1901. The importance of the figures and their interpretation were touched upon in a memorandum submitted by the Secretary to the Commission, and printed in the Appendices to the First Report of the Commission, pp. 351 *et seq.* It will suffice to remark here that, though nominally these tables are returns of "holdings," they are really returns of landholders, for, if one man has half-a-dozen farms in the same county, he is returned as having a single holding of their combined valuation. It is obvious that, so far as counties are concerned, these returns, being actually though not nominally returns of landholders, show more clearly the size of the problem requiring treatment than a return of holdings would—*e.g.*, a man has in County Galway six holdings valued at £2, £4, £6, £10, £20, and £40. A return of holdings would in this case apparently suggest that there were at least three holdings needing enlargement; whilst the present returns more clearly indicate the situation by showing only one holding of £82 valuation. As regards the size of the remedial material that might be made available for relieving congestion, these returns might, however, mislead—*e.g.*, in the case taken above the returns would suggest that there was in County Galway one holding of £82 valuation that possibly might be secured for the enlargement of small holdings; whilst in point of fact there are six holdings of varying size scattered over the county.

The interpretation of the figures becomes more complicated when they are examined not for the whole of a county, but for the comparatively small area of an electoral division—the present unit of congestion. In these returns, where one man has several holdings in County Galway, but in different electoral divisions, or has one holding which runs into two electoral divisions, the entire is allocated to the division containing the holding or the part of the holding of highest valuation; hence the figures in these returns do not represent the actual state of things in each electoral division, as they may include in such division land situate in other electoral divisions (of County Galway), and may exclude land geographically belonging to the division itself. Thus, the area, population, or valuation shown for an electoral division might be larger or smaller than the actual area, population, or valuation of that division. Adjustments could have been made rectifying this, but they would have immensely complicated matters. Moreover, the returns would then have been based in part on holdings rather than on landholders, and this would, for the reason shown above, have exaggerated the size of the problem. Consequently the Commission, having considered the relative advantages of adjusted and unadjusted returns of holdings and landholders, decided that as regards most areas the unadjusted returns of landholders by electoral divisions would be the most useful.

The information contained in Tables V. and VI. has been specially prepared for the Commission by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland from the office summaries of the Agricultural Statistics of 1906. Their importance and interpretation were touched upon in the memorandum to which reference has been already made, and it will suffice to remark here that the difference between the number of holdings given in Table V. and the number given in Table I. is accounted for by the following causes:—

(1) Table V. is a return of holdings, and Table I. a return of landholders.

(2) Table I. refers to agricultural holdings only, and Table V. includes labourers' cottage holdings and gardens; and

(3) Differences of classification and adjustment.

I.—Table showing Total Number of Holdings and Number of each of Eleven Classes, arranged according to Valuation, in the County of Galway.

Unions and Electoral Divisions.	Total Number of Holdings.	Classification of Holdings, and Number in each Class.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
Ballinasloe.												
Beygormacan	183	18	37	27	10	15	7	5	9	4	1	—
Ascragh	175	60	68	24	7	10	3	2	2	3	—	1
Ghrim, ...	84	13	18	7	8	8	2	4	16	6	—	2
Ilinasloe Rural, ...	93	19	34	14	3	8	5	2	5	2	—	1
Ilinasloe Urban, ...	159	37	57	30	11	12	5	3	3	—	1	—
Iymacward, ...	98	19	20	22	8	6	4	3	4	2	1	—
nfert, ...	85	20	19	5	7	7	2	—	5	2	6	3
ntuskert, ...	126	20	37	16	17	12	5	7	9	3	—	—
lysgrove, ...	93	12	25	13	15	7	8	—	6	4	2	1
connell, ...	134	41	41	16	8	6	6	1	6	6	2	1
laan, ...	84	12	28	11	5	3	6	3	6	5	3	2
lallaghtan, ...	122	31	40	17	4	6	2	—	11	7	2	2
loran, ...	72	19	25	6	3	5	1	3	2	6	1	1
lure, ...	94	26	33	10	2	1	2	3	5	6	3	3
macshane, ...	110	40	37	10	6	5	2	—	6	3	1	—
tormer, ...	130	43	40	11	9	11	4	1	5	2	2	2
lemore, ...	22	5	—	3	2	3	2	2	—	3	2	—
rencetown, ...	100	37	22	10	9	6	2	2	5	4	1	2
manny	31	6	9	4	2	4	1	1	—	1	—	3
field, ...	101	14	36	14	14	7	4	1	2	7	1	1
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	2,046	501	630	270	150	142	73	43	107	76	29	25
Total of Electoral Divisions,	2,046	501	630	270	150	142	73	43	107	76	29	25
Clifden.												
lynakill	101	50	30	3	7	3	1	2	2	2	—	1
ncorr, ...	64	29	23	3	2	2	3	—	1	—	1	—
nowen, ...	234	197	27	1	1	1	3	1	—	3	—	—
ggan, ...	85	55	20	6	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	—
fden, ...	295	193	76	4	8	3	1	1	8	1	—	—
hkillary, ...	79	48	17	2	2	3	3	1	2	1	—	—
rrycunlagh, ...	46	36	8	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
rrylea, ...	50	33	11	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
onloughan, ...	99	58	30	4	3	—	1	1	2	—	—	—
islannan, ...	140	104	30	1	1	1	1	—	—	2	—	—
on, ...	55	52	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
shbofin, ...	180	148	29	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
ockboy, ...	369	294	69	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
yrus, ...	170	143	15	2	1	3	1	1	4	—	—	—
rengowla, ...	150	137	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
nvyle, ...	367	263	89	5	1	3	1	1	2	—	2	—
undstone, ...	185	123	43	5	3	7	1	1	1	1	—	—
lerna, ...	255	215	33	4	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
annive, ...	258	241	10	5	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	3,072	2,354	544	47	31	32	16	11	23	11	2	1
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	110	65	31	4	2	2	4	—	1	—	1	—
Total of Electoral Divisions,	3,182	2,419	575*	51	33	34	20	11	24	11	3	1

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

I.—TABLE showing Total Number of Holdings and Number of each of Eleven Classes, arranged according to Valuation, in the County of Galway—*continued.*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Number of Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS, AND NUMBER IN EACH CLASS.									
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 and not exceeding £500.
GALWAY.												
*Annaghdown,	248	116	105	18	2	4	1	—	1	1	—	—
Aughrim,	143	61	39	13	12	10	4	—	1	3	—	—
Ballintemple,	133	24	40	29	17	14	2	1	6	—	—	—
Ballynacourty,	118	15	21	30	13	21	6	2	7	2	1	—
Barna,	309	160	92	32	10	9	3	—	2	—	1	—
Belleville,	56	26	17	3	1	2	1	1	1	3	—	—
Carnmore,	114	24	50	18	5	7	3	—	3	3	—	—
Carrowbrowne,	115	38	50	18	3	3	1	—	2	—	—	—
Claregalway,	183	82	71	9	8	3	3	1	3	2	1	—
Clarinbridge,	194	58	52	33	13	23	8	2	2	1	—	—
Deerpark,	121	66	36	3	7	2	—	—	5	1	1	—
*Furbogh,	120	48	55	7	3	2	3	1	—	1	—	—
Galway Rural,	192	98	50	15	10	9	1	1	3	4	—	—
Galway Urban,	347	114	113	27	13	18	16	16	24	2	4	—
*Inishmore,	345	222	120	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
*Kilcummin,	283	247	28	2	2	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
*Killannin,	155	96	56	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Lackaghbeg,	97	20	36	18	4	7	5	3	2	1	—	—
*Liscananaun,	197	105	65	10	2	6	3	2	2	1	1	—
Lisheenavalla,	66	15	36	6	5	—	—	1	3	—	—	—
*Moycullen,	109	44	36	21	2	3	—	1	1	1	—	—
Oranmore,	101	25	27	12	14	11	3	1	6	2	—	—
*Selerna,	195	161	28	4	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
*Slievaneena,	166	99	55	4	1	3	2	—	1	1	—	—
*Spiddle,	168	99	63	2	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Stradbally,	45	8	14	6	2	6	1	3	2	2	—	—
Tullokyne,	109	21	51	14	9	5	5	1	3	—	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	1,986	1,237	611	71	16	21	11	6	6	5	2	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	2,443	855	795	286	146	150	62	33	75	26	8	3
Total of Electoral Divisions,	4,429	2,092	1,406	357	162	171	73	39	81	31	10	3
GLENNAMADDY.												
*Ballinastack,	166	31	123	4	3	1	—	1	2	1	—	—
Ballymoe,	157	67	61	10	3	5	2	—	4	4	1	—
Ballynakill,	148	54	54	10	3	3	6	3	7	6	2	—
*Boyounagh,	138	46	87	1	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
Carrownagur,	144	27	70	22	7	6	3	—	4	2	3	—
Cloonkeen,	133	50	62	4	6	5	2	1	1	1	—	1
Creggs,	164	69	78	6	1	1	—	3	1	1	2	—
Curraghmore,	100	27	50	17	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	1
*Glennamaddy,	305	171	103	14	2	5	2	3	4	1	—	—
*Island,	214	81	110	15	5	1	1	—	1	—	—	1
*Kilcroan,	228	93	107	10	8	1	1	3	2	2	1	—
Kiltullagh,	100	37	47	6	1	2	—	2	3	2	—	—
*Raheen,	246	100	117	17	6	4	1	—	1	—	—	—
Scregg,	83	49	28	—	—	2	—	—	2	1	—	1
Shankill,	115	44	50	7	5	2	2	—	2	2	1	—
*Templetogher,	250	70	152	16	4	4	—	—	4	—	—	—
Toberadosh,	159	68	58	5	11	7	2	1	3	4	—	1
Toberroe,	170	41	94	17	4	2	3	1	3	5	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	1,547	592	799	77	29	16	5	7	16	5	1	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	1,473	533	652	104	42	37	20	11	31	29	9	5
Total of Electoral Divisions,	3,020	1,125	1,451	181	71	53	25	18	47	34	10	5

* Scheduled as Congested.

TABLE showing Total Number of Holdings and Number of each of Eleven Classes, arranged according to Valuation, in the County of Galway—*continued.*

SIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS	Total Number of Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS, AND NUMBER IN EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
COURT.												
ullivan, ...	195	37	83	32	16	11	3	6	4	2	—	
anan, ...	54	12	12	11	1	6	6	1	3	1	—	1
cahalan, ...	143	42	46	22	7	12	4	5	4	1	—	—
th, ...	216	41	83	30	18	12	9	11	7	3	2	—
rmore, ...	103	11	37	19	10	13	3	3	5	—	2	—
ard, ...	39	16	18	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
letaylor, ...	69	20	20	9	9	4	2	—	3	1	—	1
us, ...	133	16	50	31	15	13	2	1	3	1	1	—
nacoo, ...	189	77	63	23	4	11	3	1	4	1	—	2
.. ..	109	16	32	14	17	9	11	2	5	3	—	—
eacanty, ...	85	20	36	10	8	1	6	3	—	—	—	1
ely, ...	165	29	55	37	19	11	8	3	3	—	—	—
enavarra, ...	115	26	40	19	11	8	1	4	3	3	—	—
nny, ...	128	12	55	24	15	9	7	—	5	1	—	—
artan, ...	204	35	61	41	24	21	8	5	7	1	—	1
omas, ...	87	51	17	3	3	5	1	2	3	1	—	1
arra, ...	181	30	71	27	16	25	4	1	6	1	—	—
sane, ...	77	16	24	12	3	4	10	1	5	2	—	—
anagh, ...	122	33	36	24	8	7	3	5	4	—	1	1
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	2,414	540	839	390	206	182	91	54	74	22	6	10
Total of Electoral Divisions,	2,414	540	839	390	206	182	91	54	74	22	6	10
LOUGHREA.												
.. .. ..	119	9	49	25	9	16	7	—	3	1	—	—
ury, ...	149	44	47	13	9	12	5	4	9	6	—	—
ynagar, ...	82	17	38	13	5	3	3	—	2	—	—	1
klagh, ...	142	9	40	24	23	16	6	5	13	5	1	—
aun, ...	81	18	40	7	5	4	4	—	1	2	—	—
alusk, ...	104	20	41	13	9	9	3	—	5	4	—	—
leboy, ...	55	9	19	5	—	1	2	4	4	7	3	1
nkeen, ...	82	20	23	13	7	9	1	4	2	3	—	—
anastown, ...	28	7	8	5	3	2	—	—	—	3	—	—
ghwell, ...	138	27	32	19	13	20	9	5	7	6	—	—
rylaur, ...	82	33	46	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
mkeary, ...	197	68	58	26	12	15	7	6	4	1	—	—
gabbey, ...	55	19	18	9	5	—	—	—	1	2	—	1
nge, ...	88	18	26	10	6	9	3	4	5	3	3	1
thill, ...	70	14	15	8	7	7	8	2	4	5	—	—
hreest, ...	80	6	18	15	9	10	7	2	11	1	—	1
onickny, ...	119	18	45	25	10	13	2	2	3	1	—	—
onierin, ...	59	11	12	6	6	6	5	—	4	6	2	1
imor, ...	98	18	43	16	7	3	4	—	4	3	—	—
ogilleen, ...	128	27	30	22	7	13	6	6	12	3	2	—
neen, ...	128	31	32	17	10	10	8	5	7	2	2	4
eekill, ...	63	16	21	6	3	2	2	1	5	4	—	3
eskill, ...	119	67	30	5	3	3	3	2	3	—	2	1
tullagh, ...	91	26	20	16	6	4	6	5	3	3	1	1
kalea, ...	35	3	7	5	1	9	4	2	1	2	1	—
trim, ...	117	22	42	17	2	17	4	5	4	3	—	1
ghatoreek, ...	68	47	18	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
ghrea Rural, ...	170	29	45	28	21	18	11	4	9	5	—	—

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

I.—TABLE showing Total Number of Holdings and Number of each of Eleven Classes, arranged according to Valuation, in the County of Galway—*continued.*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Number of Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS, AND NUMBER IN EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
LOUGHREA *continued.*												
Loughrea Urban, ...	121	50	36	16	6	8	1	1	2	1	—	—
Marblehill, ...	154	67	61	10	1	4	3	2	3	2	—	1
Mountain, ...	73	19	26	8	7	4	2	1	3	2	1	—
Moyode, ...	48	11	12	5	7	2	5	—	3	2	1	—
Raford, ...	52	11	19	9	2	3	—	3	3	—	1	1
Tiaquin, ...	96	21	45	17	5	3	1	—	2	1	1	—
*Woodford, ...	151	90	36	13	2	5	2	1	2	—	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	301	170	100	18	2	5	2	1	3	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	3,141	752	998	433	226	255	132	75	142	89	21	18
Total of Electoral Divisions,	3,442	922	1,098	451	228	260	134	76	145	89	21	18
MOUNTBELLEW.												
Annagh, ...	105	37	34	15	5	4	1	1	3	1	1	3
Ballynakill, ...	203	107	68	6	2	6	1	2	4	6	—	1
Caltra, ...	97	34	30	13	4	6	2	2	3	2	1	—
Castleblakeney	142	61	48	15	6	1	4	1	4	2	—	—
Castlefrench, ...	244	75	120	21	8	5	4	2	5	2	1	1
Clonbrock, ...	201	48	100	26	5	6	3	1	7	2	2	1
*Cloonkeen, ...	302	147	137	11	—	2	2	2	1	—	—	—
Cooloo, ...	162	60	57	20	6	6	3	2	3	1	4	—
Derryglassaun, ...	274	93	117	31	10	10	1	5	5	2	—	—
Killerorar, ...	337	80	165	49	13	11	5	—	5	7	2	—
Killian, ...	217	93	84	20	13	2	1	—	2	—	—	2
Mountbellew, ...	237	69	82	29	11	14	7	8	4	9	2	2
Mounthazel, ...	148	56	39	12	8	2	8	3	11	6	3	—
Taghboy	93	22	53	10	2	—	—	1	2	3	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	302	147	137	11	—	2	2	2	1	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	2,460	835	997	267	93	73	40	28	58	43	16	10
Total of Electoral Divisions,	2,762	982	1,134	278	93	75	42	30	59	43	16	10
OUGHTERARD.												
*Camus, ...	86	82	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Cloonbur, ...	386	264	87	16	5	3	1	4	3	2	—	1
*Cong, ...	290	219	49	8	8	2	3	—	1	—	—	—
*Crumpaun, ...	378	332	41	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Cur, ...	73	59	5	1	—	4	2	—	2	—	—	—
*Gorumna, ...	338	303	19	2	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—
*Kilcummin, ...	66	63	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Letterbrickaun, ...	83	65	2	2	—	5	2	—	6	1	—	—
*Letterfore, ...	91	38	39	6	3	3	—	—	2	—	—	—
*Lettermore, ...	132	151	29	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Oughterard, ...	370	218	106	18	11	2	4	4	6	1	—	—
*Ross, ...	54	41	4	1	—	2	3	1	2	—	—	—
*Turlough, ...	249	219	24	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Wormhole, ...	292	94	154	30	5	5	1	1	—	1	1	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	2,988	2,208	565	91	33	34	17	10	23	5	1	1
Total of Electoral Divisions,	2,988	2,208	565	91	33	34	17	10	23	5	1	1

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

.—TABLE showing Total Number of Holdings and Number of each of Eleven Classes arranged according to Valuation, in the County of Galway—*continued.*

AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Number of Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS, AND NUMBER IN EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
PORTUMNA.												
c, ...	99	23	41	21	7	4	1	1	—	1	—	—
, ...	73	8	32	7	5	10	3	4	3	1	—	—
.. .. ..	80	37	34	8	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	75	13	29	12	4	7	3	1	1	4	—	1
.. .. ..	131	32	51	21	8	6	4	5	3	1	—	—
.. .. ..	150	71	29	16	5	9	5	1	8	5	—	1
.. .. ..	155	36	53	22	10	17	3	3	5	5	—	1
ge, ...	81	39	13	6	3	4	1	1	5	3	3	3
.. .. ..	77	11	19	15	7	9	3	2	7	3	—	1
.. .. ..	139	27	30	25	13	15	4	4	14	4	2	1
.. .. ..	98	25	32	13	10	10	3	3	—	1	1	—
.. .. ..	155	18	76	27	18	6	3	—	4	1	—	2
, ...	247	43	66	54	24	16	12	7	17	6	1	1
agh, ...	43	5	12	6	6	4	2	—	6	1	1	—
.. .. ..	74	13	22	7	5	10	7	2	4	3	1	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	80	37	34	8	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	1,597	364	505	252	125	127	54	34	77	39	9	11
Total of Electoral Divisions,	1,677	401	539	260	125	127	55	34	77	39	9	11
TUAM.												
ast, ...	65	25	34	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	2
est, ...	132	72	45	10	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	1
, ...	268	119	102	24	6	10	—	1	5	1	—	—
wn, ...	155	65	63	7	9	3	3	—	2	3	—	—
y, ...	61	38	13	3	2	1	—	1	1	1	1	—
, ...	57	8	24	12	3	5	4	—	—	—	—	1
rk, ...	158	103	38	3	5	2	2	2	1	—	1	1
e, ...	65	23	27	2	3	3	—	—	3	3	1	—
.. .. ..	233	74	135	8	4	2	4	—	5	1	—	—
agh, ...	102	29	39	7	5	4	—	6	9	2	1	—
, ...	146	44	64	10	2	6	4	1	8	7	—	—
.. .. ..	106	35	41	11	1	7	3	—	2	4	2	—
.. .. ..	73	19	27	9	2	3	1	3	4	5	—	—
trick, ...	148	53	64	10	4	4	1	1	7	3	1	—
, ...	204	56	81	31	10	6	2	1	11	5	1	—
.. .. ..	422	160	197	30	13	11	2	—	6	3	—	—
.. .. ..	179	57	84	18	4	4	3	3	2	—	1	3
.. .. ..	125	27	33	19	13	10	5	3	5	9	1	—
.. .. ..	170	58	86	6	3	5	3	—	8	1	—	—
, ...	134	42	66	11	2	3	2	—	5	3	—	—
.. .. ..	71	14	15	11	7	3	3	2	14	—		1
.. .. ..	102	13	46	17	10	8	5	1	2	—	—	—
.. .. ..	156	42	71	17	2	3	4	5	9	2	1	—
.. .. ..	102	32	32	10	3	6	4	3	8	3	1	—

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

I.—TABLE showing Total Number of Holdings and Number of each of Eleven Classes, arranged according to Valuation, in the County of Galway—*continued.*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Number of Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS, AND NUMBER IN EACH CLASS.									
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.
TUAM—*continued.*											
Killower, ...	98	12	29	16	12	11	4	4	3	5	1
Killursa, ...	272	59	135	42	18	7	2	1	3	5	—
Kilmoylan, ...	85	35	33	3	3	1	—	1	3	3	2
Kilshanvy, ...	170	78	62	14	6	3	—	—	3	3	1
*Levally, ...	139	52	63	8	6	4	1	2	3	—	—
Milltown, ...	284	71	142	39	4	11	8	2	3	3	1
Monivea, ...	104	38	36	10	6	4	3	1	4	1	—
Moyne, ...	186	57	102	16	1	4	1	—	2	2	1
Ryehill, ...	78	47	23	3	1	—	—	—	—	3	—
Tuam Rural, ...	218	85	74	13	8	10	8	6	12	2	—
Tuam Urban, ...	49	21	12	3	3	4	1	—	2	1	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	1,062	405	497	70	29	27	7	3	19	5	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	4,055	1,358	1,641	383	154	142	77	48	138	80	19
Total of Electoral Divisions,	5,117	1,763	2,138	453	183	169	84	51	157	85	19
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	11,338	7,150	3,287	393	140	137	61	40	91	31	6
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	19,739	5,803	7,088	2,389	1,144	1,110	553	326	703	404	118
Total of County, ...	31,077	12,953	10,375	2,782	1,284	1,247	614	366	794	435	124

* Scheduled as Congested.

II.—Table showing Total Area occupied by each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway.

s and Electoral Divisions.	Total Acreage occupied by Agricultural Holdings.	Classification of Holdings according to Rateable Valuation, with the Area under each Class.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
Ballinasloe.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
rmacan, ...	5,807	84	509	658	344	692	423	409	1,319	1,047	322	--
h, ...	8,160	282	657	577	185	650	176	149	591	1,035	—	3,858
, ...	6,097	56	269	132	299	419	124	243	1,763	1,527	—	1,265
e Rural, ...	4,537	200	450	350	121	316	388	235	784	449	—	1,244
e Urban, ...	2,678	134	489	470	273	352	165	155	223	—	417	—
ward, ...	3,454	82	460	584	279	295	201	212	552	400	389	--
.. .. ..	8,231	150	337	161	251	395	158	—	649	407	2,031	3,692
ert, ...	4,373	92	477	414	465	588	279	503	1,063	492	—	—
ve, ...	5,011	79	370	323	549	371	505	—	711	868	666	569
ll, ...	6,004	241	632	388	289	298	380	80	819	1,713	597	567
.. .. ..	9,420	84	509	296	213	170	486	224	810	1,354	1,096	4,178
ham, ...	7,946	197	611	411	140	288	84	—	1,480	1,751	754	2,230
.. .. ..	4,434	143	384	159	99	265	58	178	363	1,372	390	1,023
.. .. ..	7,508	197	540	191	96	38	185	234	718	1,953	1,421	1,940
ane, ...	3,834	325	603	262	164	177	85	—	1,080	759	379	—
, ...	6,056	240	606	281	282	551	259	89	639	473	979	1,657
, ...	3,241	55	—	226	375	261	181	244	—	1,056	843	—
own, ...	5,487	62	280	241	312	207	166	163	513	760	338	2,445
, ...	5,375	29	388	207	40	238	56	120	—	459	—	3,838
.. .. ..	5,255	83	577	372	505	341	252	72	273	1,620	332	828
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	112,908	2,815	9,148	6,703	5,281	6,907	4,611	3,310	14,350	19,495	10,954	29,334
Total of Electoral Divisions,	112,908	2,815	9,148	6,703	5,281	6,907	4,611	3,310	14,350	19,495	10,954	29,334
Clifden.												
ll, ...	11,762	461	841	81	827	566	87	791	3,049	3,833	—	1,226
.. .. ..	19,739	2,221	7,338	3,482	1,365	2,810	1,075	—	658	—	790	—
.. .. ..	6,930	2,243	1,158	555	56	146	675	1,060	—	1,037	—	—
.. .. ..	3,643	489	529	390	—	500	846	—	—	889	—	—
.. .. ..	10,557	2,514	2,793	241	299	414	73	162	3,087	974	—	—
y, ...	23,969	502	6,523	105	610	6,263	1,454	624	3,440	4,448	—	—
lagh, ...	7,180	3,373	1,474	2,128	—	—	205	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	8,995	3,272	3,390	100	1,250	983	—	—	—	—	—	—
lian, ...	3,399	709	778	189	417	—	121	394	791	—	—	—
an, ...	5,036	1,807	606	30	45	66	195	—	—	2,287	—	—
.. ..	7,871	5,950	390	1,531	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	785	525	204	—	16	—	30	10	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	8,458	3,448	2,816	304	—	1,890	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	18,579	4,977	996	10	7	5,406	904	1,597	4,682	—	—	—
a, ...	3,127	1,805	1,322	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	13,439	4,309	4,020	906	45	434	260	531	972	—	1,962	—
re, ...	5,101	1,290	953	83	64	286	60	11	464	1,890	—	—
.. .. ..	5,236	2,849	1,238	316	185	—	—	293	355	—	—	—
.. .. ..	7,505	2,942	2,327	728	—	50	—	—	1,458	—	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	144,392	40,092	30,884	5,569	3,821	17,004	4,705	5,473	18,298	15,358	1,962	1,226
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	26,919	5,594	8,812	5,610	1,365	2,810	1,280	—	658	—	790	—
Total of Electoral Divisions,	171,311	45,686	39,696	11,179	5,186	19,814	5,985	5,473	18,956	15,358	2,752	1,226

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

II.—TABLE showing Total Area occupied by each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway—*continued.*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Acreage occupied by Agricultural Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS ACCORDING TO RATEABLE VALUATION, WITH THE AREA UNDER EACH CLASS.									
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.
GALWAY.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
*Annaghdown,	7,510	1,968	3,013	909	143	494	78	—	291	614	—
Aughrim,	7,905	880	1,540	695	1,287	1,201	680	—	344	1,278	—
Ballintemple,	4,865	172	857	928	720	1,120	158	84	826	—	—
Ballynacourty,	3,783	59	198	557	325	743	300	138	851	441	171
Barna,	6,726	1,501	2,419	1,012	282	545	276	—	277	—	414
Belleville,	4,686	259	676	174	48	132	105	316	291	1,262	—
Carnmore,	6,416	217	1,377	741	356	713	486	—	527	1,064	—
Carrowbrowne,	3,827	412	1,078	666	123	408	646	—	494	—	—
Claregalway,	6,346	877	1,601	508	380	151	947	85	568	698	531
Clarinbridge,	7,064	249	1,002	948	561	1,080	806	113	205	309	—
Deerpark,	4,440	779	818	158	479	132	—	—	1,180	247	647
*Furbogh,	5,994	2,058	2,255	347	921	196	78	17	—	122	—
Galway Rural,	4,181	850	621	521	411	349	59	46	195	769	—
Galway Urban,	5,003	652	958	331	202	369	167	376	872	403	673
*Inishmore,	11,025	4,704	4,965	142	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,214
*Kilcummin,	7,479	3,777	2,654	80	110	327	—	111	420	—	—
*Killannin,	16,726	4,282	2,754	32	2,103	—	7,555	—	—	—	—
Lackaghbeg,	5,195	87	769	687	247	443	534	461	324	348	—
*Liscananaun,	5,403	1,065	1,478	363	141	375	241	243	454	589	454
Lisheenavalla	4,108	192	1,031	380	550	—	—	235	1,720	—	—
*Moycullen,	4,081	661	930	993	136	360	—	443	150	408	—
Oranmore,	5,208	118	645	490	685	1,008	336	250	1,240	436	—
*Selerna,	13,183	2,138	4,922	6,050	69	—	4	—	—	—	—
*Slievaneena,	11,028	2,993	2,813	312	58	2,898	751	—	1,061	142	—
*Spiddle,	8,482	3,752	4,218	97	53	60	—	302	—	—	—
Stradbally,	3,881	55	328	175	172	746	133	548	452	499	—
Tullokyne,	4,975	252	1,468	883	531	305	672	257	607	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	90,911	27,398	30,002	9,325	3,734	4,710	8,707	1,116	2,376	1,875	1,668
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	88,609	7,611	17,386	9,854	7,359	9,445	6,305	2,909	10,973	7,754	2,436
Total of Electoral Divisions,	179,520	35,009	47,388	19,179	11,093	14,155	15,012	4,025	13,349	9,629	4,104
GLENNAMADDY.											
*Ballinastack,	3,637	256	2,157	175	118	65	—	125	442	299	—
Ballymoe,	4,495	856	1,012	154	115	254	92	—	626	1,004	382
Ballynakill,	6,219	515	728	242	114	197	499	361	986	1,591	986
*Boyounagh,	3,270	517	1,881	66	36	—	—	—	392	378	—
Carrownagur,	6,070	172	1,150	608	286	438	212	—	810	469	1,025
Cloonkeen,	4,971	593	1,229	143	237	264	389	97	204	515	—
Creggs,	6,623	619	1,504	211	38	68	—	158	6	278	1,698
Curraghmore,	4,028	283	1,062	575	109	141	—	—	250	218	—
*Glennamaddy,	7,407	2,280	1,962	332	80	739	205	431	820	558	—
*Island,	3,823	699	1,969	543	333	65	78	—	136	—	—
*Kilcroan,	5,549	1,071	1,845	417	232	39	172	341	270	746	416
Kiltullagh,	2,807	226	722	144	40	139	—	285	544	707	—
*Raheen,	4,466	1,074	2,164	469	214	178	100	—	267	—	—
Scregg,	4,471	520	568	—	—	115	—	—	540	310	—
Shankill,	3,211	403	874	221	173	112	167	—	374	418	469
*Templetogher,	5,272	607	2,850	596	193	297	—	—	729	—	—
Toberadosh,	4,833	543	1,055	170	425	432	150	90	489	1,479	—
Toberroe,	4,781	517	1,600	327	82	105	143	76	429	1,502	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	33,424	6,504	14,828	2,598	1,206	1,383	555	897	3,056	1,981	416
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	52,509	5,252	11,504	2,795	1,619	2,265	1,652	1,067	5,258	8,491	5,466
Total of Electoral Divisions.	85,933	11,756	26,332	5,393	2,825	3,648	2,207	1,964	8,314	10,472	5,876

* Scheduled as Congested.

II.—Table showing Total Area occupied by each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway—*continued.*

ns and Electoral Divisions,	Total Acreage occupied by Agricultural Holdings.	Classification of Holdings according to Rateable Valuation, with the Area under each Class.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
Gort.	Acres	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
illivan, ...	9,222	441	2,096	1,260	705	603	405	626	1,167	479	—	1,440
an, ...	2,175	62	136	155	22	197	387	50	461	173	—	532
halan, ...	7,621	810	2,328	1,018	346	1,117	394	492	850	266	—	—
.. .. ..	8,041	292	1,496	925	673	646	820	885	694	816	794	—
ore, ...	5,323	90	681	597	428	998	223	554	752	—	1,000	—
d, ...	3,382	999	1,516	246	116	—	—	—	—	—	—	505
aylor, ...	4,267	129	393	320	413	295	137	—	848	226	—	1,506
. . .. ..	2,907	67	534	710	406	342	196	61	266	189	136	—
oo, ...	4,957	377	1,045	628	135	604	171	65	559	130	—	1,245
.. ..	2,629	37	243	177	389	228	437	74	470	574	—	—
anty, ...	4,177	307	1,237	583	570	39	444	301	—	—	—	696
, ...	6,478	146	1,265	1,483	963	777	717	447	680	—	—	—
avarra, ...	6,285	201	900	995	709	908	261	483	820	1,008	—	—
, ...	8,588	75	2,238	1,392	1,148	953	707	—	1,495	580	—	—
an, ...	7,514	171	849	1,023	909	955	492	428	918	242	—	1,527
ass, ...	3 502	1,017	594	288	102	296	71	185	295	176	—	478
a, ...	7,943	179	1,956	1,045	799	1,963	370	85	1,265	286	—	—
ne, ...	3,455	58	670	348	120	282	654	75	851	397	—	—
ugh, ...	4,211	135	439	535	238	316	172	507	476	—	446	947
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	102,682	5,593	20,614	13,728	9,191	11,519	7,058	5,318	12,867	5,542	2,376	8,876
Total of Electoral Divisions,	102,682	5,593	20,614	13,728	9,191	11,519	7,058	5,318	12,867	5,542	2,376	8,876
Loughrea.												
.. .. ..	6,759	162	3,494	1,200	291	595	553	—	345	119	—	—
, ...	6,206	196	818	445	369	615	341	346	1,529	1,547	—	—
gar, ...	4,312	203	909	734	198	769	164	—	230	—	—	1,105
gh, ...	6,274	38	564	603	694	768	359	450	1,408	958	432	—
. .. .	2,947	118	827	250	246	259	437	—	127	683	—	—
sk, ...	5,077	150	950	708	373	611	187	—	934	1,164	—	—
y, ...	6,179	42	302	132	—	30	119	331	1,303	2,177	1,287	456
on, ...	3,766	213	581	543	340	567	183	486	302	551	—	—
stown, ...	2,466	73	326	256	257	222	—	—	—	1,332	—	—
well, ...	5,865	163	550	440	405	1,060	549	404	860	1,434	—	—
ur, ...	10,381	2,119	7,331	931	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ary, ...	4,748	754	854	543	366	626	466	457	528	154	—	—
ley, ...	2,456	93	265	278	183	—	—	—	129	611	—	897
.. .. ..	6,627	159	412	284	189	482	287	429	806	981	1,496	1,102
l, ...	5,674	84	302	317	319	509	760	343	749	2,291	—	—
st, ...	5,756	37	646	416	324	825	376	371	1,465	217	—	1,079
kny, ...	3,398	102	704	655	403	650	133	196	385	170	—	—
ne, ...	5,202	71	163	139	234	305	342	—	591	1,518	1,187	652
. .. .	4,564	238	981	566	304	224	439	—	1,103	709	—	—
t, ...	6,053	116	442	496	244	595	351	478	1,451	918	962	—
. .. .	7,889	168	511	523	467	472	562	435	1,025	519	761	2,446
. .. .	5,922	100	294	131	90	102	136	104	845	964	—	2,559
. .. .	5,897	1,550	642	481	93	140	212	194	390	—	561	1,644
. .. ..	4,734	243	361	532	218	209	418	469	661	786	421	455
. .. .	2,334	16	96	143	29	539	347	139	120	477	428	—
. .. .	4,894	229	938	425	61	699	223	294	387	477	—	1,151
ck, ...	9,758	3,559	2,441	712	—	—	—	—	2,046	—	—	—
Ros', ...	5,667	162	541	691	667	865	628	232	744	1,005	—	—

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

II.—TABLE showing Total Area occupied by each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway—*continued.*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Acreage occupied by Agricultural Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS ACCORDING TO RATEABLE VALUATION, WITH THE AREA UNDER EACH CLASS.									
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.
LOUGHREA—*continued.*	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Loughrea Urban,	915	91	210	173	91	164	9	43	118	16	—
Marblehill,	7,343	1,442	2,596	879	29	199	169	150	460	641	—
Mountain,	5,789	932	2,444	661	212	167	97	72	386	410	408
Moyode,	3,187	50	188	147	254	106	366	—	410	864	802
Raford,	3,582	97	337	323	89	157	—	368	464	—	354
Tiaquin,	5,116	219	1,033	581	240	256	110	—	808	398	1,471
*Woodford,	4,975	1,340	1,434	814	125	251	303	98	610	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	25,094	6,998	12,206	2,457	125	251	303	98	2,656	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	156,928	8,221	24,280	14,695	8,279	13,778	9,303	6,851	21,063	24,151	10,600
Total of Electoral Divisions,	182,022	15,219	36,486	17,152	8,404	14,029	9,606	6,949	23,719	24,151	10,600
MOUNTBELLEW.											
Annagh,	5,879	199	505	469	214	168	126	140	369	190	277
Ballynakill,	7,239	786	1,754	154	30	665	64	211	418	2,067	—
Caltra,	3,327	213	476	413	107	271	100	181	564	587	415
Castleblakeney,	2,858	392	592	303	184	35	252	57	658	385	—
Castleffrench,	5,238	430	1,386	426	221	220	257	157	569	400	413
Clonbrock,	7,803	247	1,418	588	169	355	176	93	991	606	1,018
*Cloonkeen,	4,275	1,278	2,090	317	—	111	146	222	111	—	—
Cooloo,	6,593	470	989	681	234	441	232	286	703	219	2,338
Derryglassaun,	6,555	682	1,934	796	589	677	82	633	722	440	—
Killeroran,	9,556	662	2,661	1,408	337	524	220	—	773	1,676	1,295
Killian,	4,617	726	1,230	503	409	88	75	—	355	—	—
Mountbellew,	9,867	352	1,040	409	264	507	580	474	566	2,067	1,056
Mounthazel,	6,778	335	669	345	404	216	589	300	1,228	1,665	1,027
Taghboy,	2,448	130	699	259	71	—	—	75	336	878	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	4,275	1 278	2,090	317	—	111	146	222	111	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	78,758	5,624	15,353	6,754	3,233	4,167	2,753	2,607	8,252	11,180	7,839
Total of Electoral Divisions,	83,033	6,902	17,443	7,071	3,233	4,278	2,899	2,829	8,363	11,180	7,839
OUGHTERARD.											
*Camus,	4,173	4,123	40	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
*Cloonbur,	8,191	2,545	1,401	807	259	167	64	323	524	458	—
*Cong,	10,373	5,554	1,727	305	1,288	408	750	—	341	—	—
*Crumpaun,	6,806	5,080	1,196	121	—	409	—	—	—	—	—
*Cur,	11,107	3,292	185	125	—	2,329	3,946	—	1,230	—	—
*Gorumna,	5,276	3,740	427	334	—	330	120	—	325	—	—
*Kilcummin,	9,434	7,438	1,996	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Letterbrickaun,	16,818	557	12	16	—	3,036	1,323	—	7,555	4,319	—
*Letterfore,	15,842	3,195	5,741	1,314	1,441	3,658	—	—	493	—	—
*Lettermore,	3,386	1,977	1,217	79	—	113	—	—	—	—	—
*Oughterard,	20,490	5,171	5,382	3,281	1,735	94	1,036	2,438	972	381	—
*Ross,	9,105	983	857	548	—	802	2,851	735	2,329	—	—
*Turlough,	10,182	5,315	3,970	132	20	745	—	—	—	—	—
*Wormhole,	9,931	1,161	4,241	1,179	303	454	79	198	—	1,772	544
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	141,114	50,131	28,392	8,241	5,046	12,555	10,169	3,694	13,769	6,930	544
Total of Electoral Divisions,	141,114	50,131	28,392	8,241	5,046	12,555	10,169	3,694	13,769	30	544

* Scheduled as Congested.

II.—Table showing Total Area occupied by each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway—*continued.*

and Electoral Divisions.	Total Acreage occupied by Agricultural Holdings.	Classification of Holdings according to Rateable Valuation, with the area under each Class.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
Portumna.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
', ...	3,346	170	963	624	254	217	60	273	—	785	—	—
, ...	2,793	29	869	164	160	534	170	324	284	259	—	—
.. .. ..	3,451	964	1,532	289	—	—	666	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	3,344	59	434	343	148	312	249	75	249	1,037	—	438
.. .. ..	4,935	331	1,246	719	394	393	360	651	640	201	—	—
, ...	3,653	79	142	114	60	296	351	61	1,113	873	—	564
.. .. ..	5,667	184	776	610	345	821	240	216	512	1,263	—	700
ge, ...	4,929	160	132	132	87	205	30	49	580	681	1,001	1,872
.. .. ..	4,774	93	358	435	262	603	235	183	1,056	939	—	610
.. .. ..	6,360	86	426	540	389	678	285	392	1,493	796	802	473
.. .. ..	2,676	112	529	329	375	448	163	249	—	207	264	—
.. .. ..	5,194	97	1,073	662	646	228	144	—	383	112	—	1,849
. .. .	9,067	324	807	1,118	667	551	667	388	1,790	1,082	253	1,420
gh, ...	2,649	29	174	138	189	171	104	—	1,061	301	482	—
.. .. ..	3,484	60	388	200	185	414	400	219	627	659	332	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	3,451	964	1,532	289	—	—	666	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	62,871	1,813	8,317	6,128	4,161	5,871	3,458	3,080	9,798	9,195	3,134	7,926
Total of Electoral Divisions.	66,322	2,777	9,849	6,417	4,161	5,871	4,124	3,080	9,788	9,195	3,134	7,926
Tuam.												
ast, ...	5,369	192	400	—	21	75	395	—	280	—	—	4,006
est, ...	3,513	596	810	291	20	—	—	61	150	320	—	1,265
e, ...	5,224	1,061	1,814	718	172	438	—	89	612	320	—	—
wn, ...	5,762	728	1,540	254	483	174	569	—	825	1,189	—	—
y, ...	2,652	549	264	66	187	109	—	316	191	175	795	—
. .. ..	2,910	96	438	450	134	377	535	—	—	—	—	880
rk.	4,430	683	757	98	260	240	193	340	125	—	374	1,360
. .. .	3,243	137	400	58	99	135	—	—	606	1,291	517	—
.. .. ..	4,574	452	1,933	212	273	129	255	—	1,078	242	—	—
ugh, ...	5,164	229	798	180	324	292	—	538	1,596	603	604	—
. .. .	6,192	313	1,102	336	82	375	324	81	1,549	2,030	—	—
.. .. ..	5,728	289	1,026	405	154	506	644	—	351	1,089	1,264	—
.. .. ..	3,410	112	415	243	81	147	78	295	434	1,605	—	—
rick, ...	3,662	356	898	199	115	185	74	64	772	641	358	—
.. .. ..	6,684	396	1,256	781	294	357	167	80	1,910	1,169	274	—
.. .. ..	7,921	1,376	3,214	823	386	570	141	—	850	561	—	—
.. .. ..	7,041	376	1,199	421	137	173	176	246	171	—	432	3,719
.. .. ..	4,948	166	358	452	428	372	349	242	512	1,728	341	—
.. .. ..	4,922	675	1,709	184	154	439	263	—	1,273	220	—	—
.. .. ..	2,986	227	771	203	61	125	162	—	592	845	—	—
.. .. ..	4,667	44	221	279	278	193	237	171	2,251	—	323	670
.. .. ..	3,756	98	939	641	485	520	493	170	410	—	—	—
.. .. ..	5,518	373	1,128	485	84	228	332	506	1,577	284	521	—
.. .. ..	5,130	195	544	256	129	437	403	375	1,393	1,071	387	—

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPEND. X.

II. -TABLE showing Total Area occupied by each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway—*continued.*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Acreage occupied by Agricultural Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS ACCORDING TO RATEABLE VALUATION, WITH THE AREA UNDER EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	A £
TUAM—*continued.*	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	A
Killower, ...	7,980	111	633	891	789	1,192	293	429	807	1,327	610	
Killursa, ...	7,288	422	2,200	1,434	988	381	145	64	560	1,094	—	
Kilmoylan, ...	5,426	384	652	48	205	109	—	146	642	878	1,267	1,
Kilshanvy	3,881	390	730	324	176	128	—	—	326	957	850	
*Levally	3,976	594	1,342	294	309	273	65	357	742	—	—	
Milltown, ...	5,815	478	1,886	850	129	414	511	66	349	867	265	
Monivea, ...	4,902	348	683	509	280	313	438	320	588	595	—	
Moyne, ...	4,657	452	1,636	511	29	265	211	—	332	692	529	
Ryehill, ...	4,303	700	651	82	70	—	—	—	—	954	—	1,
Tuam Rural, ...	6,040	668	1,164	303	319	649	572	432	1,565	368	—	
Tuam Urban, ...	1,802	45	72	25	62	90	24	—	83	267	—	1,
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	21,695	3,483	8,303	2,047	1,140	1,410	461	446	3,282	1,123	—	
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	149,781	10,798	27,250	11,259	7,053	9,000	7,593	4,942	22,220	22,259	9,711	17,
Total of Electoral Divisions,	171,476	14,281	35,553	13,306	8,193	10,410	8,054	5,388	25,502	23,382	9,711	17,
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	464,356	136,848	128,237	30,843	15,072	37,424	25,712	11,946	43,548	27,267	4,590	2,
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	831,965	53,321	142,664	77,526	47,541	65,762	44,013	30,084	105,429	108,067	53,300	104
Total of County.	1,296,321	190,169	270,901	108,369	62,613	103,186	69,725	42,030	148,977	135,334	57,890	107

* Scheduled as Congested.

III.—Table showing Total Valuation of each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway.

ES AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Valuation.	Classification of Holdings, and Total Rateable Valuation of those in each Class.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
BALLINASLOE.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
ormacan, ...	3,078	39	265	335	172	367	231	218	614	600	237	—
gh.	3,194	122	395	285	115	240	102	91	155	401	—	1,288
n, ...	3,599	28	137	84	138	196	68	181	1,069	853	—	845
loe Rural.	2,318	57	244	178	52	210	171	96	315	220	—	775
loe Urban, ...	2,113	80	381	373	197	297	167	132	193	—	293	—
ieward, ...	1,913	37	210	277	136	159	133	135	331	267	228	—
. .. .	4,462	54	146	70	124	175	67	—	318	281	1,430	1,797
kert, ...	2,656	53	259	201	297	311	163	311	663	398	—	—
rove, ...	2,874	27	179	169	263	212	278	—	373	548	426	399
ell, ...	3,268	100	294	204	137	151	211	46	418	883	447	387
. .. .	5,145	32	217	131	86	71	214	141	452	774	701	2,326
ghton, ...	4,646	70	273	207	66	150	64	—	908	1,070	454	1,384
n.	2,524	52	157	76	54	126	35	128	169	821	259	647
.. .. ..	3,645	66	238	117	33	24	73	134	353	790	704	1,113
hane, ...	1,696	80	242	121	104	114	64	—	408	341	222	—
er.	2,929	92	259	143	158	266	136	46	318	222	441	848
re.	1,294	11	—	40	35	77	67	100	—	451	513	—
etown, ...	3,134	78	158	124	164	142	70	86	285	538	262	1,227
ny, ...	2,516	4	67	54	32	95	36	47	—	179	—	2,002
l	3,089	27	247	170	251	176	137	49	167	1,037	245	583
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	60,093	1,109	4,358	3,359	2,614	3,559	2,487	1,941	7,509	10,674	6,862	15,621
Total of Electoral Divisions,	60,093	1,109	4,358	3,359	2,614	3,559	2,487	1,941	7,509	10,674	6,862	15,621
CLIFDEN.												
kill.	1,289	108	166	36	119	79	39	91	124	226	—	301
r, ...	735	69	151	37	39	46	102	—	58	—	233	—
en.	1,113	388	159	14	15	27	113	49	—	348	—	—
n.	353	117	116	66	—	30	81	—	—	143	—	—
. .. .	1,936	416	467	46	140	94	38	46	589	100	—	—
lary.	699	80	101	22	34	76	104	41	126	115	—	—
unlagh.	169	83	41	11	—	—	34	—	—	—	—	—
a.	274	87	56	11	36	84	—	—	—	—	—	—
ughan.	645	126	178	52	55	—	31	44	159	—	—	—
man.	676	174	180	11	17	26	37	—	—	231	—	—
.. ..	119	95	13	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
lin.	570	321	159	—	16	—	33	41	—	—	—	—
boy.	1,193	690	388	39	—	76	—	—	—	—	—	—
. .. .	844	267	85	26	18	76	31	43	298	—	—	—
owla.	325	244	81	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
. .. .	1,940	560	525	60	17	76	35	50	131	—	486	—
stone.	1,116	304	252	60	49	177	37	45	57	135	—	—
. .. .	867	455	219	53	19	—	—	43	78	—	—	—
re.	720	512	57	62	—	26	—	—	63	—	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions	14,879	4,944	3,202	569	535	847	579	493	1,625	1,298	486	301
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	904	152	192	48	39	46	136	—	58	—	233	—
Total of Electoral Divisions.	15,783	5,096	3,394	617	574	893	715	493	1,683	1,298	719	301

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX

III.—TABLE showing Total Valuation of each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway—*continued.*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Valuation.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS, AND TOTAL RATEABLE VALUATION OF THOSE IN EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 and not exceeding £500.
GALWAY.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
*Annaghdown,	1,515	278	659	209	23	97	31	—	95	123	—	—
Aughrim,	1,630	132	255	164	189	252	133	—	98	407	—	—
Ballintemple,	1,872	44	299	363	296	347	64	48	411	—	—	—
Ballynacourty,	2,722	45	145	382	224	542	203	99	503	312	267	—
Barna,	2,113	355	546	378	170	211	107	—	129	—	217	—
Belleville,	1,206	59	109	39	16	48	31	46	90	418	—	350
Carnmore,	1,915	56	338	213	87	176	110	—	170	436	—	329
Carrowbrowne,	848	71	302	215	50	69	34	—	107	—	—	—
Claregalway,	1,798	180	444	110	135	65	100	46	246	245	227	—
Clarinbridge,	3,603	135	346	417	226	550	271	88	137	155	—	1,278
Deerpark,	1,300	175	214	42	129	42	—	—	372	109	217	—
*Furbogh,	917	126	349	90	54	44	103	41	—	110	—	—
Galway Rural,	2,312	130	334	177	176	232	38	43	170	688	—	350
Galway Urban,	6,329	336	731	341	234	479	574	725	1,544	296	1,069	—
*Inishmore,	1,522	572	671	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	258	—
*Kilcummin,	937	560	150	25	33	52	—	48	69	—	—	—
*Killannin,	635	267	306	11	16	—	35	—	—	—	—	—
Lackaghbeg,	1,616	43	236	219	71	173	175	130	127	114	—	324
*Liscananaun,	1,684	230	412	118	38	143	106	89	149	173	226	—
Lisheenavalla,	718	36	236	73	94	—	—	47	232	—	—	—
*Moycullen,	944	101	219	248	37	80	—	46	54	159	—	—
Oranmore,	1,683	53	184	149	240	261	103	50	381	262	—	—
*Selerna,	675	410	158	49	18	—	40	—	—	—	—	—
*Slievaneena,	969	266	311	48	16	75	67	—	81	105	—	—
*Spiddle,	736	244	358	26	34	25	—	49	—	—	—	—
Stradbally,	1,315	13	107	71	36	150	38	129	133	331	—	307
Tullokyne,	1,281	52	305	172	160	117	181	50	244	—	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	10,534	3,054	3,593	845	269	516	382	273	448	670	484	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	34,261	1,915	5,131	3,525	2,533	3,714	2,162	1,501	5,094	3,768	1,997	2,921
Total of Electoral Divisions.	44,795	4,969	8,724	4,370	2,802	4,230	2,544	1,774	5,542	4,438	2,481	2,921
GLENNAMADDY												
*Ballinastack,	1,357	81	767	51	50	22	—	49	188	149	—	—
Ballymoe,	1,992	148	395	123	53	124	66	—	302	572	209	—
Ballynakill,	2,845	163	330	125	53	62	200	137	493	806	476	—
*Boyounagh,	954	107	525	14	15	—	—	—	115	178	—	—
Carrownagur,	2,894	71	460	268	126	149	103	—	319	266	1,132	—
Cloonkeen,	1,458	118	392	52	98	128	63	50	75	134	—	348
Creggs,	2,445	180	483	71	17	26	—	129	59	163	497	820
Curraghmore,	1,687	62	341	206	16	50	—	—	95	111	—	806
*Glennamaddy,	1,976	460	571	168	35	115	78	149	264	136	—	—
*Island,	1,263	202	669	184	91	21	36	—	60	—	—	—
*Kilcroan,	2,003	209	684	123	139	25	38	139	144	294	208	—
Kiltullagh,	1,148	82	294	73	19	48	—	91	250	291	—	—
*Raheen,	1,545	287	741	208	101	89	34	—	85	—	—	—
Scregg,	1,234	140	172	—	—	44	—	—	113	110	—	654
Shankill	1,395	121	298	81	91	46	78	—	171	264	245	—
*Templetogher,	1,834	194	934	206	68	103	—	—	329	—	—	—
Toberadosh,	1,848	179	351	62	194	179	71	50	218	544	—	—
Toberroe,	2,082	111	591	206	71	50	103	45	214	691	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	10,932	1,540	4,891	951	499	375	186	337	1,185	757	208	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	21,028	1,375	4,107	1,267	738	906	684	502	2,309	3,952	2,559	2,021
Total of Electoral Divisions.	31,960	2,915	8,998	2,221	1,237	1,281	870	839	3,494	4,709	2,767	2,021

* Scheduled as Congested.

III.—TABLE showing Total Valuation of each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway—*continued.*

IONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Valuation.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS, AND TOTAL RATEABLE VALUATION OF THOSE IN EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
GORT.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
mullivan, ...	3,223	107	584	388	283	269	103	268	291	235	—	695
ahan.	1,427	35	86	131	19	155	203	44	245	117	—	392
ealalan, ...	1,831	96	303	262	117	299	146	218	238	152	—	—
h.	3,731	96	571	380	312	292	301	456	457	395	471	—
more, ...	2,071	32	265	241	178	321	98	130	351	—	455	—
ard, ...	617	48	105	21	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	412
taylor, ...	1,920	48	126	120	153	94	69	—	260	137	—	913
as, ...	2,098	35	373	391	256	330	71	47	233	147	215	—
ncoo.	2,495	183	426	282	68	272	105	45	298	120	—	696
.. ..	2,248	37	226	177	295	219	375	95	338	486	—	—
acanty, ...	1,234	60	218	120	141	21	203	128	—	—	—	343
ely	2,120	55	382	464	337	272	272	132	206	—	—	—
navarra, ...	1,773	64	291	239	195	210	35	172	219	348	—	—
ny, ...	1,955	21	392	298	264	234	241	—	355	150	—	—
rtan, ...	3,746	82	429	506	417	526	280	213	434	154	—	705
omas	1,479	107	107	36	52	109	32	82	221	110	—	623
arra.	2,627	66	548	343	268	635	132	45	407	183	—	—
sane, ...	1,478	28	184	152	48	99	345	49	357	216	—	—
nagh.	2,568	53	251	309	145	185	109	237	272	—	277	730
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	40,641	1,253	5,867	4,860	3,579	4,542	3,120	2,361	5,182	2,950	1,418	5,509
Total of Electoral Divisions,	40,641	1,253	5,867	4,860	3,579	4,542	3,120	2,361	5,182	2,950	1,418	5,509
LOUGHREA.												
.. .. ..	1,746	28	315	311	156	350	250	—	222	114	—	—
ary, ...	2,835	77	307	163	162	285	183	175	704	779	—	—
nagar, ...	1,530	33	254	169	91	72	102	—	193	—	—	616
klagh.	3,659	23	294	296	90	412	213	227	875	665	264	—
un.	1,172	42	288	87	86	89	155	—	73	352	—	—
alusk, ...	1,983	45	272	162	157	222	96	—	416	613	—	—
eboy, ...	2,870	22	130	69	—	21	74	174	239	1,052	744	345
keen, ...	1,412	37	150	163	120	216	38	186	158	344	—	—
anstown, ...	717	14	54	66	53	51	—	—	—	479	—	—
ghwell, ...	3,280	74	248	241	234	523	317	227	514	902	—	—
claur, ...	397	82	274	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
nkeary, ...	2,309	152	371	317	209	370	249	257	283	101	—	—
abbey, ...	1,027	51	128	112	91	—	—	—	64	258	—	323
ge, ...	3,096	39	164	120	100	221	111	185	383	463	699	611
thill.	1,809	23	104	105	120	172	276	90	236	683	—	—
rrest.	2,472	15	140	189	159	241	242	92	915	149	—	330
nickny, ...	1,623	40	316	310	173	313	77	95	196	103	—	—
oderin	2,535	21	69	75	111	148	172	—	293	777	439	430
mor, ...	1,494	43	280	197	120	66	145	—	283	360	—	—
gilleen, ...	3,273	59	209	270	125	308	210	264	817	483	528	—
een.	4,284	60	208	216	172	241	276	237	535	299	452	1,588
ckal.	2,987	34	134	75	50	45	71	45	358	655	—	1,520
ckill.	2,425	135	194	60	48	81	111	94	244	—	417	1,041
ilagh.	2,218	52	139	212	103	93	210	218	206	463	221	301
ra	1,156	10	56	67	17	220	150	91	61	263	221	—
ra	2,640	57	293	218	36	405	149	232	239	381	—	630
ghaderick.	309	100	99	22	—	—	—	—	79	—	—	—
rra Rural.	3,471	66	395	347	157	472	383	182	561	668	—	—

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

III.—TABLE showing Total Valuation of each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway—*continued.*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Valuation.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS, AND TOTAL RATEABLE VALUATION OF THOSE IN EACH CLASS.									
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.
LOUGHREA—*continued.*	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loughrea Urban, ...	1,189	115	242	198	101	207	31	48	132	115	—
Marblehill	1,903	163	359	137	20	108	99	91	180	221	—
Mountain, ...	1,384	44	168	100	114	105	67	46	182	278	280
Moyode, ...	1,227	27	82	65	129	56	180	—	201	286	201
Raford, ...	1,662	36	116	100	37	72	—	135	222	—	224
Tiaquin, ...	1,327	48	303	221	90	82	32	—	123	193	235
*Woodford, ...	1,008	203	231	156	37	122	64	47	148	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	1,714	394	604	219	37	122	64	47	227	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	68,675	1,685	6,782	5,438	3,931	6,267	4,669	3,391	10,108	12,499	4,925
Total of Electoral Divisions,	70,389	2,079	7,386	5,657	3,968	6,389	4,733	3,438	10,335	12,499	4,925
MOUNTBELLEW.											
Annagh, ...	2,787	80	225	185	88	110	32	46	202	125	214
Ballynakill, ...	2,417	296	412	68	34	152	33	87	226	756	—
Caltra, ...	1,573	73	213	159	69	153	65	86	239	228	288
Castleblakeney, ...	1,482	141	315	188	107	25	140	42	307	217	—
Castlefrench	3,161	186	748	272	135	127	141	89	352	234	295
Clonbrock, ...	4,063	137	689	312	85	141	103	41	509	342	552
*Cloonkeen, ...	1,580	373	827	131	—	46	62	83	58	—	—
Cooloo, ...	2,520	150	368	267	100	155	103	86	212	106	973
Derryglassaun, ...	2,649	246	761	382	177	260	37	230	316	240	—
Killeroran, ...	4,509	204	1,120	597	238	261	171	—	407	1,036	475
Killian, ...	2,191	260	546	245	214	42	36	—	157	—	—
Mountbellew, ...	5,147	178	544	346	184	346	249	336	313	1,165	466
Mounthazel, ...	3,536	113	249	149	141	46	266	150	944	800	678
Taghboy, ...	1,125	54	347	112	36	—	—	41	128	407	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	1,580	373	827	131	—	46	62	83	58	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	37,160	2,118	6,537	3,282	1,608	1,818	1,376	1,234	4,312	5,656	3,941
Total of Electoral Divisions	38,740	2,491	7,364	3,413	1,608	1,864	1,438	1,317	4,370	5,656	3,941
OUGHTERARD.											
*Camus, ...	144	105	14	—	—	25	—	—	—	—	—
*Cloonbur, ...	2,968	600	532	202	86	70	32	183	215	249	—
*Cong, ...	1,260	516	296	96	137	48	102	—	65	—	—
*Crumpaun, ...	834	513	229	37	—	55	—	—	—	—	—
*Cur, ...	460	126	24	14	—	90	71	—	135	—	—
*Gorumna, ...	931	670	105	23	—	46	36	—	51	—	—
*Kilcummin, ...	148	129	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Letterbrickaun, ...	834	85	11	24	—	120	61	—	397	136	—
*Letterfore, ...	712	94	260	68	48	73	—	—	169	—	—
*Lettermore, ...	443	238	168	15	—	22	—	—	—	—	—
*Oughterard, ...	2,364	429	631	223	196	56	144	188	380	117	—
*Ross, .. .	418	75	22	14	—	51	103	46	107	—	—
*Turlough, ...	607	372	136	35	17	47	—	—	—	—	—
*Wormhole, ...	2,189	239	992	344	86	104	34	43	—	125	217
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	14,312	4,191	3,439	1,095	570	807	583	465	1,519	627	217
Total of Electoral Divisions,	14,312	4,191	3,439	1,095	570	807	583	465	1,519	627	217

* Scheduled as Congested.

LVI.—TABLE showing Total Valuation of each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway—*continued.*

...SIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Valuation.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS, AND TOTAL RATEABLE VALUATION OF THOSE IN EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
PORTUMNA.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
...yville, ...	1,092	47	308	281	121	99	38	41	—	157	—	—
...glass, ...	1,298	11	220	89	94	247	109	184	211	133	—	—
.. .. ..	417	70	212	101	—	—	34	—	—	—	—	—
...ew, ...	1,706	18	199	148	72	180	102	41	100	502	—	344
...nmin.	1,687	68	347	266	129	151	137	230	254	105	—	—
...court.	2,928	135	183	196	86	208	180	49	642	710	—	539
...mor.	2,858	78	376	288	168	431	105	134	292	665	—	321
...alinoge, ...	2,977	71	78	82	55	92	34	46	355	398	665	1,101
...uain	2,180	21	141	195	124	231	108	99	459	469	—	333
...ick.	3,744	52	215	318	226	386	143	186	885	476	500	357
... .	1,463	72	229	155	174	234	109	139	—	140	211	—
...s.	3,063	49	534	336	308	148	98	—	294	117	—	1,179
...umna.	5,651	109	462	673	439	378	430	296	1,143	722	250	749
...nascragh.	1,300	10	93	77	97	91	63	—	483	137	249	—
...gh.	1,830	24	176	89	86	244	228	86	311	385	201	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	417	70	212	101	—	—	34	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	33,777	765	3,561	3,193	2,179	3,120	1,884	1,531	5,429	5,116	2,076	4,923
Total of Electoral Divisions.	34,194	835	3,773	3,294	2,179	3,120	1,918	1,531	5,429	5,116	2,076	4,923
TUAM.												
...ey, East, ...	1,737	72	193	—	16	21	40	—	66	—	—	1,329
...ey, West, ...	1,224	179	268	119	16	—	—	42	55	104	—	441
...lergoole, ...	2,108	288	629	298	103	248	—	41	309	192	—	—
...naghdown, ...	1,696	222	441	86	151	66	111	—	174	445	—	—
...linderry, ...	757	84	78	34	36	30	—	46	71	114	264	—
...linduff.	957	21	165	150	51	123	141	—	—	—	—	306
...ynapark.	1,565	209	227	39	91	58	75	91	52	—	224	499
...ghmore, ...	1,306	70	177	21	49	80	—	—	273	406	230	—
...lare.	1,758	171	800	105	75	48	133	—	304	122	—	—
...rowrevagh.	1,890	77	253	82	90	90	—	265	584	247	202	—
...etuam.	2,605	108	410	122	37	166	138	47	566	1,011	—	—
...bern.	1,884	74	281	132	20	192	112	—	110	490	473	—
...mer.	1,603	46	181	109	40	74	39	129	292	693	—	—
...aghpatrick, ...	2,078	141	446	121	71	99	35	43	542	368	212	—
...nbally.	3,358	145	569	396	178	162	71	50	820	748	219	—
...more.	3,498	409	1,350	368	217	283	69	—	450	352	—	—
...hall.	3,745	147	570	221	71	93	105	131	102	—	236	2,069
...dford.	3,024	62	191	256	233	253	179	138	350	1,150	212	—
...sbrook.	1,760	160	544	68	52	119	113	—	563	141	—	—
...eenan.	1,578	127	421	125	33	75	67	—	325	405	—	—
...eena.	2,207	28	96	144	117	74	101	92	1,035	—	205	315
...eady.	1,296	26	323	208	170	212	180	48	129	—	—	—
...reen.	2,368	116	463	207	35	76	139	231	646	218	237	—
...ereen.	2,085	69	204	113	51	146	149	135	529	484	205	—

* Scheduled as Congested.

III.—Table showing Total Valuation of each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway—*continued.*

Unions and Electoral Divisions.	Total Valuation.	Classification of Holdings, and Total Rateable Valuation of those in each Class.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	A £ Va
Tuam—*continued.*	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Killower, ...	2,579	37	222	206	213	287	132	190	186	589	211	
Killursa, ...	2,900	140	845	516	310	176	74	42	247	550	—	
Kilmoylan, ...	2,347	86	232	38	53	28	—	45	216	438	504	
Kilshanvy, ...	1,689	168	411	182	106	73	—	—	152	370	227	
*Levally, ...	1,183	133	390	95	102	101	31	85	246	—	—	
Milltown, ...	3,065	195	941	469	68	248	280	83	182	397	202	
Monivea, ...	1,673	84	235	134	110	95	109	46	332	144	—	
Moyne, ...	1,858	158	617	203	17	102	36	—	162	272	291	
Ryehill, —	1,351	111	147	35	17	—	—	—	—	428	—	
Tuam Rural, ...	2,834	228	455	153	139	231	292	268	855	213	—	
Tuam Urban, ...	1,395	50	82	37	56	100	31	—	126	174	—	
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	8,547	1,001	3,169	866	497	680	233	126	1,309	666	—	
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	62,414	3,440	10,688	4,726	2,697	3,549	2,749	2,162	9,742	10,599	4,354	7,
Total of Electoral Divisions.	70,961	4,441	13,857	5,592	3,194	4,229	2,982	2,288	11,051	11,265	4,354	7,
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	62,915	15,567	19,937	4,780	2,407	3,393	2,123	1,824	6,371	4,018	1,395	1,
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	358,953	13,812	47,223	29,698	19,918	27,521	19,267	14,623	49,743	55,214	28,365	53,
Total of County, ...	421,868	29,379	67,160	34,478	22,325	30,914	21,390	16,447	56,114	59,232	29,760	54,

* Scheduled as Congested.

IV.—Table showing the Population on each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway.

...ns and Electoral Divisions.	Total Population on Agricultural Holdings.	Classification of Holdings according to Rateable Valuation, and Population in each Class.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
Ballinasloe.												
...germacan, ...	656	58	155	119	48	69	55	27	65	43	17	—
...ragh, ...	1,081	215	332	152	50	50	13	—	16	31	—	222
...im.	400	49	68	22	46	30	19	18	51	49	—	48
...asloe Rural, ...	581	77	161	75	21	47	11	11	8	6	—	164
...asloe Urban, ...	502	90	143	67	67	68	18	16	17	—	16	—
...nacward, ...	468	64	137	95	52	23	25	10	21	15	26	—
...rt, ...	523	94	99	25	38	29	7	—	32	8	71	120
...skert, ...	545	55	158	88	96	62	12	27	36	11	—	—
...grove, ...	446	43	100	56	73	42	39	—	27	21	21	24
...nell, ...	697	139	220	82	42	37	29	5	52	59	17	15
...n, ...	653	48	143	69	28	21	45	17	41	58	39	144
...laghton, ...	648	121	193	72	15	27	3	—	61	61	37	58
...an, ...	369	94	130	29	22	14	7	19	4	22	15	13
...e, ...	536	106	158	35	19	5	5	7	49	90	18	44
...acshane, ...	505	162	186	44	25	24	—	—	26	38	—	—
...rmer, ...	651	178	172	65	53	58	26	9	17	23	24	26
...more, ...	130	14	—	4	10	20	4	6	—	34	38	—
...ncetown, ...	571	170	128	51	35	40	8	10	17	27	29	56
...anny, ...	379	27	43	15	10	29	13	4	—	17	—	221
...ld, ...	552	69	198	75	75	41	13	11	6	41	6	17
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisons.	10,893	1,873	2,924	1,240	825	736	352	197	546	654	374	1,172
Total of Electoral Divisions.	10,893	1,873	2,924	1,240	825	736	352	197	546	654	374	1,172
Clifden.												
...nakill, ...	681	204	147	9	49	20	3	165	37	23	—	24
...orr.	350	145	126	7	—	19	8	—	9	—	36	—
...owen, ...	1,171	969	124	3	9	—	26	4	—	36	—	—
...gan.	527	315	133	45	—	—	3	—	—	31	—	—
...en.	1,748	942	546	37	64	37	6	5	101	10	—	—
...killary.	437	254	100	8	10	18	23	—	20	4	—	—
...ycunlagh.	206	162	38	4	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
...ylea.	233	155	46	2	11	19	—	—	—	—	—	—
...oloughan.	502	295	158	8	18	—	9	6	8	—	—	—
...slannan.	726	516	159	—	35	1	7	—	—	8	—	—
...n.	334	311	14	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
...bofin, ...	841	657	171	—	8	—	—	5	—	—	—	—
...ckboy.	2,030	1,555	437	—	—	38	—	—	—	—	—	—
...rus.	947	761	80	13	3	13	10	3	64	—	—	—
...ngowla.	802	730	72	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
...yle	2,042	1,429	549	23	7	—	—	—	—	—	34	—
...nistone.	1,328	717	307	61	14	142	10	53	5	19	—	—
...rna.	1,360	1,093	207	30	8	—	—	14	8	—	—	—
...nave.	1,319	1,213	53	10	—	14	—	—	29	—	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	17,028	12,116	3,303	258	236	302	97	255	272	131	34	24
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	556	307	164	11	—	19	10	—	9	—	36	—
Total of Electoral Divisions.	17,584	12,423	3,467	269	236	321	107	255	281	131	70	24

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

IV.—TABLE showing the Population on each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway—*continued*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Population on Agricultural Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS ACCORDING TO RATEABLE VALUATION, AND POPULATION IN EACH CLASS.									
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.
GALWAY.											
*Annaghdown,	1,225	446	593	136	10	23	4	—	8	5	—
Aughrim,	509	193	149	46	41	40	14	—	13	13	—
Ballintemple,	700	42	199	179	112	100	25	8	35	—	—
Ballynacourty,	612	57	85	130	92	132	37	20	41	7	11
Barna,	1,294	566	445	175	60	22	—	—	4	—	22
Belleville,	324	97	109	10	7	13	6	7	10	22	—
Carnmore,	739	90	307	140	34	60	30	—	36	29	—
Carrowbrowne,	557	147	251	102	25	20	—	—	12	—	—
Claregalway,	964	335	381	39	51	20	20	14	25	48	31
Clarinbridge,	824	134	171	164	57	143	47	8	14	12	—
Deerpark,	667	315	202	21	45	14	—	—	39	5	26
*Furbogh,	734	270	376	53	14	—	13	—	—	8	—
Galway Rural,	500	113	165	79	6	56	—	11	29	35	—
Galway Urban,	1,403	193	347	57	37	69	98	80	455	20	47
*Inishmore,	2,142	1,303	799	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	23
*Kilcummin,	1,739	1,467	216	15	14	11	—	8	8	—	—
*Killannin,	954	549	377	10	11	—	7	—	—	—	—
Lackaghbeg,	579	63	219	106	35	51	42	22	—	16	—
*Liscananaun,	995	434	356	49	18	40	29	8	15	21	25
Lisheenavalla,	391	67	202	40	39	—	—	10	33	—	—
*Moycullen	634	244	202	127	5	34	—	—	11	11	—
Oranmore,	460	83	142	61	52	67	—	5	33	17	—
*Selerna,	1,138	915	165	32	19	—	7	—	—	—	—
*Slievaneena,	930	538	286	35	8	28	16	—	12	7	—
*Spiddle,	899	493	375	16	1	2	—	12	—	—	—
Stradbally,	201	15	64	37	11	24	10	25	4	6	—
Tullokyne,	638	86	314	95	60	37	23	15	8	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	11,390	6,659	3,745	490	100	138	76*	28	54	52	48
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	11,362	2,596	3,752	1,481	764	868	352	225	791	230	137
Total of Electoral Divisions,	22,752	9,255	7,497	1,971	864	1,006	428	253	845	282	185
GLENNAMADDY.											
*Ballinastack,	848	121	647	24	9	4	—	11	26	6	—
Ballymoe,	800	294	308	60	24	22	14	—	43	30	5
Ballynakill,	769	246	287	52	16	20	14	17	23	61	33
*Boyounagh,	680	190	452	4	5	—	—	—	22	7	—
Carrownagur,	844	114	379	137	43	35	24	*—	62	16	34
Cloonkeen,	718	236	332	37	34	22	22	13	10	—	—
Creggs,	1,171	334	483	46	16	4	—	25	98	—	49
Curraghmore,	492	105	240	106	6	13	—	—	8	—	—
*Glennamaddy,	1,459	802	511	52	20	14	8	15	22	15	—
*Island,	1,081	331	572	121	45	7	5	—	—	—	—
*Kilcroan,	1,105	430	558	51	25	—	3	10	11	9	8
Kiltullagh,	497	134	253	36	11	12	—	3	16	32	—
*Raheen,	1,428	503	724	108	43	32	12	—	6	—	—
Scregg,	465	216	194	—	—	13	—	—	10	6	—
Shankill,	659	202	288	50	40	16	11	—	10	23	19
*Templetogher,	1,321	318	821	92	25	21	—	—	44	—	—
Toberadosh,	835	293	302	41	69	49	12	5	14	50	—
Toberroe,	906	180	537	83	27	13	4	3	27	32	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	7,922	2,695	4,285	452	172	78	28	36	131	37	8
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	8,156	2,354	3,603	648	286	219	101	66	321	250	140
Total of Electoral Divisions,	16,078	5,049	7,888	1,100	458	297	129	102	452	287	148

* Scheduled as Congested.

IV.—Table showing the Population on each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway—*continued.*

s and Electoral Divisions.	Total Population on Agricultural Holdings.	Classification of Holdings according to Rateable Valuation, and Population in each Class.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
Gort.												
ivan.	980	149	365	172	96	55	10	33	32	5	—	63
.. ..	232	40	30	62	3	13	45	10	10	—	—	19
lan.	681	162	208	121	46	72	19	31	22	—	—	—
.. .. ..	910	97	330	140	84	63	62	25	49	37	23	—
e.	447	50	155	72	75	33	16	12	5	—	29	—
.. .. ..	215	62	107	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	30
lor, ...	373	86	88	39	48	18	6	—	12	5	—	71
.. .. ..	696	50	249	166	99	81	16	8	21	6	—	—
o.	719	227	240	100	8	90	20	—	7	—	—	27
.. ..	269	21	52	26	65	26	14	8	18	39	—	—
ity.	504	89	220	63	66	8	38	7	—	—	—	13
.. .. ..	736	51	216	219	101	67	57	16	9	—	—	—
arra.	426	55	172	73	51	43	5	16	7	4	—	—
.. .. ..	569	27	210	127	103	45	37	—	20	—	—	—
. .. .	853	96	169	179	126	132	34	36	42	6	—	33
s, ...	379	176	88	10	20	23	7	25	9	6	—	15
. .. .	730	92	244	118	57	129	18	9	38	25	—	—
. .. .	162	30	49	31	—	9	24	—	12	7	—	—
gh.	425	33	134	124	42	27	16	26	18	—	—	5
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	10,306	1,593	3,326	1,850	1,098	934	444	262	331	140	52	276
Total of Electoral Divisions.	10,306	1,593	3,326	1,850	1,098	934	444	262	331	140	52	276
Loughrea.												
.. .. ..	688	39	275	178	41	81	42	—	17	15	—	—
.. .. ..	581	123	186	54	50	42	20	15	52	39	—	—
ar.	362	67	166	50	25	3	7	—	10	—	—	34
gh.	701	23	156	115	98	86	37	33	80	54	19	—
.. .. ..	391	61	184	33	26	29	31	—	3	24	—	—
sh.	640	107	221	58	61	50	23	—	57	63	—	—
y.	242	54	73	28	—	6	—	16	16	11	23	15
n.	427	86	112	63	50	50	—	27	15	24	—	—
town	166	22	48	24	13	19	—	—	—	40	—	—
ell.	587	65	102	110	57	119	71	17	43	3	—	—
ir	470	164	280	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ary.	815	217	251	129	53	41	49	37	25	13	—	—
ney.	279	65	105	52	26	—	—	—	6	13	—	12
.. .. ..	536	65	108	61	39	87	5	26	43	31	52	19
. .. .	291	25	71	57	34	16	47	10	8	23	—	—
et.	463	29	80	57	62	101	34	—	47	31	—	22
kay.	433	12	143	123	63	70	5	—	10	7	—	—
rin.	399	40	58	43	43	28	34	—	25	51	45	32
.. . ..	590	108	244	107	53	21	21	—	25	11	—	—
een	645	84	136	122	41	75	40	34	79	18	16	—
.. ..	547	64	121	97	49	53	30	22	21	11	13	66
d.	382	79	100	24	19	14	13	11	22	34	—	66
d	480	160	148	16	20	7	29	13	3	—	13	71
go.	478	63	100	94	34	21	43	12	17	62	21	11
a	195	6	37	22	7	56	27	10	9	15	6	—
.. .. ..	534	69	189	80	14	75	11	19	33	21	—	23
rick.	377	252	96	16	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—
Rural	464	41	75	110	92	56	17	9	34	30	—	—

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPEND X X.

IV.—TABLE showing the Population on each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway—*continued.*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Population on Agricultural Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS ACCORDING TO RATEABLE VALUATION, AND POPULATION IN EACH CLASS.									
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.
LOUGHREA—*continued.*											
Loughrea Urban, ...	222	110	22	23	18	37	6	—	6	—	—
Marblehill, ...	663	242	294	30	—	26	11	15	14	12	—
Mountain, ...	382	56	151	30	44	30	15	5	9	25	17
Moyode, ...	256	41	67	27	32	4	17	—	17	45	6
Raford, ...	374	55	94	66	12	14	—	12	17	—	16
Tiaquin, ...	529	93	241	112	36	22	—	—	11	—	14
*Woodford, ...	597	303	136	66	14	31	13	18	16	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	1,444	719	512	108	14	31	13	18	29	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	14,742	2,371	4,358	2,195	1,212	1,339	685	343	774	726	261
Total of Electoral Divisions,	16,186	3,090	4,870	2,303	1,226	1,370	698	361	803	726	261
MOUNTBELLEW.											
Annagh, ...	630	166	177	92	23	18	7	7	18	12	9
Ballynakill, ...	929	473	351	37	12	22	14	3	12	1	—
Caltra, ...	479	83	179	83	26	40	14	10	16	4	24
Castleblakeney, ...	652	202	262	86	44	—	6	7	40	5	—
Castleffrench, ...	1,210	285	646	137	35	24	17	9	19	9	9
Clonbrock, ...	1,037	188	517	135	19	28	11	7	38	5	16
*Cloonkeen, ...	1,393	552	756	58	—	—	10	9	8	—	—
Cooloo, ...	853	258	302	139	25	33	9	9	27	10	41
Derryglassaun, ...	1,398	372	668	186	50	58	5	13	26	20	—
Killeroran, ...	1,800	363	890	273	85	63	18	—	36	59	13
Killian, ...	1,183	434	474	135	77	16	—	—	20	—	—
Mountbellew, ...	1,784	287	496	189	96	157	68	134	42	57	22
Mounthazel, ...	708	206	190	69	47	10	50	22	52	33	29
Taghboy, ...	533	91	330	70	5	—	—	—	8	29	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	1,393	552	756	58	—	—	10	9	8	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	13,196	3,408	5,482	1,631	544	469	219	221	354	244	163
Total of Electoral Divisions,	14,589	3,960	6,238	1,689	544	469	229	230	362	244	163
OUGHTERARD.											
*Camus, ...	529	502	20	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—
*Cloonbur, ...	2,050	1,251	489	86	33	26	20	17	23	15	—
*Cong, ...	1,668	1,212	310	51	49	11	24	—	11	—	—
*Crumpaun, ...	2,370	2,038	304	16	—	12	—	—	—	—	—
*Cur, ...	513	366	36	6	—	49	23	—	33	—	—
*Gorumna, ...	2,347	2,187	109	21	—	3	21	—	6	—	—
*Kilcummin, ...	346	338	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Letterbrickaun, ...	674	380	16	14	—	63	10	—	147	44	—
*Letterfore, ...	506	179	231	22	24	27	—	—	23	—	—
*Lettermore, ...	1,263	1,009	222	8	—	24	—	—	—	—	—
*Oughterard, ...	1,988	971	623	141	96	12	36	46	56	7	—
*Ross, ...	314	232	14	3	—	14	24	4	23	—	—
*Turlough, ...	1,452	1,240	173	14	2	23	—	—	—	—	—
*Wormhole, ...	1,530	412	852	156	24	34	8	8	—	19	17
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	17,550	12,317	3,407	538	228	305	166	75	322	85	17
Total of Electoral Divisions,	17,550	12,317	3,407	538	228	305	166	75	322	85	17

* Scheduled as Congested.

IV. –Table showing the Population on each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway –*continued.*

and Electoral Divisions.	Total Population on Agricultural Holdings.	Classification of Holdings according to Ratable Valuation, and Population in each Class.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
Portumna.												
.. .. ..	585	101	242	139	58	21	10	6	—	8	—	—
.. .. ..	403	47	157	39	32	69	25	27	3	4	—	—
.. .. ..	432	207	161	57	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	317	28	122	38	29	41	11	2	5	30	—	11
.. .. ..	723	136	270	137	48	31	14	48	18	21	—	—
.. .. ..	638	263	112	79	20	32	26	7	33	39	—	27
.. .. ..	573	64	172	96	48	68	21	11	18	62	—	13
e, ...	304	120	36	33	28	15	6	—	2	27	8	29
.. .. ..	337	21	93	74	33	37	14	4	22	19	—	20
.. .. ..	509	21	99	106	64	71	18	20	47	30	15	18
.. .. ..	333	20	112	54	45	53	20	17	—	9	3	—
.. .. ..	718	35	328	113	108	25	16	—	31	—	—	62
.. .. ..	970	62	217	259	121	69	50	41	80	33	9	29
gh, ...	214	18	51	32	25	16	12	—	26	—	34	—
.. .. ..	438	38	105	36	35	57	75	31	36	15	10	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	432	207	161	57	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	7,062	974	2,116	1,235	694	605	318	214	321	297	79	209
Total of Electoral Divisions.	7,494	1,181	2,277	1,292	694	605	325	214	321	297	79	209
Tuam.												
st, ...	407	119	180	—	4	8	—	—	4	—	—	92
est.	684	322	255	60	3	—	—	9	—	2	—	33
e, ...	1,472	583	591	143	47	62	—	9	27	10	—	—
ain.	710	175	342	40	59	25	20	—	7	42	—	—
.. .. ..	324	194	77	8	3	—	—	15	7	5	15	—
.. .. ..	297	25	125	64	12	26	31	—	—	—	—	14
k, ...	858	480	221	30	30	18	29	2	2	—	11	35
e	352	94	144	10	25	22	—	—	14	28	15	—
.. .. ..	1,184	289	756	41	17	20	21	—	31	9	—	—
ugh, ...	573	144	200	38	22	—	—	36	82	16	35	—
.. .. ..	727	189	312	70	7	26	24	3	42	54	—	—
.. .. ..	623	139	243	84	7	43	21	—	10	31	45	—
.. .. ..	384	79	153	48	16	12	—	32	8	36	—	—
trick, ...	722	214	317	61	23	15	8	7	48	23	6	—
.. .. ..	1,058	237	422	185	72	27	14	6	56	32	7	—
.. .. ..	2,149	707	1,016	171	103	67	28	—	37	20	—	—
.. .. ..	1,164	245	524	131	29	34	23	23	15	—	19	121
.. .. ..	438	52	66	89	48	61	9	22	36	41	14	—
.. .. ..	927	325	432	32	21	13	36	—	61	7	—	—
.. .. ..	748	202	381	98	10	27	16	—	9	5	—	—
.. .. ..	343	52	66	54	44	18	16	—	77	—		10
.. .. ..	533	35	253	78	53	55	41	8	10	—	—	—
.. .. ..	816	138	413	111	11	17	23	31	52	14		—
.. .. ..	569	116	190	64	21	20	11	23	66	53	5	—

[a] Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

IV.—TABLE showing the Population on each Class of Holdings in the County of Galway—*continued.*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Population on Agricultural Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS ACCORDING TO RATEABLE VALUATION, AND POPULATION IN EACH CLASS.									
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.
TUAM—*continued.*											
Killower, ...	544	51	167	106	63	36	22	22	21	37	5
Killursa, ...	1,445	208	734	275	107	41	7	14	40	19	—
Kilmoylan, ...	511	160	189	11	24	—	—	—	29	33	31
Kilshanvy, ...	838	289	360	74	42	15	—	—	18	22	18
*Levally, ...	723	230	345	54	42	15	6	11	20	—	—
Milltown, ...	1,618	315	735	283	26	69	73	36	24	16	41
Monivea, ...	293	96	113	34	4	13	7	—	3	6	—
Moyne	963	261	550	99	10	5	—	—	13	14	11
Ryehill, ...	405	187	120	10	7	—	—	—	—	40	—
Tuam Rural, ...	955	341	317	54	26	26	74	25	78	14	—
Tuam Urban, ...	218	84	40	—	6	—	—	—	35	3	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	5,528	1,809	2,708	409	209	164	55	20	115	39	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	21,047	5,568	8,641	2,301	835	672	505	314	867	593	290
Total of Electoral Divisions,	26,575	7,377	11,349	2,710	1,044	836	560	334	982	632	290
Total of Congested Electoral Division in County.	62,687	37,074	18,877	2,370	959	1,018	452	441	931	344	107
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	97,320	21,044	34,366	12,592	6,258	5,861	2,986	1,842	4,314	3,134	1,532
Total of County, ...	160,007	58,118	53,243	14,962	7,217	6,879	3,438	2,283	5,245	3,478	1,639

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

—Return showing the Total Number of Holdings and the Number of various sized Holdings in each Electoral Division of the County of Galway in the year 1906.

Compiled from the Agricultural Statistics, 1906.

... AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	NUMBER OF HOLDINGS IN EACH ELECTORAL DIVISION.									
	Not exceeding 1 acre.	Above 1 and not exceeding 5 Acres.	Above 5 and not exceeding 15 Acres.	Above 15 and not exceeding 30 Acres.	Above 30 and not exceeding 50 Acres.	Above 50 and not exceeding 100 Acres.	Above 100 and not exceeding 200 Acres.	Above 200 and not exceeding 500 Acres.	Above 500 Acres.	Total Number of Holdings.
BALLINASLOE.										
...gormican, ...	3	9	36	43	22	20	6	5	—	144
...agh, ...	42	52	73	30	8	15	7	5	1	233
...m, ...	28	10	22	25	14	21	10	5	1	136
...sloe, ...	68	58	119	65	18	22	8	3	1	362
...nacward, ...	4	16	22	36	19	12	8	—	—	117
...rt, ...	10	19	18	22	15	11	8	8	1	112
...skert, ...	2	19	44	35	20	14	9	—	—	143
...grove, ...	2	5	24	30	22	17	9	2	1	112
...nell, ...	9	21	55	42	12	15	13	6	—	173
..., ...	5	7	25	24	8	9	15	6	2	101
...ghtan, ...	—	16	55	35	9	9	12	6	2	144
...n, ...	1	5	35	23	8	7	7	6	—	92
..., ...	5	15	28	28	7	10	3	12	1	109
...shane, ...	1	19	28	39	16	4	7	2	—	116
...ner, ...	4	25	39	36	15	14	6	8	—	147
...ore, ...	2	3	6	2	—	8	5	5	4	35
...rcetown, ...	36	9	16	21	12	13	8	4	1	120
...ny, ...	—	4	11	8	2	5	7	6	1	44
...d, ...	6	11	30	32	22	9	3	4	1	118
...al of Union (all Non-Congested),	228	323	686	576	249	235	151	93	17	2,558
CLIFDEN.										
...nakill, ...	3	9	49	12	14	9	4	7	6	113
...rr, ...	—	2	9	7	4	6	10	18	11	67
...wen, ...	4	11	149	59	6	—	3	3	—	235
...an, ...	—	9	50	12	6	2	5	6	1	91
...n, ...	45	61	128	69	23	18	7	3	2	356
...llary, ...	—	—	37	13	9	1	8	7	8	83
...cunlagh, ...	—	—	17	8	5	7	2	4	4	47
...lea, ...	1	2	3	5	7	20	4	4	7	53
...ughan, ...	—	14	49	32	3	1	2	2	1	104
...innan, ...	6	10	75	36	12	2	1	2	2	146
.. .. ..	—	—	—	3	6	14	25	5	1	54
...ofin, ...	—	131	38	3	1	—	—	—	—	173
...boy, ...	—	64	178	83	26	4	1	2	1	359
..., ...	1	6	57	43	19	18	9	7	4	164
...owla, ...	9	44	52	48	16	1	—	—	3	173
...le, ...	10	41	148	95	33	8	17	6	3	361
...stone, ...	35	30	89	45	37	1	1	—	1	239
..., ...	—	40	127	55	10	15	5	1	—	253
...se	5	100	82	26	2	7	—	3	6	231
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	119	572	1,311	639	230	121	92	58	46	3,188
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	—	2	26	15	9	13	12	22	15	114
Total of Union, ..	119	574	1,337	654	239	134	104	80	61	3,302

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

V.—Return showing the Total Number of Holdings and the number of various sized Holdings in each Electoral Division of the County of Galway in the year 1906.—*continued.*

Unions and Electoral Divisions.	Number of Holdings in each Electoral Division.									
	Not exceeding 1 Acre.	Above 1 and not exceeding 5 Acres.	Above 5 and not exceeding 15 Acres.	Above 15 and not exceeding 30 Acres.	Above 30 and not exceeding 50 Acres.	Above 50 and not exceeding 100 Acres.	Above 100 and not exceeding 200 Acres.	Above 200 and not exceeding 500 Acres.	Above 500 Acres.	Total Number of Holdings.
GALWAY.										
*Annaghdown, ...	9	31	67	103	36	17	6	2	—	271
Aughrim, ...	2	15	32	39	22	20	15	4	2	151
Ballintemple, ...	—	6	40	46	30	11	10	1	—	144
Ballynacourty, ...	—	8	57	49	15	8	5	1	—	143
Barna, ...	16	39	130	126	33	11	4	1	—	360
Belleville, ...	—	5	14	15	20	6	7	5	2	74
Carnmore, ...	1	9	21	30	28	16	8	2	—	115
Carrowbrowne, ...	1	8	60	38	13	3	—	4	—	127
Clare Galway, ...	3	34	94	58	20	12	2	3	2	228
Clarinbridge, ...	2	49	36	51	27	20	8	1	2	196
Deerpark, ...	—	10	41	53	5	8	1	4	1	123
*Furbogh, ...	—	1	20	49	23	25	9	—	1	128
Galway, ...	184	110	212	92	29	15	8	5	—	655
*Inishmore, ...	20	6	44	197	101	19	—	3	—	390
*Kilcummin, ...	3	27	164	67	8	8	4	—	—	121
*Killannin, ...	—	5	56	35	34	—	9	12	3	154
Lackabeg, ...	2	12	40	26	25	15	6	3	—	129
*Liscananaun, ...	10	44	74	66	25	12	4	—	1	236
Lisheenavalla, ...	1	7	30	34	10	6	4	1	1	94
*Moyculler, ...	—	7	32	42	18	11	2	2	—	114
Oranmore, ...	27	19	18	18	21	15	7	6	—	131
*Selerma, ...	—	5	116	57	18	—	1	—	5	202
*Slievaneena, ...	—	8	48	62	31	18	5	3	4	179
*Spiddle, ...	21	2	32	64	32	9	24	5	—	189
Stradbally, ...	—	6	5	8	15	6	7	4	1	52
Tullokyne, ...	4	3	30	29	39	16	8	1	—	130
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	63	136	653	742	326	119	64	27	14	2,144
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	243	340	860	712	352	188	100	46	11	2,853
Total of Union, ..	306	476	1,513	1,454	678	307	164	73	25	4,997
GLENAMADDY.										
*Ballinastack, ...	1	10	83	54	15	4	2	1	—	170
Ballymoe, ...	17	34	66	40	13	4	6	5	—	185
*Ballynakill, ...	3	20	75	33	6	9	11	8	—	165
*Boyounagh, ...	—	20	58	53	12	2	3	—	—	148
Carrownagar, ...	1	10	47	54	15	10	1	4	2	144
Cloonkeen, ...	3	15	54	48	9	9	4	3	1	146
Creggs, ...	4	13	77	49	14	6	7	7	1	178
Curraghmore, ...	1	12	28	45	10	3	2	2	1	104
*Glenamaddy, ...	11	28	170	74	16	7	6	5	—	317
*Island, ...	4	11	105	75	16	3	1	—	—	215
*Kilcroan, ...	3	34	119	67	11	4	2	2	—	242
Kiltullagh, ...	1	6	65	17	4	4	6	2	—	105
*Raheen, ...	2	12	130	85	15	4	—	1	—	249
Scregg, ...	—	7	44	27	12	12	7	4	—	113
Skankill, ...	5	9	48	38	11	6	5	3	—	125
*Templetogher, ...	3	13	95	111	23	4	4	—	—	253
Toberdash, ...	21	8	81	46	16	7	5	2	—	186
Toherroe, ...	1	16	88	50	9	3	4	3	1	175
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions	24	133	760	519	108	28	18	9	—	1,599
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	57	150	673	447	119	73	58	43	6	1,626
Total of Union, ..	81	283	1,433	966	227	101	76	52	6	3,225

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X

Return showing the Total Number of Holdings and the number of various sized Holdings in each Electoral Division of the County of Galway in the year 1906.—*continued.*

...ns and Electoral Divisions.	Number of Holdings in each Electoral Division.									
	Not exceeding 1 Acre.	Above 1 and not exceeding 5 Acres.	Above 5 and not exceeding 15 Acres.	Above 15 and not exceeding 30 Acres.	Above 30 and not exceeding 50 Acres.	Above 50 and not exceeding 100 Acres.	Above 100 and not exceeding 200 Acres.	Above 200 and not exceeding 500 Acres.	Above 500 Acres.	Total Number of Holdings.
Gort.										
ullivan, ...	1	17	59	78	35	21	11	3	2	227
han, ...	—	11	15	17	5	12	2	2	-	64
ahalan, ...	—	9	21	35	36	36	8	3	-	148
.. .. ..	7	16	70	86	37	22	8	6	—	252
more, ...	3	9	29	39	31	11	7	2	1	132
ard, ...	—	1	2	7	5	18	10	2	—	45
taylor, ...	—	11	19	17	12	9	4	4	—	76
s, ...	1	39	31	46	9	4	1		—	131
acoo, ...	3	70	48	39	36	9	3	4	-	222
.. .. ..	92	21	60	33	14	6	3	—	—	229
canty, ...	—	4	22	21	22	17	5	—	1	92
ly, ...	5	22	46	57	39	29	7	—	—	205
navarra, ...	3	17	23	46	16	14	7	8	—	134
ny, ...	5	15	20	21	46	23	14	5	1	150
tan, ...	4	25	62	71	40	18	5	3	1	229
omas, ...	1	7	26	18	20	16	5	—	—	93
rra, ...	22	19	40	68	48	33	10	—	—	240
sane, ...	5	7	30	29	25	16	3	1	—	116
nagh, ...	—	23	63	46	12	14	2	1	—	161
Total of Union (all Non-Congested).	152	343	736	774	488	328	115	44	6	2,986
Loughrea.										
.. .. ..	—	1	7	48	49	16	4	8	—	133
ry, ...	81	21	32	39	17	21	9	6	—	226
nagar, ...	1	8	27	37	22	7	5	1	1	109
lagh, ...	2	6	51	45	27	31	7	3	—	172
un, ...	5	6	22	41	19	6	5	1	—	105
lusk, ...	2	10	28	39	34	19	7	2	—	141
boy	—	15	19	8	6	8	7	5	2	70
een, ...	—	7	18	39	27	12	3	—	—	106
instown, ...	—	1	7	7	4	5	1	2	—	27
dwell, ...	11	13	56	66	46	24	4	—	—	220
laur, ...	1	11	6	20	7	11	29	17	—	102
kerry, ...	1	15	79	84	26	10	7	—	—	222
reabbey, ...	5	12	21	23	8	3	1	4	—	77
ze	1	8	31	45	19	14	7	7	2	134
hill, ...	—	4	14	24	13	18	2	5	2	82
rest, ...	10	4	19	28	14	14	10	4	1	104
mickney, ...	—	17	59	46	25	9	4	—	—	160
nerin, ...	—	4	14	24	14	5	4	5	2	72
ner, ...	—	8	32	51	27	16	3	1	—	138
gilleen, ...	2	20	39	37	22	22	8	2	1	153
een, ...	4	16	17	30	12	16	5	9	1	110
kill, ...	2	10	24	27	11	14	4	9	—	101
skill, ...	—	13	47	24	20	7	5	3	—	119
illagh, ...	1	13	31	25	25	13	9	2	—	119
alea	—	1	6	9	11	14	4	3	—	48
im	1	10	52	43	18	7	3	1	1	136
hatorick, ...	—	3	3	6	6	24	14	9	1	66
hrea, ...	259	72	79	66	35	22	9	3	—	545
dehill, ...	1	15	50	36	26	23	11	4	1	167

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

V.—Return showing the Total Number of Holdings and the Number of various sized Holdings in each Electoral Division of the County of Galway in the year 1906.—*continued.*

Unions and Electoral Divisions.	Number of Holdings in each Electoral Division.									
	Not exceeding 1 Acre.	Above 1 and not exceeding 5 Acres.	Above 5 and not exceeding 15 Acres.	Above 15 and not exceeding 30 Acres.	Above 30 and not exceeding 50 Acres.	Above 50 and not exceeding 100 Acres.	Above 100 and not exceeding 200 Acres.	Above 200 and not exceeding 500 Acres.	Above 500 Acres.	To Num Hol
LOUGHREA—*continued.*										
Mountain, ...	—	2	13	31	18	7	11	5	—	
Moyode, ...	2	11	13	9	6	8	3	3	1	
Raford, ...	—	8	23	25	12	6	4	3	—	
Tiaquin, ...	1	9	33	49	18	7	4	3	1	
*Woodford, ...	7	31	50	52	19	7	7	1	—	
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	8	45	59	78	32	42	50	27	1	
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	392	360	963	1,105	631	404	170	104	16	4
Total of Union, ..	400	405	1,022	1,183	663	446	220	131	17	4
MOUNTBELLEW.										
Annagh, ...	10	15	30	29	12	1	6	8	1	
Ballynakill, ...	2	24	104	77	13	14	6	4	—	
Caltra, ...	4	24	37	27	6	13	5	2	—	
Castleblakeney, ...	8	38	63	26	9	10	2	3	—	
Castleffrench,	2	43	154	38	15	12	5	3	—	
Clonbrock, ...	4	48	99	48	10	13	2	7	1	
Cloonkeen,	14	46	166	81	4	3	2	1	—	
Cooloo, ...	8	13	89	61	17	10	6	6	1	
Derryglassan, ...	3	44	124	72	23	11	5	3	—	
Killeroran, ...	58	79	171	104	27	15	8	6	—	
Killian, ...	11	61	127	57	7	5	4	2	—	
Mountbellew, ...	30	48	117	46	22	26	10	8	1	
Mount Hazel, ...	4	33	50	42	12	16	8	9	—	
Taghboy, ...	—	16	40	27	7	4	6	—	1	
Total of Union (all Non-Congested).	158	532	1,371	735	184	153	75	62	5	
OUGHTERARD.										
*Camus, ...	1	5	34	27	2	1	4	5	2	
*Cloonbur, ...	7	49	204	99	38	11	7	2	—	
*Cong, ...	1	17	99	99	41	38	2	5	—	
*Crumpaun, ...	3	74	136	128	37	1	2	1	—	
*Cur, ...	—	1	12	24	13	13	9	4	5	
*Gorumna, ...	1	93	242	57	7	—	1	3	—	
*Kilcummin, ...	—	—	22	21	3	2	4	14	4	
*Letterbrickaun, ...	—	32	32	3	—	2	1	10	9	
*Letterfare, ...	—	4	17	31	17	14	8	8	9	
*Lettermore, ...	6	18	113	39	22	5	—	—	—	
*Oughterard, ...	73	75	94	77	24	30	11	7	12	
*Ross, ...	—	8	19	12	7	6	2	4	8	
*Turlough, ...	10	60	144	65	11	3	1	1	8	
*Wormhole, ...	26	17	77	117	79	20	3	2	1	
Total of Union (all Congested).	128	453	1,245	799	301	152	55	66	58	
PORTUMNA.										
Abbeyville, ...	1	4	26	48	13	4	2	1	1	
Ballyglass, ...	2	2	10	31	17	10	1	—	—	
*Coos.	1	3	19	27	12	16	1	—	1	
Derrew, ...	1	7	29	15	13	8	1	4	—	
Drummin, ...	2	13	35	49	28	14	5	2	—	
Eyrecourt, ...	64	24	15	10	7	11	9	3	1	
Killinor, ...	42	21	63	52	24	19	3	1	1	
Kilmalinogue	8	26	28	9	3	7	5	6	1	
Kilquain, ...	1	9	12	26	16	10	4	6	1	
Meelick, ...	11	40	34	47	19	21	8	3	—	

* Scheduled as Congested.

.– Return showing the Total Number of Holdings and the number of various sized Holdings in each Electoral Division of the County of Galway in the year 1906.—*continued.*

... AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	NUMBER OF HOLDINGS IN EACH ELECTORAL DIVISION.									
	Not exceeding 1 Acre.	Above 1 and not exceeding 5 Acres.	Above 5 and not exceeding 15 Acres.	Above 15 and not exceeding 30 Acres.	Above 30 and not exceeding 50 Acres.	Above 50 and not exceeding 100 Acres.	Above 100 and not exceeding 200 Acres.	Above 200 and not exceeding 500 Acres.	Above 500 Acres.	Total Number of Holdings.
PORTUMNA—*continued.*										
.. .. ..	4	11	36	24	10	8	2	2	—	97
.. .. ..	2	9	75	60	15	4	5	2	1	173
nna.	99	58	82	73	42	21	9	4	1	389
scragh, ...	6	4	4	10	17	7	3	1	1	53
h.	3	12	22	30	13	9	6	2	—	97
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	1	3	19	27	12	16	1	—	1	80
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	246	240	471	484	237	153	63	37	8	1,939
Total of Union, ..	247	243	490	511	249	169	64	37	9	2,019
TUAM.										
East, ...	1	16	43	11	11	13	4	6	1	106
West, ...	1	23	80	37	6	1	1	5	—	154
oole.	—	20	131	96	19	3	3	—	—	272
ldown, ...	—	12	50	63	25	7	3	5	—	165
lerry.	1	8	22	13	3	2	6	2	1	58
luff.	—	1	22	22	12	12	6	1	—	76
apark	1	27	85	32	4	5	10	3	—	167
more, ...	—	10	29	18	5	2	2	4	1	71
e, ...	2	40	183	29	5	4	3	4	—	270
reveagh, ...	2	14	38	31	14	13	13	2	—	127
tam, ...	6	29	54	28	17	8	12	6	—	160
n, ...	3	13	32	27	11	12	4	7	1	110
er, ...	1	12	62	36	14	3	6	1	1	136
patrick, ...	8	24	84	32	10	4	6	2	—	170
ally, ...	4	31	119	70	16	14	5	5	—	264
ore, ...	74	40	256	118	15	6	8	—	—	517
ll, ...	1	32	88	55	14	12	3	6	1	212
ord, ...	74	27	40	39	26	12	8	3	—	229
rook, ...	3	3	64	91	27	11	5	—	—	204
man, ...	1	36	62	20	3	6	1	4	—	133
n, ...	2	11	8	19	12	13	11	2	1	79
y, ...	—	7	27	33	28	13	6	—	—	114
n, ...	—	11	52	50	17	9	11	4	—	154
rin, ...	1	15	26	27	25	10	8	5	—	117
er, ...	1	4	16	34	25	19	12	4	3	118
n, ...	7	14	113	89	33	13	2	4	—	275
lan.	3	13	47	36	12	8	4	2	2	127
nvy, ...	—	49	65	34	10	5	2	5	—	170
y, ...	2	5	58	46	18	11	3	3	—	146
wn, ...	3	25	159	92	10	9	5	2	—	305
n.	5	22	41	44	23	14	7	1	1	158
.. .. ..	3	21	109	47	6	4	3	3	1	197
.. .. ..	3	16	44	40	12	14	2	3	—	134
.. .. ..	195	34	115	43	25	20	17	2	—	456
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	78	105	623	289	57	24	17	7	—	1,205
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	330	560	1,796	1,218	456	288	185	99	14	4,946
Total of Union, ..	408	665	2,424	1,507	513	312	202	106	14	6,151
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	421	1,447	4,675	3,093	1,066	502	297	194	120	11,815
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	1,806	2,850	7,582	6,066	2,725	1,835	929	550	98	24,441
Total of County ..	2,227	4,297	12,257	9,159	3,791	2,337	1,226	744	218	36,256

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

VI.—Return showing the Total Area, and the chief Divisions of Land, in each of the Electoral Divisions of the County of Galway in the year 1906.

Compiled from the Agricultural Statistics, 1906.

Electoral Divisions and Poor Law Unions in which situated.	Total Area of Electoral Divisions.	Extent in Statute Acres under :—								
		Crops including Hay.	Grass.	Fruit.	Fallow.	Woods and Plantations.	Turf Bog.	Marsh.	Mountain Land.	
									Grazed.	Barren.
Ballinasloe Union.										
Abbeygormican, ...	6,583	1,396	3,966	—	—	17	597	312	—	—
Ahascragh, ...	8,267	1,210	4,239	1	1	221	2,162	55	18	233
Aughrim, ...	6,124	1,191	4,450	1	—	180	106	67	—	—
Ballinasloe, ...	8,944	2,091	4,829	4	—	520	1,015	4	—	—
Ballymacward, ...	4,320	875	2,875	2	—	11	294	120	—	—
Clonfert, ...	7,633	1,204	3,946	—	—	66	1,938	114	—	—
Clontuskert, ...	4,448	1,065	3,067	1	—	45	39	15	—	—
Kellysgrove, ...	5,745	1,041	3,359	—	—	38	1,082	7	—	—
Kilconnell, ...	7,081	880	5,727	—	—	11	155	—	—	—
Killaan, ...	8,331	873	5,461	4	—	426	927	417	—	—
Killallaghtan, ...	7,868	1,069	5,468	3	—	155	847	104	—	—
Killoran, ...	4,757	1,026	2,968	2	—	27	472	77	—	—
Killure, ...	9,062	1,030	5,564	—	—	86	1,867	—	147	246
Kilmacshane, ...	10,176	1,307	2,019	—	—	15	3,408	65	—	—
Kiltormer, ...	6,492	1,390	4,432	—	—	55	373	—	—	—
Kylemore, ...	6,307	912	2,917	—	—	75	1,533	267	—	—
Laurencetown, ...	5,311	981	3,412	—	—	148	198	168	40	70
Lismanny, ...	5,493	1,041	3,508	3	—	140	352	138	—	—
Oat Field, ...	5,628	1,244	3,870	—	—	48	287	18	—	—
Total of Union (all Non-Congested).	125,570	21,826	76,077	21	1	2,284	17,652	1,948	205	549
Clifden Union.										
*Ballynakill, ...	11,474	367	2,430	—	—	32	908	893	4,363	2,214
Bencorr, ...	25,679	422	3,988	—	—	572	2,683	1,771	9,247	6,272
*Bunowen, ...	7,373	486	3,748	—	—	2	1,417	21	1,100	—
*Cleggan, ...	4,738	284	792	2	—	22	100	224	3,148	—
*Clifden, ...	8,586	790	2,835	—	—	31	522	194	3,515	205
*Cuskillary, ...	15,086	246	5,890	—	—	12	517	384	7,645	108
Derrycunlagh, ...	8,765	138	1,092	—	—	—	2,383	1,810	2,218	18
*Derrylea, ...	10,446	189	943	—	—	31	2,786	495	4,370	829
*Dunlaughan, ...	3,554	221	2,009	—	—	—	—	5	136	787
*Errislannan, ...	5,099	394	2,471	1	—	63	1,192	31	553	33
*Illion, ...	8,975	280	1,851	—	—	—	1,017	554	4,132	880
*Inishbofin, ...	3,261	441	143	—	—	—	332	195	922	968
*Knockboy, ...	8,937	875	4,310	—	—	502	685	443	665	730
*Moyrus, ...	21,732	641	3,635	—	—	111	3,268	1,837	7,288	4,130
*Owengowla, ...	13,462	402	930	—	—	—	882	2,962	4,326	2,837
*Rinvyle, ...	13,586	1,104	3,297	1	—	38	689	702	5,302	1,782
*Roundstone, ...	6,923	540	3,638	—	—	10	250	1,241	783	36
*Sillerna, ...	5,826	788	2,432	—	—	—	137	68	1,972	171
*Skannive, ...	10,280	576	1,866	—	—	—	1,308	1,092	3,462	1,020
Total Congested Electoral Divisions.	159,338	8,624	43,220	4	—	854	16,010	11,386	53,682	16,730
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	34,444	560	5,080	—	—	572	5,066	3,581	11,465	6,290
Total of Union,	193,782	9,184	48,300	4	—	1,426	21,076	14,967	65,147	23,020

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

.—Return showing the Total Area, and the chief Divisions of Land, in each of the Electoral Divisions of the County of Galway in the year 1906.—*continued.*

AL DIVISIONS AND POOR UNIONS IN WHICH ATED.	Total Area of Electoral Divisions.	EXTENT IN STATUTE ACRES UNDER:—									
		Crops including Hay.	Grass.	Fruit.	Fallow.	Woods and Plantations.	Turf Bog.	Marsh.	Mountain Land.		Water, Roads, Fences, &c.
									Grazed.	Barren.	
GALWAY UNION.											
town, ...	8,163	1,848	3,239	1	—	114	310	1,038	391	96	1 126
, ...	8,284	1,133	5,492	1	18	245	25	—	1,181	—	189
mple, ...	4,933	1,362	3,047	—	—	—	31	30	74	102	287
ourty, ...	3,930	1,204	2,157	4	—	41	—	—	106	10	408
.. .. ..	7,605	989	4,638	6	—	75	239	81	992	—	585
, ...	5,178	529	3,890	2	—	269	3	—	363	—	122
, ...	4,772	1,547	2,853	—	—	38	—	—	202	50	82
rowne, ...	4,056	580	2,267	—	—	—	530	356	50	—	273
way, ...	6,017	1,190	3,374	—	—	—	1,070	—	—	—	383
idge, ...	7,169	1,664	4,558	5	—	475	—	—	166	—	301
, ...	4,569	780	3,493	—	—	81	—	—	20	—	195
. .. .	6,837	624	1,569	—	—	15	140	230	3,954	—	305
.. .. ..	9,741	1,423	6,277	13	—	109	159	660	240	46	814
e, ...	11,579	729	5,114	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,976	760
ain, ...	13,619	824	1,825	—	—	—	666	1,546	7,625	—	1,133
.. .. ..	17,315	695	3,126	—	—	18	756	3,849	7,827	608	436
, ...	4,923	1,193	3,230	—	—	5	—	—	54	—	441
aun, ...	5,262	1,361	2,816	3	—	137	387	45	50	—	463
alla, ...	4,312	792	2,990	—	—	114	—	4	111	—	301
n, ...	5,345	713	2,460	—	—	80	233	60	1,228	40	531
e, ...	5,525	1,272	3,695	2	—	13	—	—	307	—	236
.. .. ..	16,898	738	1,680	—	—	2	2,660	2,074	7,843	—	1,901
ra, ...	14,319	854	2,080	—	—	11	1,226	500	8,491	130	1,027
.. .. ..	8,765	740	3,045	—	—	21	730	2,380	1,529	—	320
ly, ..	4,042	381	3,319	—	—	16	—	—	125	—	201
e, ..	5,378	598	3,251	—	—	214	60	59	520	248	428
tal of Congested Electoral Divisions.	108,102	9,126	26,954	4	—	398	7,108	11,722	38,938	5,850	8,002
tal of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	90,434	16,637	58,531	33	18	1,695	2,117	1,190	4,511	456	5,246
tal of Union, ..	198,536	25,763	85,485	37	18	2,093	9,225	12,912	43,449	6,306	13,248
LENAMADDY.											
tock, ...	4,133	913	2,315	—	—	2	623	102	2	—	176
e, ...	5,379	903	3,190	—	—	49	1,145	44	—	—	48
all, ..	7,376	1,218	4,847	1	—	86	998	152	—	—	74
gh, ...	3,913	805	1,783	—	—	18	950	109	38	5	205
agar, ...	7,357	1,099	4,059	—	—	50	1,355	456	—	—	338
en, ...	5,053	802	2,640	—	—	62	1,112	196	—	—	241
.. .. ..	8,327	1,768	4,389	4	—	271	1,552	99	18	3	223
more	5,068	576	2,178	2	—	514	1,491	52	—	—	255
addy, ...	7,773	1,579	4,118	—	—	27	1,498	323	3	—	225
.. .. ..	4,872	1,037	2,403	—	—	—	808	297	—	—	327
n, ...	5,433	1,097	3,145	—	—	48	766	115	—	—	262
gh, ...	3,929	561	2,428	—	—	10	664	30	19	—	217
.. .. ..	5,669	1,253	2,484	—	—	14	885	518	5	1	509
.. .. ..	4,786	604	2,173	—	—	329	791	611	—	—	278
.. .. ..	4,654	789	2,261	1	—	7	1,081	170	10	—	335
ogher, ...	6 111	1,337	3,545	—	—	10	830	55	—	—	334
sh, ...	4,904	719	3,695	—	—	42	191	10	22	20	205
.. .. ..	5,534	997	3,319	—	—	—	1,014	97	—	—	107
tal Congested Electoral Divisions.	37,904	8,021	19,793	—	—	119	6,360	1,519	48	6	2,038
tal Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	62,367	10,036	35,179	8	—	1,420	11,394	1 917	69	23	2,321
tal of Union, ..	100,271	18,057	54,972	8	—	1,539	17 754	3,436	117	29	4,359

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

VI.—Return showing the Total Area, and the chief Divisions of Land, in each of the Electoral Divisions of the County of Galway in the year 1906.—*continued.*

Electoral Divisions and Poor Law Unions in which situated.	Total Area of Electoral Divisions.	Extent in Statute Acres under:—								
		Crops including Hay.	Grass.	Fruit.	Fallow.	Woods and Plantations.	Turf Bog.	Marsh.	Mountain Land.	
									Grazed.	Barren.
Gort Union.										
Ardmullivan, ..	9,594	1,750	5,308	2	—	556	104	374	349	323
Ardrahan, ...	2,421	281	1,698	3	—	242	—	2	42	—
Ballycahalan, ...	7,401	1,312	4,332	—	—	239	224	29	621	222
Beagh, ...	8,856	1,391	5,297	1	—	34	203	352	468	116
Cahermore, ...	5,487	910	3,722	4	—	65	—	10	502	8
Cappard, ...	3,543	274	1,789	—	—	81	4	—	1,324	2
Castletaylor, ...	3,748	477	3,032	—	—	109	—	—	8	78
Doorus, ...	2,991	1,162	1,118	1	—	23	—	—	—	192
Drumacoo, ...	5,012	967	3,397	3	—	100	—	23	209	71
Gort, ...	2,767	801	1,715	2	5	15	—	23	29	2
Kilbecanty, ...	4,342	765	2,537	1	—	198	36	104	335	—
Killeely, ...	6,652	1,197	4,282	1	—	84	—	60	141	329
Killeenvarra, ...	6,227	616	3,716	1	—	150	—	46	576	386
Killinny, ...	8,322	942	4,329	5	—	251	2	54	2,279	—
Kiltartan, ...	7,880	1,566	4,534	3	—	699	45	20	319	—
Kilthomas, ...	5,284	601	2,215	—	—	50	506	6	1,725	—
Kinvarra, ...	8,094	1,757	4,554	1	—	40	—	—	930	225
Rahasane, ...	3,880	606	2,902	—	—	2	—	203	—	38
Skehanagh, ...	3,925	776	2,889	—	—	111	—	8	19	29
Total of Union (all Non-Congested). ..	106,326	18,151	63,366	28	5	3,049	1,124	1,314	9,876	2,021
Loughrea Union.										
Ailie, ...	7,914	1,025	2,829	—	—	10	180	837	2,183	385
Athenry, ...	6,283	891	5,133	7	—	51	42	3	10	7
Ballynagar, ...	5,764	857	2,176	—	—	814	48	10	1,408	252
Bracklagh, ...	6,761	1,674	4,476	2	—	6	241	9	—	99
Bullaun, ...	3,365	830	2,015	—	—	21	255	65	—	—
Cappalusk, ...	7,399	1,322	2,940	—	—	—	1,836	813	—	171
Castleboy, ...	6,121	563	4,445	—	—	142	10	80	638	104
Clonkeen, ...	5,153	956	1,658	—	—	2	1,677	312	—	260
Colmanstown, ...	2,444	291	865	—	—	6	556	348	170	158
Craughwell, ...	5,922	1,105	4,555	5	—	51	—	74	—	—
*Derrylaur, ...	10,089	757	202	—	—	—	787	943	7,004	—
Drumkearry, ...	5,953	1,669	2,896	—	—	175	—	33	854	6
Grangeabbey, ...	3,151	491	1,894	—	—	61	475	52	34	—
Grange, ...	8,761	1,219	5,328	—	—	50	1,479	395	—	—
Greethill, ...	5,735	621	3,438	2	—	131	—	—	1,333	10
Kilchriest, ...	5,820	772	4,272	2	—	116	150	6	264	51
Kilconickny, ...	3,867	876	2,727	—	—	2	129	18	—	—
Kilconeirin, ...	4,816	644	3,504	—	—	558	—	3	—	—
Killimor, ...	6,512	1,184	2,443	—	—	67	2,161	420	—	—
Killogilleen, ...	6,238	1,010	4,941	1	—	15	6	—	12	—
Kilmeen, ...	7,484	913	5,725	1	—	111	107	283	—	100
Kilreekill, ...	5,556	893	3,912	1	—	43	378	94	—	—
Kilteskill, ...	5,110	584	2,206	—	—	774	243	60	577	455
Kiltullagh, ...	5,063	956	3,437	—	—	85	111	320	—	—
Lackalea, ...	3,068	443	2,462	—	—	46	—	6	—	51
Leitrim, ...	4,265	1,276	2,128	5	—	478	30	18	18	155
*Loughatorick, ...	9,500	377	627	—	—	7	1,825	670	4,962	674
Loughrea, ...	7,623	1,566	5,488	—	—	11	69	40	—	—
Marblehill, ...	8,812	1,815	2,048	—	—	266	499	211	3,696	390
Mountain, ...	5,905	678	1,416	—	—	—	918	201	2,075	370

* Scheduled as Congested.

Return showing the Total Area, and the chief Divisions of Land, in each of the Electoral Divisions of the County of Galway in the year 1906—*continued*.

Divisions and Poor Unions in which situated.	Total Area of Electoral Divisions.	Extent in Statute Acres under :—									
		Crops including Hay.	Grass.	Fruit.	Fallow.	Woods and Plantations.	Turf Bog.	Marsh.	Mountain Land. Grazed.	Mountain Land. Barren.	Water, Roads, Fences, &c.
...TA UNION—*continued*.											
.. .. ..	3,253	287	2,723	2	—	193	—	—	—	—	48
.. .. ..	3,883	732	2,292	—	—	126	369	174	—	—	190
.. .. ..	5,526	999	2,656	—	3	202	1,089	395	—	—	182
l, ...	5,812	1,396	1,240	—	—	252	285	114	1,121	1,217	187
al of Congested Electoral Divisions.	25,401	2,530	2,069	—	—	259	2,897	1,727	13,087	1,891	941
al of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	173,527	28,642	99,028	28	3	4,613	13,058	5,280	13,272	3,028	6,675
al of Union, ..	198,928	31,172	101,097	28	3	4,872	15,955	7,007	26,359	4,919	7,516
NTBELLEW UNION.											
.. .. ..	5,703	925	3,886	1	—	27	727	15	—	—	122
ell, ...	8,313	1,355	3,941	4	—	171	2,312	96	—	3	431
.. .. ..	3,737	646	2,797	—	1	1	221	1	—	—	70
keney, ...	3,685	547	2,600	—	—	—	290	120	—	—	128
nch, ...	8,523	1,810	3,305	—	—	154	3,030	—	—	—	224
s, ...	8,317	1,510	5,312	2	—	397	833	10	20	51	182
n	5,236	1,316	2,918	—	—	15	673	—	—	68	246
.. .. ..	6,892	1,492	4,268	5	—	72	651	49	13	8	334
ssan, ...	6,969	1,675	3,863	2	—	229	543	159	133	110	255
n, ...	13,689	2,871	5,665	—	—	530	3,371	33	56	101	1,062
.. .. ..	6,577	1,219	3,185	—	—	59	2,004	—	—	—	110
llew, ...	10,826	1,912	5,650	13	—	387	1,857	374	—	—	633
gel, ...	7,521	1,297	4,316	9	—	120	872	526	—	—	381
, ...	6,416	568	1,736	—	—	123	3,898	—	—	1	90
tal of Union (all Non-Congested.	102,404	19,143	53,442	36	1	2,285	21,282	1,383	222	342	4,268
HTERARD UNION.											
... .	8,885	323	973	—	—	—	1,255	981	4,140	286	927
r, ...	10,064	1,400	5,170	3	—	827	99	24	1,371	438	732
.. .. ..	11,656	1,407	3,405	—	—	396	1,313	279	3,746	504	606
m, ...	8,533	1,051	2,973	—	—	—	625	193	2,005	979	707
.. .. ..	11,028	285	1,221	—	—	40	181	106	9,070	—	125
a, ...	7,476	998	1,302	—	—	—	902	286	1,680	996	1,312
nin, ...	14,842	256	1,646	—	—	—	2,346	1,848	7,691	284	771
ickaun, ...	14,359	325	803	—	—	—	264	—	12,791	—	176
re, ...	19,901	371	5,669	—	—	156	978	1,661	8,436	2,139	491
ore, ...	4,037	636	767	—	—	—	498	79	376	649	532
ard, ...	23,091	1,111	5,890	—	—	179	1,729	925	10,399	1,538	1,320
.. .. ..	11,760	146	2,478	—	—	6	131	178	6,680	1,539	602
.. .. ..	15,623	602	972	—	—	—	1,443	438	10,117	20	2,031
de, ...	12,251	1,131	4,909	1	—	136	1,442	15	2,783	995	839
tal of Union (all Congested).	173,506	10,042	38,178	4	—	1,740	13,206	7,013	81,785	10,367	11,171
LTUMNA UNION.											
de	4,041	792	1,870	—	—	93	755	120	231	10	170
.. .. ..	3,220	741	1,845	—	—	15	611	—	—	—	127
.. .. ..	8,080	722	808	—	—	4	1,137	278	4,515	336	280
.. .. ..	3,738	1,124	1,868	—	—	32	446	122	—	—	146
.. .. ..	7,100	1,407	2,472	1	—	504	1,447	196	564	160	349
rt, ...	4,344	1,140	2,810	1	—	53	40	164	—	—	136
.. .. ..	6,023	1,280	3,598	—	—	205	481	166	—	—	293
...re, ..	4,876	905	3,381	4	—	49	252	43	—	1	241
.. .. ..	5,418	852	3,420	—	—	15	669	250	—	—	212

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX X.

VI—Return showing the Total Area, and the chief Divisions of Land, in each of the Electoral Division of the County of Galway in the year 1906—*continued.*

Electoral Divisions and Poor Law Unions in which situated.	Total Area of Electoral Divisions.	Extent in Statute Acres under:—								
		Crops including Hay.	Grass.	Fruit.	Fallow.	Woods and Plantations.	Turf Bog.	Marsh.	Mountain Land.	
									Grazed.	Barren.
PORTUMNA UNION—*continued.*										
Meelick, ...	6,262	1,731	3,868	—	2	1	261	152	—	—
Moat, ...	2,772	736	1,820	—	—	6	—	44	—	—
Pallas, ...	5,114	1,352	3,361	3	—	173	—	—	—	—
Portumna, ...	9,830	2,754	5,455	4	—	648	171	329	—	—
Tiranascragh, ...	2,905	677	1,877	—	—	22	179	37	—	—
Tynagh, ...	3,422	910	2,304	—	—	5	18	33	24	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	8,080	722	808	—	—	4	1,137	278	4,515	336
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	69,184	16,401	39,949	13	2	1,821	5,330	1,656	819	171
Total of Union, ..	77,264	17,123	40,757	13	2	1,825	6,467	1,934	5,334	507
TUAM UNION.										
Abbey East, ...	5,396	340	3,813	2	—	251	753	122	15	—
Abbey West, ...	3,960	575	2,643	—	—	—	268	—	277	38
*Addergoole, ..	6,158	1,224	3,166	—	—	—	266	837	—	—
Annaghdown, ...	5,554	1,102	3,422	—	—	2	—	29	603	125
Ballinderry, ...	3,200	214	1,796	2	—	200	756	110	14	—
Ballinduff, ...	3,365	602	2,262	1	—	44	—	23	216	41
Ballynapark, ...	5,083	773	3,240	3	—	108	450	74	23	56
Beaghmore, ...	4,630	403	2,266	—	3	21	870	522	—	94
*Belclare, ...	6,138	1,009	2,669	—	—	82	1,732	317	—	—
Carrowrevagh, ...	5,085	603	3,979	2	—	73	100	88	10	—
Claretuam, ...	7,245	740	4,983	2	—	2	441	463	212	114
Clonbern, ...	6,357	668	3,962	—	—	20	1,096	296	—	14
Cummer, ...	3,843	982	2,743	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Donaghpatrick, ...	3,990	1,004	2,423	—	—	2	247	42	2	27
Doonbally, ...	7,293	1,152	4,663	—	—	41	655	371	—	—
*Dunmore, ...	9,806	1,811	5,206	—	—	3	1,539	80	384	300
Foxhall, ...	7,971	1,266	4,605	5	—	438	653	288	10	—
Headford, ...	4,940	997	3,378	3	—	216	18	107	—	—
Hillsbrook, ...	5,789	1,073	3,279	—	—	3	583	490	—	—
Kilbennan, ...	3,496	559	2,063	—	—	—	458	126	5	—
Kilcoona, ...	4,924	729	3,812	—	—	50	12	11	125	4
Killeany, ...	3,933	798	2,565	—	—	4	—	13	—	48
Killeen, ...	5,593	872	3,507	—	—	113	513	212	—	2
Killererin, ...	5,501	616	4,218	1	—	46	179	227	—	—
Killower, ...	8,139	1,118	5,215	8	—	240	—	68	713	260
Killursa, ...	7,524	1,720	4,077	10	—	229	316	220	—	—
Kilmoylan, ...	5,574	955	3,956	1	—	191	—	—	105	14
Kilshanvy, ...	5,113	722	2,511	—	—	13	1,242	141	—	—
*Levally, ...	4,998	852	3,036	—	—	8	684	45	—	—
Milltown, ...	6,904	1,406	3,741	—	—	28	455	631	—	—
Moniven, ...	5,125	872	3,312	—	2	376	294	146	—	—
Moyne, ...	5,081	1,030	3,107	—	—	407	224	79	6	—
Rychill, ...	4,299	553	2,948	2	—	96	100	84	214	—
Tuam, ...	9,247	969	6,203	1	—	44	1,453	43	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	27,100	4,896	14,077	—	—	93	4,221	1,279	384	300
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	163,163	25,303	104,692	43	5	3,258	12,136	5,026	2,550	857
Total of Union, ..	191,263	30,199	118,769	43	5	3,351	16,357	6,305	2,934	1,157
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	539,431	43,961	145,099	12	—	3,467	50,939	34,924	192,439	35,480
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	928,419	156,699	535,344	210	35	20,997	89,159	23,295	42,989	13,717
Total of County Galway,	1,467,850	200,660	680,443	222	35	24,464	140,098	58,219	235,428	49,197

* Scheduled as Congested.

G.—TABLES SHOWING THE WORKING OF THE LAND ACTS IN CO. GALWAY.

TABLE showing the Number of Cases in Co. Galway in which *Judicial Rents have been fixed by all the Methods* provided by the Land Law Acts, for First and Second Statutory Terms, *from the commencement of Proceedings to 31st March*, 1906; and also a Summary of the Acreages, Rents of Holdings prior to the creation of First Statutory Terms, Rents of Holdings for a First Statutory Term, and Rents of Holdings for a Second Statutory Term. (Arranged from the Report of the Irish Land Commissioners for the year ending 31st March, 1906, pp. 72 and 74.)

First or Second Statutory Term.	Number of Cases in which Judicial Rents have been fixed.	Acreage, Statute Measure.	Rents of Holdings prior to creation of First Statutory Term.	Judicial Rents fixed for a First Statutory Term.	Percentage of Reduction.	Judicial Rents fixed for a Second Statutory Term.	Percentage of Reduction of Rents fixed for a Second Statutory Term on Rents fixed for a First Statutory Term.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Term, ..	18,386	451,294 2 3	217,123 1 10¾	169,354 1 11	22·0	—	—
d Term, ..	3,440	88,916 0 8½	48,662 6 8½	38,787 17 2	32·8	32,675 7 11	15·7

TABLE showing the Number of Loans issued in Co. Galway under the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1885 (Advances in Cash), the Number of Estates, and the Total Acreage and Rental of the Holdings in respect of which the Loans have been issued; also the Total Purchase-money and the Amount of Loans obtained from Land Commission, and the Number of Years' Purchase of Rent, during the Period from 22nd August, 1885, to 31st March, 1902.

During the four years ended the 31st March, 1906, there were no further proceedings towards purchase taken under this Act.

Taken from the Report of the Irish Land Commissioners for the year ended 31st March, 1906, p. 94.

Number of Loans.	Number of Estates.	Area in Statute Measure.	Net Rent. (a).	Purchase-money agreed upon.	Amount of Loans.	Number of years' purchase of Rent.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£	£	
951	63	40,437 0 28	15,977 0 8	264,369	255,270	16·5

(a) The Rents stated in this Return are the Rents payable by the Tenants previous to the sale, except in a few cases where the Tenants agreed to purchase subject to a Head Rent, Crown Rent, Tithe Rent, or Drainage Charge or other outgoing, previously payable by the Landlord, and in such cases the outgoing has been deducted from the Rent previously payable by the Tenant.

TABLE showing the Number of Loans issued in Co. Galway under the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Acts, 1891, 1896 (Advances in Guaranteed Land Stock), and the Total Acreage and Rental of the Holdings in respect of which the Loans have been issued; the Total Purchase-money and the Amount of Loans obtained from the Land Commission, and the Number of Years' Purchase of Rent, during the period ended 31st March, 1906.

Taken from the Report of the Irish Land Commissioners for the year ended 31st March, 1906, p. 116.

Number of Loans.	Area in Statute Measure.	Rent.	Purchase-money.	Amount of Loans.	Number of years' purchase of Rent.
	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£	£	
2,990	94,404 2 13	38,380 17 7	670,455	643,358	17·4

TABLE showing the Number of Loans issued in Co. Galway under the Irish Land Act, 1903 (exclusive of Estates Commissioners' transactions), the Total Acreage and Rental of Holdings in respect of which the Loans have been issued; also the Total Purchase-money, and the Amount of Loans obtained from the Land Commission, and the Number of Years' Purchase of Rent, during the period ending 31st March, 1906.

Taken from the Report of the Irish Land Commissioners for the year ended 31st March, 1906, p. 139.

Number of Loans.	Area in Statute Measure.	Rent.	Purchase-money.	Amount of Loans.	Number of years' purchase of Rent.
	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£	£	
156	4,671 1 31	1,456 0 9	29,947	29,294	20·5

5.—Summary of Advances made by Estates Commissioners in Co. Galway during the Period from 1st November, 1903, to 31st March, 1906

Taken from the Report of the Estates Commissioners for Year ended 31st March, 1906, pp. 82 and 83.

County.	Direct Sales.					Sections 6 & 8: Estates purchased by the Land Commission.					Section 7: Estates purchased by the Land Commission.					Sections 72 & 79.					Total.				
	Number of Estates.	Number of Purchasers.	Purchase Money.			Number of Estates.	Number of Proposed Purchasers.	Purchase Money.			Number of Estates.	Number of Proposed Purchasers.	Purchase Money.			Number of Estates.	Number of Purchasers.	Purchase Money.			Number of Estates.	Number of Purchasers.	Purchase Money.		
			Price.	Amount of Advances.	Amount of Payments in Cash.			Price.	Amount of Advances.	Amount of Proposed Payments in Cash.			Price	Amount of Advances.	Amount of Proposed Payments in Cash.			Price.	Amount of Advances.	Amount of Proposed Payments in Cash.			Price.	Amount of Advances.	Amount of Payments in Cash.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.
			£	£	£		£	£	£	£			£	£	£			£	£	£			£	£	£
Galway Non-Congested.	24	19	128,647	111,419	14,223	9	765	325,333	324,448	885	2	74	28,405	28,405	–	–	–	–	–	–	35	1,058	482,380	467,272	15,108
Do. Congested. ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	120	48,642	48,642	–	3	120	48,642	48,642	–

The following detailed information as regards direct sales is taken from the Report of the Estates Commissioners for 1906 (pp. 28–35) : —

In the County Galway (non-congested), 21 holdings, subject to judicial rents fixed or agreed to before the 14th August, 1896 (commonly called First Term Rents), amounting to £391 1*s.* 2*d.*, were sold at prices which came within the zones ; the average number of years' purchase being 22·0, and the average percentage of reduction in the purchase annuity as compared with the rent being 28 5. Two holdings, subject to a rental of £43 12*s.* 6*d.*, were sold at prices which came within the zones ; the number of years' purchase being 25·8, and the average percentage of reduction being 16·1—which is less than the minimum zone reduction.

As regards holdings subject to rents fixed or agreed to since the 14th August, 1896 (commonly called Second Term Rents), 51, subject to a rental of £970 6*s.* 9*d.*, were sold in Galway (non-congested) at a price within the zones ; the average number of years' purchase being 24 0 and the percentage of reduction being 22·0.

As regards non-judicial rent cases, 128 holdings in Galway (non-congested), subject to a rental of £1,829 17*s.* 6*d.*, were sold for an average of 21·7 years' purchase, the average percentage of reduction being 29·4.

In Galway (non-congested), 98 "parcels" were sold under Section (2) Sub-section (1) : one "demesne" and one "Trustee" were sold under Section (4).

H.—STATEMENT SHOWING, BY UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS, THE ESTATES PURCHASED BY THE CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD IN COUNTY GALWAY.

Supplied by the Congested Districts Board.

Union.	Electoral Division.	Estate.	Area.					Poor Law Valuation.	Rental.	Purchase Money.
			Congested.	Non-Congested.	Tenanted.	Untenanted.	Total.			
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	£	£	£
Portumna,	Eyrecourt, ..	Dr. Kenny, ..	96	1,223	204	1,115	1,319	663	122	22,945
Do., ..	Kilquain (*a*), ..	do.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do., ..	Tiranascragh (*a*),	do., ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oughterard,	Letterbrickaun,	King, ..	1,423	—	1,173	250	1,423	63	86	1,847
Do., ..	Wormhole (*b*),	Dr. Kenny, ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do., ..	Clonbur, ..	Ebor Hall, ..	279	—	95	184	279	82	30	2,460
Ballinasloe,	Kilconnell (*c*),	C. J. Blake, ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do., ..	Killalaghton, Oatfield	D. Longworth,	—	1,316	—	1,316	1,316	903	—	24,782
Do., ..	Killalaghtan,	Wade (Newcastle)	—	139	—	139	139	91	—	2,362
Glennamaddy	Kilcroan, ..	Balfe, ..	375	—	—	375	375	158	—	5,500
Do., ..	Glennamaddy,	Kelly (Clooncon),	341	—	165	176	341	72	51	2,164
Do., ..	do., ..	B. D. O'Kelly,	490	—	2	488	490	69	—	2,600
Do., ..	do., ..	Healy (Ballyhard).	915	—	703	212	915	243	112	2,579
Do., ..	Glennamaddy, Ballinastack.	Keaveney, ..	624	—	377	247	624	176	128	5,300
Do., ..	Ballinastack,	Thomas Tighe,	461	132	593	—	593	225	192	4,000
Loughrea,	Raford, Grange (*d*),	C. J. Blake, ..	—	1,312	504	808	1,312	676	180	18,000
Do., ..	Marblehill, ..	D. J. Burke (pt.)	—	185	—	185	185	71	—	1,100
Do., ..	Bracklagh, ..	De Freyne (part),	—	330	330	—	330	161	154	3,400
Do., ..	Athenry, ..	P. M. Leonard (part).	—	385	206	179	385	192	92	5,402
Tuam, ..	Doonbally, ..	Kilclooney, ..	—	529	—	529	529	389	—	9,375
Do., ..	Carrowrevagh,	Ryan (Gallagh),	—	331	—	331	331	149	—	5,278
Do., ..	Killeen, ..	S. J. M'Donagh,	—	105	105	—	105	51	49	826
Do., ..	Addergoole, ..	Kirwan (I.) ..	1,491	—	1,141	350	1,491	567	456	11,600
Do., ..	Headford, Kilcoona.	Nugent, ..	—	410	70	340	410	241	47	7,181
Do., ..	Killeen (*e*), ..	P. M. Leonard,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do., ..	Moyne (*f*), ..	Thos. Tighe, ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Galway, ..	Moycullen, Barna.	J. A. Browne,	197	246	260	183	443	100	69	1,830
Do., ..	Barna, ..	Comyn, .	—	639	—	639	639	152	—	3,315
Do., ..	Slieveneena, ..	Fitzpatrick, ..	1,595	—	1,338	257	1,595	276	201	5,729
Do., ..	Barna, ..	Brownville, ..	—	152	—	152	152	68	—	1,939
Do., ..	Liscananaun,	Kirwan (II.),	1,058	—	728	330	1,058	232	236	6,886
Do., ..	Galway (*g*), ..	Dr. Kenny, ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Clifden, ..	Skannive, Knockboy.	Leonard, ..	1,337	—	506	831	1,337	336	244	5,545
Do., ..	Knockboy, ..	Thomson, ..	1,332	—	428	904	1,332	130	98	2,114
Do., ..	Ballynakill, ..	Rockfield, ..	414	—	—	414	414	80	—	1,872
Do., ..	Bunowen, Errislannan.	Birks-Neville,	2,289	—	1,285	1,004	2,289	212	152	4,500
Do., ..	Skannive, ..	Hazell, ..	514	—	514	—	514	77	90	1,545
Do., ..	Inishbofin, ..	C. Allies, ..	3,172	—	3,172	—	3,172	556	468	7,900
Do., ..	Skannive, ..	Rusheenamanagh.	889	—	435	454	889	99	198	2,646
Do., ..	Roundstone, ..	P. J. Blake, ..	886	—	886	—	886	139	198	3,563
Do., ..	Clifden, ..	Thomson (Kille),	275	—	141	134	275	87	41	3,111
Mountbellew,	Cloonkeen, ..	French, ..	1,419	—	860	559	1,419	569	400	8,017
Do., ..	Cloonkeen, Ballynakill.	Netterville, ..	110	168	110	168	278	186	42	2,319
Do., ..	Ballynakill, ..	M'Donnell (Woodbrook).	—	187	—	187	187	162	—	4,000
Do., ..	Cooloo, ..	O'Kelly Cooloo,	—	1,466	342	1,124	1,466	469	111	13,000
Do., ..	Ballynakill, Cloonkeen.	Fallon, ..	477	1,568	940	1,105	2,045	623	344	16,679
		Totals, ..	22,459	10,823	17,613	15,669	33,282	9,795	4,591	235,211

(*a*) These figures include the sections of the estate in Oughterard and Galway Unions.
(*b*) Included in figures given for Portumna Union section.
(*c*) Figures included in those for Loughrea Union section.
(*d*) Including particulars of section of estate in Ballinasloe Union.
(*e*) Figures included in particulars for Loughrea Union section.
(*f*) Figures included in particulars for Glennamaddy Union section.
(*g*) The figures for this section are included in the Portumna Union section, as they could not be accurately apportioned.

APPENDIX X.

I.—LIST OF PARISH COMMITTEE GRANTS AND EXPENDITURE IN COUNTY GALWAY

Taken from the Sixteenth Report of the Congested Districts Board, p. 103.

Parish.	Poor Law Union.	Net Amount of Grants made to 31st March, 1906.	Gross Grants sanctioned for 1906-7.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Addergoole and Dunmore, ..	Tuam, ...	333 6 10	159 9 0
Carraroe, ...	Oughterard, ...	214 4 0	100 0 0
Carna, ...	Clifden, ...	173 2 7	100 0 0
Clifden, ...	do., ...	53 7 0	100 0 0
Clonbern, ...	Glennamaddy, ...	43 2 0	50 0 0
Clonbur, ...	Oughterard, ...	136 0 9	100 0 0
Cloonkeen, ...	Glennamaddy, ...	115 14 0	80 0 0
Glennamaddy, ...	do., ...	339 2 1	80 0 0
Kilkerrin, ...	do., ...	29 16 8	30 0 0
Leenane, ...	Oughterard, ...	24 10 0	—
Letterfrack, ...	Clifden, ...	62 1 4	50 0 0
Renvyle, ...	do., ...	75 12 0	50 0 0
Rossmuck, ...	Oughterard, ...	162 10 4	100 0 0
Roundstone, ...	Clifden, ...	101 4 2	70 0 0
Spiddal, ...	Galway, ...	323 3 11	150 0 0
Williamstown, ...	Glennamaddy, ...	138 9 0	50 0 0
	Totals, ...	2,325 6 8	1,269 9 0

N.B.—There are twenty Parish Committees at work in nineteen out of the thirty-three Congested Parishes in County Galway.

J. STATEMENT OF PARISH COMMITTEE SCHEME AND SANITARY EXPENDITURE IN COUNTY GALWAY.

STATEMENT showing Total Amounts expended on Improvements (exclusive of Cost of Supervision) for the years 1900 to 1906; the Expenditure on the Erection and Improvement of Dwelling-houses and Out-offices in the years 1900 to 1906; and the average annual Salaries of Sanitary Officers in the Rural Districts containing Congested Districts, together with the aggregate sums paid in 1905 for Salaries to these Officers.

Supplied by the Congested District Board.

Rural District.	Total Expenditure on improvement works of all kinds undertaken under the scheme for the years 1900 to 1906.	Expenditure on the erection and improvement of Dwelling-houses and Out-offices in 1900 to 1906.	Medical Officer of Health.			Total paid for Salary.		Sub-Sanitary Officer.			Total Amount paid for Salaries in Rural District.
			Number in Rural District.	Total paid for Salaries.	Average Rate of Salary.	Consulting Sanitary Officer.	Executive Sanitary Officer, one in each Rural District.	Number in Rural District.	Total paid for Salaries.	Average Rate of Salary.	
	£	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Clifden, ..	661	636	5	95 0 0	19 0 0	20 0 0	25 0 0	4	18 10 0	4 12 6	158 10 0
Oughterard	767	745	4	48 0 0	12 0 0	—	18 0 0	4	43 10 0	10 17 6	109 10 0
Galway,	383	383	7	83 6 8	11 18 1	—	20 0 0	6	70 0 0	11 13 4	173 6 8
Glenna-maddy.	609	460	3	55 0 0	18 6 8	10 0 0	10 0 0	2	12 0 0	6 0 0	87 0 0
Tuam, ..	285	275	5	100 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	25 0 0	5	60 0 0	12 0 0	205 0 0
Mountbel-lew.	Nil.	Nil.	3	45 0 0	15 0 0	—	15 0 0	2	30 0 0	15 0 0	90 0 0
Loughrea,	Nil.	Nil.	4	60 0 0	15 0 0	—	15 0 0	5	39 0 0	7 16 0	114 0 0
Portumna,	Nil.	Nil.	3	30 0 0	10 0 0	—	18 0 0	2	10 16 0	5 8 0	58 16 0
Total,	2,705	2,499	34	516 6 8	15 3 9	50 0 0	146 0 0	30	283 16 0	9 9 2	996 2 8

K.—FISHERY STATISTICS—COUNTY GALWAY.

ABSTRACT of Loans issued, Arrears now outstanding, and Amount written off.

Specially supplied by Congested Districts Board.

CLASSIFICATION.	Loans Issued.		Arrears to 1st May, 1906.		Amount Written Off.	
	No.	Amount Issued.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
Large Boats, ...	87 (boats).	£ s. d. 29,760 13 2	38 (boats).	£ s. d. 4,438 1 1	21 (boats).	£ s. d. 1,752 7 6
Small Loans, ...	1,111 (loans).	9,456 1 1	74 (loans).	228 11 11	10 (loans).	73 18 8
Totals, ...	1,198 (loans).	39,216 14 3	112 (loans).	4,666 13 0	31 (loans).	1,826 6 2

STATEMENT SHOWING PIERS, BRIDGES, &c., UNDERTAKEN IN COUNTY GALWAY BY THE BOARD UP TO 31ST MARCH, 1907.

Taken from the Sixteenth Report of the Congested Districts Board, pp. 75–6 and 84–6.

MARINE WORKS.

No.	Name of Work.	Description of Work.	Total Expenditure to 31st March, 1906.	Expenditure, 1906–1907.	Total Expenditure to 31st March, 1907.	Observations.
			£	£	£	
1	Inishboffin, ...	Landing Place, ...	57	—	57	Completed.
2	Inishark, ...	„	145	—	145	do.
3	Rossadillisk, ...	Pier, ...	606	—	606	do.
4	„	Pier Repairs, ...	19	—	19	—
5	Aughrismore, ...	Landing Place, ...	395	—	395	Completed.
6	„	Pier Repairs, ...	—	34	34	do.
7	Clifden, ...	Beacons and Buoy, ..	269	—	269	do.
8	Kilkieran, ...	Dredging, ...	92	—	92	do.
9	Derrynea, ...	Pier and Beacons, ..	296	—	296	do.
10	Traghlagh (S. Aran), ..	Breakwater, ...	412	2	414	do.
11	Lough Corrib Piers, ..	—	228	—	228	do.
12	Cleggan Pier, ...	—	260	—	260	Contribution.*
13	Kilronan Pier, ...	—	240	—	240	do.*
14	Cashel, ...	Improvements to existing Pier.	140	—	140	Contribution.
15	Kilmurvey, ...	Repairs to Pier, ..	13	—	13	Completed.
16	„	Landing Place and Approach	245	—	245	do.
17	„	Connecting Pier and Causeway.	21	—	21	do.
18	Kilronan, ...	Dredging, ...	91	—	91	do
19	„	Extension of Pier, ..	1,000	—	1,000	Contribution.
20	Kilronan Pier, ...	New Shed, ...	21	1,273	1,294	In progress.
21	„	Harbour Light No. 1, ..	67	—	67	Completed.
22	„ ..	Harbour Light No. 2, ..	59	—	59	do.
23	„	Pier Light, ...	105	7	112	do.
24	„	Pier Repairs, ...	61	—	61	do.
25	Inishmaan, ...	Boatslip, ...	958	†250	708	Completed and under Co. Council.
26	Killary, ...	Harbour Marks, ..	430	—	430	Completed.
27	Cleggan, ...	Harbour (Improvements),	622	—	622	do.
28	Derrynaclough, ..	Erecting Landing Place, ..	96	—	96	do.
29	Roundstone Pier, ..	Removal of Rocks, ..	19	—	19	do.
30	„	—	250	—	250	Contribution.*
31	Mace	Erecting Pier and Approach,	2 216	—	2 216	Completed.
32	Doonloughan, ...	Landing Place and Approach Road.	369	—	369	do.
33	Kiggaul	Improving Landing Place,	38	—	38	do.
34	Feenish Island, ..	Pier, ...	105	—	105	do.
35	Lyon Head, ...	Light	131	—	131	do.
36	Cleggan Head, ...	„	146	—	146	do.
37	Deer Island, ...	„	416	—	416	do.
38	South Aran, ...	Clearing Strand, &c., ..	327	—	327	do.
39	Cleggan Pier, ...	Shed, ...	—	70	70	In progress

* Contribution under the Marine Works Act.

† Credit exceeds payments for this work by amount specified.

APPENDIX X.

ROADS AND OTHER INLAND WORKS.

No.	Name of Work.	Total Expenditure to 31st March, 1906.	Expenditure, 1906–1907.	Total Expendture to 31st March, 1907.	Observations.
		£	£	£	
1	Derry School to Cappanacreha Road,	263	—	263	Completed.
2	Cappanacreha to Owenbrin Bridge Road,	376	—	376	do.
3	Owenbrin River Bridge, ...	611	—	611	do.
4	Owenbrin River to Kittateeaun River,	240	—	240	do.
5	Killateeaun to Gortmore Road, ..	125	—	125	do.
6	Aran Water Supply, ...	600	—	600	do.
7	Aran Water Tanks, ...	24	—	24	do.
8	Bungowla Road, ...	460	—	460	do.
9	Ardnagrevagh Road, ...	167	—	167	do.
10	Clifden and Cleggan Road (Repairs),	35	—	35	do.
11	Cashleen Road, ...	270	—	270	do.
12	Ardwest Road, ...	131	—	131	do.
13	Loughatorick E. D. Road, ...	388	—	388	Contribution.
14	Derrywealawanna (Connolly's Estate) Road,	—	150	150	do.
15	Moyrus Road, ...	1,249	—	1,249	Completed.
16	Glinsk Road, ...				
17	Letterard Road, ...				
18	Dooleen Road, ...	238	—	238	do.
19	Furbough Road, ...	503	—	503	do.
20	Bealadangan Drawbridge and Approach Road.	3,585	—	3,585	do.
1	Muckinagh Road and Bridge, ..	518	66	584	—
22	Kiggaul Pass, ...	151	—	151	Completed.
23	Gardenham New Road, ...	20	—	20	Contribution.
24	Glenagivelagh Road, ...	98	—	98	Completed.
25	Annaghvaan Causeway, ...	414	—	414	Taken over from Irish Government.
26	Carrigaluggaun Causeway, ..	3,388	—	3,388	do.
27	Knockboy Water Supply, ...	71	—	71	Completed.
28	Woodford Road, ...	497	—	497	do.
29	Trabaan Approach Road, ...	16	—	16	do.
30	Glennamaddy Road, ...	121	—	121	Contribution to County.
31	Cleggan Water Supply, ...	77	—	77	Completed.
32	Cur E. D. Road, ...	570	—	570	Contribution to County.
33	Lettermullen Bridge, ...	130	—	130	Completed.
34	Tirnee Road, ...	101	—	101	Contribution.
35	Lettercallow, ...	30	—	30	do.
36	Coose Drainage, ...	40	—	40	do.
37	Cluinruin Road, ...	30	—	30	do.
38	Roundstone Waterworks, ...	364	—	364	do.
39	Cleggan Store, ...	8	—	8	—
40	Maamgavnagh Road, ...	—	27	27	Contribution.

M.—LOCAL TAXATION IN COUNTY GALWAY.

The following STATEMENTS show (1) the Poor Rates in each Electoral Division in each Union for the financial years ending in 1881 and 1891; (2) County Cess in each Barony in the County in 1891—there is no official information available as to County Cess in 1881; and (3) fuller details about the new Poor Rate for 1901 and 1905. It must, however, be pointed out that the Rates in 1881 and 1891 cannot be compared with the Rates in 1901 and 1905. Prior to the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, Poor Rate was charged to Electoral Divisions and County Cess to Baronies. Now Union charges are levied over the whole Union, District charges on Rural Districts, County charges on the County, separate charges on special areas, and the whole is complicated by the charges made in the Rates by the Local Government Act of 1898.

Before that Act the Poor Rate was paid by the tenant (except in the case of holdings valued at £4 and under, where the landlord paid), but the tenant was entitled to deduct part of the amount paid from his rent, usually half. County Cess was paid and borne by the occupier, except in the case of holdings let after the 1st August, 1870. In these cases, if the holding was valued at over £4, the tenant paid, but was entitled to deduct from his rent part of the amount paid, usually one-half. If the holding was valued at £4 or under, the County Cess was paid by the landlord.

APPENDIX

Under the Act a Grant in Aid, called the Agricultural Grant, and amounting to £727,655, is made annually to the local authorities. This Grant is equal to half the combined Poor Rate and County Cess which was certified to be taken to have been raised off agricultural land in what is known as the standard financial year. The balance of the money required for purposes formerly met out of the County Cess and the Poor Rate is now provided by means of the new Poor Rate, County Cess being no longer collected *eo nomine*.

The Act was intended to secure the benefit of the Agricultural Grant in respect of existing tenancies to the landlord as regards the old Poor Rate, and to the tenant as regards the County Cess. In order to effect this it was provided that in the case of tenancies existing at the 1st April, 1899, the tenant should, in general, pay the new Poor Rate, but that the rent should be adjusted in such a way as to secure to landlord and tenant their respective shares of the benefit of the Agricultural Grant. In the case of tenancies created after the 1st April, 1899, the tenant must, in general, pay the Poor Rate, and has no right to deduct anything from his rent. Where a fair rent is fixed after the 1st April, 1899, special provision is made by Section 55 to ensure permanently to the occupier and the landlord their respective benefits from the Agricultural Grant.

1. STATEMENT showing the Poor Rate in the Pound made in the Electoral Divisions of the Unions which are included wholly or partly in County Galway for the financial years 1881 and 1891.

Specially prepared by Local Government Board.

Union.	Electoral Divisions.	Poor Rate.	
		1881.	1891.
		s. d.	*s. d.*
Ballinasloe (part of),	Abbegormacan, ..	1 1	0 9
	Ahascragh, ...	1 10	1 2
	Aughrim, ...	1 3	1 0
	Ballinasloe Urban, ..	2 1	2 5
	Ballinasloe Rural, ..		2 6
	Ballymacaward, ..	1 2	1 1
	Clonfert, ...	1 5	1 4
	Clontuskert	1 8	1 2
	Kellysgrove, ...	1 3	1 1
	Kilconnell, ...	1 7	1 2
	Killaan, ...	1 0	0 10
	Killallaghtan, ..	1 5	1 0
	Killoran, ...	1 2	0 10
	Killure, ...	1 2	1 3
	Kilmacshane, ..	1 5	0 10
	Kiltormer, ...	1 3	1 4
	Kylemore, ...	1 4	0 6
	Laurencetown, ..	2 0	1 4
	Lismanny, ...	1 0	0 9
	Oatfield, ...	1 4	1 0
Clifden, ...	Ballynakill, ...	2 8	2 6
	Bencorr, ...	2 1	2 6
	Bunowen, ...	4 0	3 0
	Cleggan, ...	2 2	3 6
	Clifden, ...	4 10	4 0
	Cushkillary, ...	2 0	2 6
	Derrycunlagh, ..	2 8	2 6
	Derrylea, ...	3 1	3 0
	Doonloughan, ..	4 7	3 0
	Errislannon, ...	4 9	3 6
	Illion, ...	2 1	3 6
	Inishbofin, ...	4 1	4 0
	Knockboy, ...	2 11	4 0
	Moyrus, ...	2 10	3 6
	Owengowla, ...	2 7	3 6
	Rinvyle, ...	3 1	3 0
	Roundstone, ...	3 11	4 0
	Silerna, ...	4 1	4 0
	Skannive, ...	4 5	4 0
Galway, ...	Annaghdown, ..	2 4	1 9
	Aughrim, ...	1 3	1 4
	Ballintemple, ..	1 8	1 4
	Ballynacourty, ..	2 6	1 6
	Barna, ...	2 0	1 6
	Belleville, ...	1 4	1 0
	Carnmore, ...	1 6	1 5
	Carrowbrowne, ..	1 10	1 7
	Clare-Galway, ..	1 6	1 9
	Clarinbridge, ..	1 8	1 3
	Deerpark, ...	1 3	1 9
	Furbogh, ...	2 2	2 6
	Galway (Urban portion),	3 10	2 9
	Galway (Rural portion),		
	Inishmore, ...	2 6	2 5
	Kilcummin, ...	3 3	2 0
	Killannin, ...	2 3	1 3
	Lackaghbeg, ...	1 8	1 7
	Liscananaun, ..	1 10	1 9
	Lisheenavalla, ..	2 2	1 3
	Moycullen, ...	2 3	1 7
	Oranmore, ...	2 6	2 3
	Selerna, ...	3 6	2 0
	Slieveaneena, ...	2 0	2 0
	Spiddle, ...	2 4	1 10
	Stradbally, ...	2 0	1 6
	Tullokyne, ...	2 4	1 8
Glennamaddy, ..	Ballinastack, ..	1 11	2 9
	Ballymoe, ...	1 5	1 9
	Ballynakill, ...	1 11	1 7
	Boyounagh, ...	1 6	2 1
	Carrownagur, ..	1 6	1 1
	Cloonkeen, ...	1 4	1 5
	Creggs, ...	1 7	1 11
	Curraghmore, ..	1 11	1 8
	Glennamaddy, ..	2 8	2 2
	Island, ...	2 0	2 2
	Kilcroan, ...	2 2	1 11
	Kiltullagh, ...	1 6	1 8

APPENDIX X.

1.—STATEMENT showing the Poor Rate in the Pound made in the Electoral Divisions of the Unions which are included wholly or partly in County Galway for the financial years 1881 and 1891—*continued*.

Union.	Electoral Divisions.	Poor Rate. 1881.	1891.
		s. d.	s. d.
GLENNAMADDY—*con.*	Raheen, ...	1 6	2 4
	Scregg, ...	1 1	1 2
	Shankill, ...	2 1	1 5
	Templetogher, ..	2 9	3 1
	Toberadosh, ...	1 6	1 1
	Toberroe, ...	1 10	1 5
GORT, ...	Ardamullivan, ..	1 4	1 4
	Ardrahan, ...	1 0	1 11
	Ballycahalan, ..	1 4	1 6
	Beagh, ...	1 6	1 6
	Cahermore, ...	1 2	1 0
	Cappard, ...	0 10	1 5
	Castletaylor, ...	0 11	1 11
	Doorus, ...	1 5	1 6
	Drumacoo, ...	0 10	1 11
	Gort, ...	2 3	2 11
	Kilbeacanty, ..	1 4	1 7
	Killeely, ...	1 0	1 6
	Killeenavarra, ..	1 0	1 7
	Killinny, ...	1 7	1 4
	Kiltartan, ...	1 0	1 3
	Kilthomas, ...	1 2	1 5
	Kinvarra, ...	2 1	2 7
	Rahasane, ...	1 6	2 3
	Skehanagh, ...	1 2	1 6
LOUGHREA, ..	Aille, ...	0 11	0 9
	Athenry, ...	1 7	2 0
	Ballynagar, ...	1 0	1 6
	Bracklagh, ...	0 11	1 0
	Bullaun, ...	0 10	1 2
	Cappalusk, ...	0 10	0 11
	Castleboy, ...	0 7	0 10
	Cloonkeen, ...	0 9	1 3
	Colmanstown, ..	0 7	1 0
	Craughwell, ...	0 7	1 2
	Derrylaur, ...	2 6	2 0
	Drumkeary, ...	0 9	1 4
	Graigabbey, ...	0 8	1 0
	Grange, ...	0 6	0 9
	Greethill, ...	1 2	1 2
	Kilchreest, ...	1 0	1 3
	Kilconickny, ..	0 9	1 2
	Kilconierin, ...	0 7	0 9
	Killimor, ...	0 7	1 0
	Killogilleen, ...	0 6	0 10
	Kilmeen, ...	0 10	0 9
	Kilreekill, ...	0 9	1 0
	Kilteskill, ...	0 8	0 11
	Kiltullagh, ...	0 8	1 3
	Lackalea, ...	0 7	0 11
	Leitrim, ...	0 7	0 10
	Loughatorick, ..	1 0	2 2
	Loughrea, ...	1 9	2 11
LOUGHREA—*con.* ..	Marblehill, ...	1 0	1 4
	Mountain, ...	0 8	1 0
	Moyode, ...	0 8	1 3
	Raford, ...	0 7	0 10
	Tiaquin, ...	0 8	1 1
	Woodford, ...	1 10	3 2
MOUNTBELLEW, ..	Annagh, ...	1 0	1 1
	Ballynakill, ...	1 3	1 3
	Caltra, ...	1 3	1 1
	Castleblakeney, ..	1 2	1 9
	Castleffrench, ..	1 0	1 1
	Clonbrock, ...	1 1	1 1
	Cloonkeen, ...	2 5	2 0
	Cooloo, ...	1 2	0 11
	Derryglassaun, ..	1 10	1 3
	Killeroran, ...	1 1	1 3
	Killian, ...	1 6	0 9
	Mount Bellew, ..	1 5	1 3
	Mounthazel, ...	1 4	1 0
	Taghboy, ...	1 1	1 3
OUGHTERARD, ..	Camus, ...	5 6	6 0
	Clonbur, ...	2 9	3 6
	Cong, ...	3 3	3 6
	Crumpaun, ...	4 6	4 6
	Cur, ...	2 6	3 6
	Gorumna, ...	4 9	4 0
	Kilcummin, ...	4 3	4 3
	Letterbrickaun, ..	2 6	3 6
	Letterfore, ...	2 9	3 0
	Lettermore, ...	5 0	4 6
	Oughterard, ...	4 0	3 3
	Ross, ...	2 3	3 0
	Turlough, ...	4 6	4 6
	Wormhole, ...	2 6	2 9
PORTUMNA, ..	Abbeyville, ...	1 1	1 0
	Ballyglass, ...	0 11	1 0
	Coos, ...	0 9	0 11
	Derrew, ...	0 9	0 11
	Drummin, ...	1 1	0 11
	Eyrecourt, ...	1 5	2 0
	Killimor, ...	1 2	1 6
	Kilmalinoge, ...	1 5	1 2
	Kilquain, ...	0 8	0 11
	Meelick, ...	1 5	1 3
	Moat, ...	0 8	1 0
	Pallas, ...	0 8	1 0
	Portumna, ...	1 7	1 8
	Tiranascragh, .	0 8	0 10
	Tynagh, ...	1 4	1 8

1. STATEMENT showing the Poor Rate in the Pound made in the Electoral Divisions of the Unions which are included wholly or partly in County Galway, for the Financial Years ended 1881 and 1891—*continued*. APPENDIX X.

UNION.	Electoral Divisions.	Poor Rate. 1881.	Poor Rate. 1891.
		s. d.	s. d.
TUAM, ...	Abbey East, ..	1 4	1 1
	Abbey West, ..	1 8	1 10
	Addergoole, ...	1 2	1 7
	Annaghdown, ..	1 8	1 1
	Ballinderry, ...	1 4	1 0
	Ballinduff, ...	1 0	1 1
	Ballynapark, ..	1 9	1 4
	Beaghmore, ...	1 2	1 7
	Belclare, ...	1 7	2 4
	Carrowrevagh, ..	1 7	1 2
	Clare Tuam, ...	1 8	2 0
	Clonbern, ...	1 7	1 2
	Cummer, ...	1 8	1 0
	Donaghpatrick, ..	1 7	1 7
	Doonbally, ...	1 4	1 3
	Dunmore, ...	1 9	1 9
	Foxhall, ...	1 4	1 6
TUAM—*con.*	Headford, ...	1 4	2 2
	Hillsbrook, ...	1 9	1 4
	Kilbennan, ...	1 4	1 5
	Kilcoona, ...	1 2	1 0
	Killeany, ...	1 5	1 3
	Killeen, ...	1 2	1 0
	Killererin, ...	1 5	0 11
	Killower, ...	1 0	1 2
	Killursa, ...	1 4	1 4
	Kilmoylan, ...	1 4	1 0
	Kilshanvy, ...	2 2	1 5
	Levally, ...	1 6	1 11
	Milltown, ...	1 5	1 4
	Monivea, ...	1 5	0 11
	Moyne, ...	1 8	1 5
	Ryehill, ...	1 3	1 1
	Tuam, ...	3 4	2 6

2. STATEMENT showing the County Cess on each Barony of the County of Galway for the Financial Year ended in 1891.

Specially supplied by the Local Government Board.

Name of Barony.	County Cess in 1891. s.	d.
Aran, ...	2	$2\frac{1}{4}$
Athenry, ...	1	10
Ballymoe, ...	2	$0\frac{1}{2}$
Ballynahinch, ...	3	$6\frac{1}{2}$
Clare, ...	2	$0\frac{1}{2}$
Clonmacowen, ...	1	9
Dunkellin, ...	1	$9\frac{1}{2}$
Dunmore, ...	2	$2\frac{1}{4}$
Kilconnell, ...	1	$8\frac{1}{2}$
Killian, ...	2	$1\frac{1}{4}$
Kiltartan, ...	1	$9\frac{3}{4}$
Leitrim, ...	1	$10\frac{3}{4}$
Longford, ...	1	7
Loughrea, ...	1	$7\frac{1}{4}$
Moycullen, ...	2	$8\frac{1}{2}$
Ross, ...	3	$8\frac{1}{2}$
Tiaquin, ...	1	$9\frac{1}{4}$

APPENDIX X.

3. STATEMENT showing the POOR RATE in Rural Districts, during the year ended the 31st of March, 1901, with the sums collected in respect thereof during that year, also the latest Valuation of each Rural District.

Taken from Local Taxation Returns, 1900–1, pp. 62–3.

RURAL DISTRICTS.	POOR RATE.									AMOUNT OF POOR RATE COLLECTED.			
	ON AGRICULTURAL LAND.				ON OTHER HEREDITAMENTS.				Additional item for Separate Charges.	General Rate.	Rates for Separate Charges.	Total.	Valuation (1902).
	County Charges.	Union Charges.	District Charges.	Total.	County Charges.	Union Charges	District Charges.	Total.					
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	£	£	£	£
Ballinasloe No. 1,	1 4	0 6	0 4	2 2	1 8	1 3	0 8	3 7	0 1	7,432	101	7,533	59,087
Clifden,	1 4	1 2	0 6	3 0	1 8	2 10	1 3	5 9	0 1	5,016	67	5,083	18,662
Galway,	1 4	1 2	0 6	3 0	1 8	2 3	1 2	5 1	0 2	8,872	520	9,392	39,945
Glenamaddy,	1 4	0 6	0 3	2 1	1 8	1 4	0 9	3 9	—	4,798	105	4,903	31,865
Gort,	1 4	0 6	0 3	2 1	1 8	1 5	0 8	3 9	0 1	6,091	339	6,430	42,966
Loughrea,	1 4	0 11	0 5	2 8	1 8	1 6	1 0	4 2	0 1	13,445	1,671	15,116	76,728
Mount Bellew,	1 4	0 6	0 5	2 3	1 8	1 2	0 9	3 7	0 1	5,569	254	5,823	40,517
Oughterard,	1 4	1 2	0 3	2 9	1 8	2 7	1 1	5 4	—	3,726	11	3,737	15,783
Portumna,	1 4	0 6	0 6	2 4	1 8	1 3	0 10	3 9	0 1	5,409	223	5,632	35,460
Tuam,	1 4	0 7	0 5	2 4	1 8	1 5	1 0	4 1	0 1	13,500	576	14,076	77,429
										73,858	3,867	77,725	

4. STATEMENT showing the POOR RATE in Rural Districts for the year ended the 31st of March, 1906, with the sums collected in respect thereof during that year, also the latest Rateable Valuation of each Rural District.

Taken from Local Taxation Returns, 1905–6, pp. 60–1.

RURAL DISTRICTS.	POOR RATE.									Amount of Poor Rate collected.	Population in 1901.	Rateable Valuation. (1907.)	Area in Acres.
	ON AGRICULTURAL LAND.				OTHER HEREDITAMENTS.				Additional item for Separate Charges.				
	County Charges.	Union Charges.	District Charges.	Total.	County Charges.	Union Charges.	District Charges.	Total.					
1	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12	13.	14.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	£		£	
Ballinasloe No. 1,	0 11	1 2	0 2	2 3	1 3	1 10	0 6	3 7	—	7,199	10,694	59,791	121,772
Clifden,	0 11	1 3	0 5	2 7	1 3	2 11	1 2	5 4	—	3,326	18,768	19,115	195,303
Galway,	0 11	1 2	0 1	2 2	1 3	2 3	0 9	4 3	0 1	4,908	23,039	40,140	202,374
Glennamaddy,	0 11	1 2	0 4	2 5	1 3	2 0	0 9	4 0	—	4,246	16,577	32,083	100,272
Gort,	0 11	0 10	—	1 9	1 3	1 8	0 6	3 5	—	4,410	12,286	43,511	107,246
Loughrea,	0 11	0 5	0 3	1 7	1 3	1 0	0 10	3 1	—	7,467	20,126	77,221	199,696
Mount Bellew,	0 11	0 8	0 3	1 10	1 3	1 3	0 8	3 2	—	4,456	15,019	40,851	102,304
Oughterard,	0 11	1 7	—	2 6	1 3	3 1	0 5	4 9	—	2,382	17,732	16,359	202,180
Portumna,	0 11	0 8	0 2	1 9	1 3	1 5	0 7	3 3	—	3,512	9,054	35,738	83,873
Tuam,	0 11	0 9	0 5	2 1	1 3	1 8	0 10	3 9	—	9,209	30,924	77,821	196,735
										51,115			

STATEMENT showing the amount of Salaries paid under the Public Health Acts in each Rural District of the County Galway for the Financial Year ended the 31st of March, 1905.

APPENDIX X.

Supplied by the Local Government Board.

RURAL DISTRICTS.	Total Amount.	Amount recouped by Government Grant.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ballinasloe No. 1, ...	116 12 0	46 13 0
Clifden, ...	158 10 0	77 9 5
Galway, ...	252 6 8	85 18 4
Glennamaddy, ...	87 0 0	33 10 0
Gort, ...	50 0 0	25 0 0
Loughrea, ...	137 10 0	57 0 0
Mount Bellew, ...	90 0 0	42 10 0
Oughterard, ...	131 0	47 18 5
Portumna, ...	69 6 0	29 6 10
Tuam, ...	345 0 0	101 14 10
	1,437 4 8	552 0 10

6. STATEMEMENT as to Expenditure on Labourers' Cottages.

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 194 of 1906.

ST showing in respect of each Rural District (1) the Valuation. (2) Number of Labourers' Cottages (*a*) built : in course of construction. (3) Amount of Loans (*a*) sanctioned ; (*b*) received. (4) Amount required to be ed annually in repayment of Loans sanctioned. (5) Amount which would be raised by the maximum rate of shilling in the pound allowed for purposes of Acts. (6) Rate per pound required to raise amount specified in mn 4. (7) Present poundage rate levied on Rural District for Labourers Acts purposes. (8) Amount of hequer contribution for the year ended the 31st day of March, 1906. (9) Amount of Rent received from nts of cottages and plots during year.

DISTRICT.	Valuation of Rural District.	Number of Labourers' Cottages.		Amount of Loan.		Amount required to be raised annually in repayment of Loans sanctioned.	Amount which would be raised by the maximum rate of one shilling in the pound allowed for purposes of Acts.	Rate per pound required to raise amount specified in column 4.	Present Poundage rate levied on Rural District for Labourers Acts purposes.	Amount of Exchequer Contribution for the year ended 31st March, 1906.	Amount of rent received from tenants of cottages and plots during year ended 31st March, 1906.
		Built.	In course of Construction.	Sanctioned.	Received.						
	1	2 (*a*)	2 (*b*)	3 (*a*)	3 (*b*)	4	5	6	7	8	9
	£			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	d.	d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
No. 1, ...	59,762	11	2	2,953 10 0	2,251 15 0	144 0 2	2,988 2 0	·58	·23	440 0 0	26 14 4
... ...	19,010	—	—	—	—	—	950 10 0	—	—	—	—
... ...	40,091	—	—	—	—	—	2,004 11 0	—	—	—	—
dy, ...	32,064	—	—	—	—	—	1,603 4 0	—	—	—	—
... ...	43,399	—	—	—	—	—	2,169 19 0	—	—	—	—
... ...	76,872	14	7	3,265 5 3	3,082 0 0	162 2 2	3,843 12 0	·51	·48	—	29 0 0
w, ...	40,794	—	—	—	—	—	2,039 14 0	—	—	—	—
...	16,053	—	—	—	—	—	802 13 0	—	—	—	—
... ...	35,674	19	—	3,640 0 0	3,640 0 0	4 8 10	1,783 14 0	·03	—	117 0 0	34 0 0
... ...	77,672	—	—	—	—	—	3,883 12 0	—	—		
... ...	441,301	44	9	9,858 15 3	8,973 15 0	310 11 2	22,069 11 0	·17	—	557 0 0	89 14 4

7. STATEMENT showing the RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS of each Rural District Council in Co. Galway during the year ended the 31st of March, 1906, and the Balances of Loans due at the close of the year.

Taken from Local Taxation Returns, 1905–6, pp. 24 and 25.

RURAL DISTRICTS.	RECEIPTS.					PAYMENTS.											BALANCES OF LOANS DUE.			
	Money supplied by County Council on a demand of District Council.	Rents of Labourers' Cottages.	Other Receipts.	Total Receipts from Revenue.	Loans.	Salaries.	Expenses for Burial Ground purposes.	Expenses under the Labourers' Acts.	Expenses under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act.	Expenses for Sanitary purposes.	Superannuation Allowances.	Repayment of Loans.	Other Expenses.	Total Expenditure.	Amount of total expenditure defrayed from Loans.	Poundage on valuation of the total expenditure, exclusive of expenditure defrayed from Loans,	Under the Public Health Act.	Under the Labourers' Acts.	Any Other Loans.	Total.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£
Ballinasloe No. 1.	512	27	—	539	754	209	39	650	—	151	—	83	196	1,328	631	0 2¾				
Clifden, ...	448	—	58	506	—	264	7	—	—	81	—	96	109	557	9	0 7				
Galway, ...	448	—	18	572	116	261	225	—	—	55	—	74	99	724	116	0 3¾				
Glennamaddy, ...	277	—	2	279	200	146	2	—	—	220	6	27	59	460	214	0 1¾				
Gort, ...	424	—	25	449	—	93	10	—	—	39	2	71	199	414	—	0 2¼				
Loughrea, ...	864	29	156	1,049	1,000	239	31	1,596	—	304	3	323	145	2,641	1,575	0 3¼				
Mount Bellew, ...	272	—	—	272	75	128	3	4	—	199	10	71	62	477	170	0 1¾				
Oughterard, ...	280	—	2	285	—	176	—	—	—	68	—	—	93	337	—	0 5				
Portumna, ...	392	34	—	426	400	109	19	144	—	45	—	60	51	428	132	0 2				
Tuam, ...	1,151	—	234	1,405	433	403	464	—	—	350	21	510	80	1,818	395	0 4½				

8. STATEMENT showing particulars of the Balances of Loans due by the Galway County Council at the close of the Financial year ended the 31st of March, 1906, as disclosed by the Abstracts of their Accounts.

Taken from Local Taxation Return, 1905–6, p. 39.

COUNTY.	For Expenditure on Roads, Bridges, Piers, &c.	Guaranteed under Relief of Distress (Ireland) Amendment Act, 1880. (Contingent Liabilities.	For Gratuities paid to Retired Officers. (Sec. 115 of Local Government Act).	For Industrial Schools.	For Navigation and Drainage.	Total Amount Due at close of Year.	Total Amount Due at commencement of Year.
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6	7.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£

Taken from the Local Taxation Returns, 1905–6, pp. 2–3.

REVENUE ACCOUNT—RECEIPTS.

Balance in Favour at Commencement of Year.	Poor Rate	Moneys Received from the Local Taxation Account, &c.									From Urban Districts on Demand.	Rents Derived from County Property.	Other Receipts.	Total Receipt.	Balance Against at Close of Year.	Total.	LOANS ACCOUNT—RECEIPTS.				
		Agricultural Grant.	Grant from Estate Duties, i.e., Death Duty Grant.	Grant in aid of Medical and Educational Expenditure in Unions.	Grant in aid of Sanitary Salaries in Rural Districts.	Grant in aid of Maintenance, &c., of Lunatics.	Contributions towards Guarantees for Railways and Harbours.	Grant in aid of Local Guarantees for Railway and Harbour Charges (L.G. Act, 1898, sec. 58 (4)).	Exchequer Contribution (Purchase of Land Act, 1891).	Any other Grants.							Balance at Commencement of Year.	Amount Received. For Roads.	Amount Received. Other Purposes.	Balance at Close of Year.	Total.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
24,828	51,115	31,591	7,764	4,078	547	8,669	823	—	149	20	5,014	69	1,254	111,093	—	135,921	941	—	—	—	941

10. STATEMENT showing Particulars of the Expenditure of the Galway County Council during the Financial Year ended the 31st of March, 1906.

Taken From the Local Taxation Returns, 1905–6, pp. 4–5.

REVENUE ACCOUNT—EXPENDITURE.

Balance Against at Commencement of Year	Money Supplied by County Councils for			Road Expenditure.	Salaries paid to County Officers.	Infirmaries and Fever Hospitals.	Reformatories and Industrial Schools.	Franchise and Jurors Acts.	Payments in Respect of		Repayment of Loan.	Guarantees for Railways, &c.	Payments to Agricultural and Technical Instruction Committees.	Other Expenses.	Total Expenditure.	Balance in Favour at Close of Year.	Total.	LOANS ACCOUNT—EXPENDITURE. Balance at Commencement of Year.	Amount Expended. On Roads.	Amount Expended. Other Purposes.	Balance at Close of Year.	Total.
	Union Charges.	Rural District and Separate Charges.	Lunatic Asylum Charges.						Valuation.	Extra Constabulary.												
1	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
—	51,536	5,068	22,237	23,246	4,217	—	2,780	1,944	465	—	847	1,646	1,838	9,536	125,360	10,561	135,921	—	664	—	277	941

APPENDIX N.

N.—Table showing the Number of Tenements of One Room, and the Number of Occupants of such Tenements in each County District and Electoral Division of the County of Galway in 1901. Taken from Galway County Census Book, pp. 122–7.

County Districts and Electoral Divisions.	Tenements of One Room.											
	Total Number.	Occupied by										
		1 Person.	2 Persons.	3 Persons.	4 Persons.	5 Persons.	6 Persons.	7 Persons.	8 Persons.	9 Persons.	10 Persons.	11 Persons.
Total of County, ..	2,809	840	636	365	259	206	185	121	107	48	25	13
Ballinasloe Urban,												
Ballinasloe Urban, ..	67	22	18	10	2	6	6	2	1	—	—	—
Total, ...	67	22	18	10	2	6	6	2	1	—	—	—
Galway Urban.												
Galway East Urban, ..	131	28	44	18	18	8	7	4	4	—	—	—
Galway North Urban, ..	52	16	13	10	7	1	1	1	2	1	—	—
Galway South Urban, ..	59	12	18	10	4	5	6	1	2	1	—	—
Galway West Urban, ..	26	10	6	3	3	1	—	—	—	2	1	—
Total, ...	268	66	81	41	32	15	14	6	8	4	1	—
Ballinasloe No. 1 Rural.												
Abbeygormacan, ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ahascragh, ...	8	4	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Aughrim, ...	9	7	2		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ballinasloe Rural, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ballymacward, ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Clonfert, ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Clontuskerts, ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Kellysgrove, ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kilconnell, ...	7	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Killaan, ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killallaghtan, ...	4	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Killoran, ...	4	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killure, ...	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kilmacshane, ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kiltormer, ...	8	4	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Kylemore, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Laurencetown, ...	8	4	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Lismanny, ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oatfield, ...	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, ...	64	34	14	5	5	1	2	—	2	—	—	1
Clifden Rural.												
Ballynakill, ...	60	10	5	11	11	5	5	5	4	4	—	—
Boncorr, ...	5	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bunowen, ...	18	6	9	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Cleggan, ...	13	3	7	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Clifden, ...	54	26	10	7	2	—	2	4	2	—	1	—
Cushkillary, ...	8	—	3	—	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
Derrycunlagh, ...	8	1	2	1	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
Derrylea, ...	10	2	5	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Doonloughan, ...	6	2	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Errislannan, ...	12	4	3	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Illion, ...	10	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	—	—	—	—
Inishbofin, ...	16	9	2	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
Knockboy, ...	144	3	15	20	13	25	19	16	10	5	7	1
Moyrus, ...	40	7	2	8	2	3	7	6	3	—	1	1

APPENDIX X.

—TABLE showing the Number of TENEMENTS of ONE ROOM, and the Number of OCCUPANTS of such TENEMENTS in each COUNTY DISTRICT and ELECTORAL DIVISION of the County of GALWAY in 1901—*continued.*

COUNTY DISTRICTS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	TENEMENTS OF ONE ROOM.												
	Total Number.	OCCUPIED BY											
		1 Person.	2 Persons.	3 Persons.	4 Persons.	5 Persons.	6 Persons.	7 Persons.	8 Persons.	9 Persons.	10 Persons.	11 Persons.	12 Persons and upwards.
LIFDEN RURAL—*continued.*													
ngowla, ...	30	4	4	2	7	1	3	3	3	2	1	—	—
yle, ...	27	5	6	5	2	2	1	2	1	2	—	—	1
nistone, ...	46	13	6	6	11	3	2	1	2	2	—	—	—
rna, ...	37	11	7	3	2	5	6	1	—	—	1	—	1
nive, ...	87	10	17	13	12	14	7	3	5	4	—	2	—
Total, ...	631	118	110	89	70	70	56	45	35	20	11	4	3
GALWAY RURAL.													
aghdown, ...	8	3	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
hrim, ...	5	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
lintemple, ...	6	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
lynacourty, ...	11	3	4	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
na, ...	23	6	5	3	1	3	3	—	—	2	—	—	—
eville, ...	6	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
nmore, ...	9	3	3	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
rowbrowne, ...	5	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
egalway, ...	13	9	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
inbridge, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
rpark, ...	9	—	4	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
hogh, ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
way Rural, ...	17	3	6	2	1	1	—	3	1	—	—	—	—
hmore, ...	60	19	10	8	5	5	6	2	4	—	1	—	—
cummin, ...	35	10	7	4	1	3	3	2	5	—	—	—	—
annin, ...	4	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
kaghbeg, ...	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
cannaun, ...	7	5	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
senavalla, ...	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
rcullen, ...	4	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
nmore, ...	18	6	4	2	—	2	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
rna, ...	14	4	5	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
veaneena, ...	11	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	—	—
idle, ...	15	8	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
dbally, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
okyne, ...	3	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, ...	289	94	70	35	15	22	18	14	14	3	4	—	—
GLENNAMADDY RURAL.													
dnastack, ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
lymoe, ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
lynakill, ...	14	8	2	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
rounagh, ...	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
rowmagur, ...	8	4	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
oukeen, ...	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ge, ...	7	4	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
raghmore, ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
naraaddy, ...	11	5	5	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
nd, ...	20	7	5	1	1	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	—
eroan, ...	6	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ullagh, ...	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

APPENDIX N.

N.—TABLE showing the Number of TENEMENTS of ONE ROOM, and the Number of OCCUPANTS of such TENEMENTS each COUNTY DISTRICT and ELECTORAL DIVISION of the County of GALWAY in 1901—*continued.*

COUNTY DISTRICTS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	TENEMENTS OF ONE ROOM.											
	Total Number.	OCCUPIED BY										
		1 Person.	2 Persons.	3 Persons.	4 Persons.	5 Persons.	6 Persons.	7 Persons.	8 Persons.	9 Persons.	10 Persons.	11 Persons.	12 Persons and upwards.
GLENNAMADDY RURAL—*con.*													
Raheen, ...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Scregg, ...	3	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Shankill, ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Templetogher, ...	15	5	2	4	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Toberadosh, ...	13	3	5	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Toberrne, ...	4	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Total, ...	122	55	29	12	7	5	5	5	2	1	1	—	
GORT RURAL.													
Ardamullivan, ...	10	3	1	3	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Ardrahan, ...	8	2	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ballycahalan, ...	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Beagh, ...	15	5	7	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cahermore, ...	6	1	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Cappard, ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Castletaylor, ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Doorus, ...	4	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Drumacoo, ...	18	9	4	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Gort, ...	27	12	4	6	—	—	2	—	2	—	1	—	
Kilbeacanty, ...	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Killeely, ...	8	4	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Killeenavarra, ...	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Killinny, ...	11	8	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Kiltartan, ...	6	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Kilthomas, ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Kinvarra, ...	30	11	10	2	3	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	
Rahasane, ...	12	4	3	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Skehanagh, ...	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total, ...	169	72	47	23	12	3	5	2	4	—	1	—	
LOUGHREA RURAL.													
Aille, ...	5	2	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Athenry, ...	40	8	15	7	2	4	1	2	1	—	—	—	
Ballynagar, ...	6	—	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Bracklagh, ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Bullaun, ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cappalusk, ...	4	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Castleboy, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cloonkeen, ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Colmanstown, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Craughwell, ...	9	6	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Derrylaur, ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Drumkeary, ...	8	4	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Graigabbey, ...	3	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Grange, ...	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	
Greethill, ...	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Kilchreest, ...	13	1	3	1	—	3	1	2	1	—	—	—	
Kilconickny .. .	9	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Kilconierin, ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Killimor, ..	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

APPENDIX X.

—TABLE showing the Number of TENEMENTS of ONE ROOM, and the Number of OCCUPANTS of such TENEMENTS in each COUNTY DISTRICT and ELECTORAL DIVISION in the County of GALWAY in 1901—*continued.*

COUNTY DISTRICTS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	TENEMENTS OF ONE ROOM.												
		OCCUPIED BY											
	Total Number.	1 Person.	2 Persons.	3 Persons.	4 Persons.	5 Persons.	6 Persons.	7 Persons.	8 Persons.	9 Persons.	10 Persons.	11 Persons.	12 Persons, and upwards.
UGHREA RURAL—*continued.*													
gilleen, ...	21	3	2	8	3	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
neen, ...	4	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
skill, ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
sskil, ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
illagh, ...	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
alea, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
im, ...	5	1	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
hatorick, ...	5	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
hrea Rural, ...	3	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
hrea Urban, ...	54	18	10	6	9	5	4	—	1	—	—	1	—
lehill, ...	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ntain, ...	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ode, ...	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
rd, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
uin, ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
dford, ...	13	4	3	2	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Total, ...	230	70	47	39	26	21	14	6	5	—	1	1	—
MOUNTBELLEW RURAL.													
ugh, ...	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
lynakill, ...		2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ra, ...	7	2	3	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
tleblakeney, ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
tleffrench, ...	16	6	6	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
nbrock, ...	6	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
onkeen, ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
loo, ...	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
rygiassaun, ...	7	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
eroran, ...	17	5	5	4	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
ian, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ntbellew, ...	16	3	4	5	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
nthazel, ...	20	3	3	7	4	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
bbey, ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, ...	101	36	24	17	8	5	1	5	2	3	—	—	—
OUGHTERARD RURAL.													
ns, ...	8	1	—	—	2	2	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
nbur, ...	29	12	6	6	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
g, ...	26	6	4	4	7	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
npaun, ...	82	10	14	12	6	5	11	5	6	5	3	5	—
.. .. ..	5	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
nmo, ...	73	9	7	18	9	4	5	5	11	4	1	—	—
nmin, ...	5	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
erbrickaun, .. .	11	1	1	2	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
eflore, ...	10	3	3	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
rmore, ...	65	7	7	2	6	8	17	9	6	1	1	—	
terard, ...	31	12	9	2	3	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
s, ...	8	1	1	1	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
ough, ...	20	2	3	1	1	3	1	3	4	1	—	1	—
rrade	29	8	9	6	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	402	75	66	57	48	39	46	25	32	12	5	7	1

APPENDIX X.

N.—TABLE showing the Number of TENEMENTS of ONE ROOM, and the Number of OCCUPANTS of such TENEMENTS in each COUNTY DISTRICT and ELECTORAL DIVISION of the County of GALWAY in 1901—*continued.*

COUNTY DISTRICTS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	TENEMENTS OF ONE ROOM.												
	Total Number.	OCCUPIED BY											
		1 Person.	2 Persons.	3 Persons.	4 Persons.	5 Persons.	6 Persons.	7 Persons.	8 Persons.	9 Persons.	10 Persons.	11 Persons.	12 Persons and upwards.
PORTUMNA RURAL.													
Abbeyville,	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ballyglass,	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coos,	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Derrew,	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Drummin,	6	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eyrecourt,	14	6	3	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killimor,	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Kilmalinoge,	15	5	6	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kilquain,	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meelick,	4	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Moat,	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pallas,	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portumna,	22	12	7	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Tirnanascragh,	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Tynagh,	17	4	5	5	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total,	92	37	28	11	7	3	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
TUAM RURAL.													
Abbey East,	8	—	1	1	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abbey West,	20	6	6	2	2	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Addergoole,	22	5	6	1	5	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Annaghdown,	7	4	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ballinderry,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ballinduff,	5	2	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ballynapark,	7	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Beaghmore,	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Belclare,	9	5	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Carrowrevagh,	13	2	—	2	4	—	2	2	—	—	1	—	—
Claretuam,	10	5	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Clonbern,	4	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cummer,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Donaghpatrick,	15	6	5	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Doonbally,	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dunmore,	32	13	14	2	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Foxhall,	9	3	3	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Headford,	11	5	3	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hillsbrook,	5	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Kilbennan,	6	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kilcoona,	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killeany,	7	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killeen,	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killererin,	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killower,	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killursa,	18	9	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kilmoylan,	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kilshanvy,	8	5	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lavally,	6	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Milltown,	38	13	9	4	3	5	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
Monivea,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Moyne,	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ryehill,	18	4	7	1	3	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Tuam Rural,	16	10	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuam Urban,	58	29	15	4	4	1	1	3	1	—	—	—	—
Total,	374	161	102	26	32	22	15	8	2	5	1	—	—

O.—AGES OF PERSONS IN EACH COUNTY DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF GALWAY ON THE NIGHT OF THE 31st MARCH, 1901.

Taken from Galway County Census Book, pp. 132–3.

County District.	Population.		Age Periods.																				
	Total Persons.	Sexes.	Under one year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 25.	25 and under 30.	30 and under 35.	35 and under 40.	40 and under 45.	45 and under 50.	50 and under 55.	55 and under 60.	60 and under 65.	65 and under 70.	70 and under 75.	75 and under 80.	80 and under 85.	85 and under 90.	90 and under 95.	95 and under 100.	100 and upwards.
Ballinasloe Urban, ..	4,904	M. 2,440	28	163	214	178	191	184	194	228	205	177	155	124	91	122	73	56	28	17	10	1	1	—
		F. 2,464	39	145	250	246	240	209	192	196	161	152	112	118	92	138	64	47	27	26	4	5	—	1
Galway Urban, ..	13,426	M. 6,542	142	525	685	806	825	688	492	427	337	364	213	286	164	261	118	120	38	29	18	1	1	2
		F. 6,884	126	564	704	706	807	727	546	417	413	385	274	334	183	330	127	123	44	53	11	8	1	1
Ballinasloe No. 1 Rural,	10,694	M. 5,658	117	417	579	618	620	587	439	368	252	322	230	281	170	280	156	120	53	41	6	2	—	—
		F. 5,036	90	406	560	542	567	479	364	289	263	281	211	263	168	260	98	87	39	46	15	8	—	1
Clifden Rural, ..	18,768	M. 9,667	203	855	1,177	1,288	1,094	928	590	542	351	484	282	415	206	536	213	224	79	129	28	32	4	7
		F. 9,101	198	906	1,203	1,162	1,026	592	421	488	369	496	280	444	241	555	184	224	76	177	22	20	13	4
Galway Rural, ..	23 039	M. 11,967	241	1,000	1,367	1,445	1,394	1,233	823	694	474	614	392	502	296	654	270	288	107	121	31	17	4	—
		F. 11,072	211	1,016	1,304	1,340	1,277	933	668	625	448	629	357	528	288	688	259	237	100	121	26	14	2	1
Glennamaddy Rural, ..	16,577	M. 8,142	164	700	972	1,114	910	688	491	457	332	386	273	386	255	433	179	194	93	85	20	7	3	—
		F. 8,435	161	712	939	1,038	1,012	625	556	446	376	452	315	473	303	446	177	214	85	78	16	9	2	—
Gort Rural, ...	12,286	M. 6,350	103	456	582	666	694	690	472	392	294	339	237	317	195	373	188	182	69	69	18	11	2	1
		F. 5,936	100	438	609	576	710	536	420	320	262	279	247	350	223	376	143	149	80	90	15	10	3	—
Loughrea Rural, ..	20,126	M. 10,329	203	826	1,086	1,099	1,161	1,029	809	594	541	499	454	438	288	512	269	255	107	123	25	8	3	—
		F. 9,797	175	820	1,101	1,137	1,163	895	721	545	478	482	374	444	304	505	212	203	90	100	20	16	9	3
Mountbellew Rural, ..	15,019	M. 7,563	159	667	864	931	892	637	487	395	347	348	277	346	217	400	190	218	92	71	14	8	3	—
		F. 7,456	145	671	883	864	933	603	451	404	299	404	300	390	241	385	152	161	79	71	17	2	—	—
Oughterard Rural, ..	17,732	M. 8,948	203	851	1,140	1,179	1,048	828	556	464	313	440	266	391	199	489	149	195	86	117	17	10	5	2
		F. 8,784	202	874	1,079	1,160	1,090	626	498	426	330	486	281	443	214	488	145	168	88	128	26	15	11	7
Portumna Rural, ..	9,054	M. 4,784	88	342	431	489	561	508	338	314	241	252	204	221	167	239	136	123	51	38	25	4	1	1
		F. 4,270	79	290	430	444	491	403	346	242	212	233	182	221	160	220	103	109	44	43	9	9	—	—
Tuam Rural, ...	30,924	M. 15,533	285	1,332	1,626	1,808	1,817	1,468	1,026	899	660	753	523	724	497	892	384	406	182	187	42	15	6	1
		F. 15,391	251	1,205	1,688	1,727	1,904	1,287	969	856	660	784	638	808	515	931	355	383	161	211	32	17	5	4

P.—OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

There is a large amount of detailed information concerning the Occupations of the People given in the Co. Galway Census Book (pp. 140–7), from which the following particulars are extracted :—

MALES.								FEMALES.						
Occupations.	Total.	Ages.						Occupations.	Total.	Ages.				
		Under 15 years.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.			Under 15 years.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65
Persons engaged in Agriculture.								Persons engaged in Agriculture.						
1. *In Fields and Pastures.*								1. *In Fields and Pastures.*						
Farmer, Grazier, ...	21,601	8	152	429	6,104	10,157	4,751	Farmer, Grazier, ...	5,021	3	25	44	710	2,77
Farmer's, Grazier's—Son, Grandson, Nephew, Brother.	16,957	–	5,186	4,792	6,464	487	28	Agricultural Labourer, Cottager.	244	5	29	21	56	8
Farm Bailiff, ...	65	–	2	1	17	39	6	Shepherdess, ...	40	–	2	–	10	2
Agricultural Labourer, Cottager,	4,031	78	710	645	1,270	905	423	Farm Servant (indoor), ..	306	14	91	38	93	4
Shepherd, ...	1,104	6	94	144	363	364	133	Others engaged in, or connected with, Agriculture.	18	–	1	–	2	1
Farm Servant (indoor), ..	2,639	142	582	535	824	327	129							
Others engaged in, or connected with, Agriculture.	46	–	–	5	17	17	7							
2. *In Woods.*														
Woodman, ...	11	–	1	1	5	3	1							
3. *In Gardens.*								Persons engaged about Animals.						
Gardener (not Domestic), ..	96	1	4	16	45	17	13	Dog, Bird, Animal—Keeper, Dealer.	1	–	–	1	–	–
Nurseryman, Seedsman, Florist,	3	1	1	–	–	1	–	Fisherwoman, ...	23	–	2	4	8	
Persons engaged about Animals.														
About Animals.								Persons working and dealing in Textile Fabrics.						
Horse — Proprietor, Breeder, Dealer.	5	–	–	1	4	–	–							
Groom, Horse Keeper, Horse Breaker.	45	–	8	10	16	9	2	1. *Wool and Worsted.*						
Veterinary Surgeon, Farrier,	7	–	1	2	2	1	1	Woollen Cloth Manufacture,	154	1	13	15	35	5
Cattle, Sheep, Pig—Dealer, Salesman.	38	–	1	5	23	8	1	Wool, Woollen Goods—Dyer, Printer.	1	–	–	–	–	
Drover, ...	8	–	–	–	4	3	1							
Gamekeeper, ...	95	1	6	17	44	21	6							
Dog, Bird, Animal—Keeper, Dealer.	2	–	–	–	2	–	–							
Fisherman, ...	919	10	114	205	354	191	45	2. *Cotton and Flax.*						
Knacker, Cats' Meat Dealer, &c.,	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	Lace—Manufacturer, Dealer,	75	13	50	9	2	
								Cotton, Cotton Goods—Manufacture.	2	–	1	–	1	
Persons working and dealing in Textile Fabrics.														
1. *Wool and Worsted.*								Flax, Linen—Manufacture—(Spinning processes).	6	–	–	–	5	
Woollen Cloth Manufacture, ..	159	–	11	14	64	53	17	Flax, Linen—Manufacture—(Weaving processes).	2	–	–	2	–	
Woolstapler, ...	1	–	–	–	–	1	–							
Others, ...	1	–	–	–	–	–	1							
2. *Cotton and Flax.*								3. *Mixed or Unspecified Materials.*						
Cotton, Cotton Goods—Manufacture.	2	–	–	–	–	2	–							
Flax, Linen—Manufacture—Weaving processes).	2	–	–	–	–	–	2	Weaver (undefined), ..	7	–	4	–	2	
3. *Hemp and other Fibrous Materials.*								Draper, Linen Draper, Mercer,	54	1	6	15	23	
Net Maker, ...	2	–	1	1		–	–	Fancy Goods (Textile)—Manufacturer, Worker, Dealer.	51	–	10	7	12	
4. *Mixed or Unspecified Materials.*														
Weaver (undefined), ..	15	–	2	1	5	5	2	Others (including Spinners—undefined).	58	–	4	10	17	
Draper, Linen Draper, Mercer,	266	1	73	64	96	28	4							
Others, ...	1	–	–	–	–	–	1							
General Labourer, (a)	2,198	21	331	339	758	488	261	General Labourer, (a)	70	–	2	7	17	

(a) The majority of these "General Labourers" may be assumed to be *Agricultural* Labourers, although not having returned themselves as such.

Q.—Occupiers of Land engaged in other pursuits besides Farming in the County of Galway.

Taken from Galway County Census Book, 1901, p. 171.

, Profession, &c., sides Farming.	Total No. of Persons.	Trade, Profession, &c., besides Farming.	Total No. of Persons.	Trade, Profession, &c., besides Farming.	Total No. of Persons.	Trade, Profession, &c., besides Farming.	Total No. of Persons.
mber of Occupiers of who returned themas engaged in other ts besides Farming,	772	Cooper, ...	1	Land Steward, ...	3	Publican, ...	57
		Curragh Builder, ...	1	Land Surveyor, ...	3	Railway Ganger, ...	2
		District Councillor, ..	7	Lodging House Keeper, ..	2	Railway Servant, ..	1
.. .. ..	4	Doctor, ...	1	Magistrate, ...	17	Rate Collector, ...	7
licer, ...	1	Draper, ...	1	Manager, ...	1	Relieving Officer, ..	3
.. .. ..	3	Farm Labourer, ...	5	Manure Merchant, ..	1	Road Contractor, ..	4
.. .. ..	3	Fisherman, ...	102	Mason, ...	21	Sail Maker, ...	1
.. .. ..	1	Flour Merchant, ...	1	Mechanic, ...	1	Schoolmaster, ...	3
laker, ...	1	Forester, ...	1	Merchant, ...	8	Shepherd, ...	22
th, ...	43	Gamekeeper, ...	4	Miller, ...	15	Shoemaker, ...	18
lder, ...	6	Gardener, ...	4	Mill Owner, ...	4	Shopkeeper, ...	105
.. ..	16	Grocer, ...	17	Nailer, ...	1	Slater, ...	2
.. .. ..	3	Herd, ...	30	Pawnbroker, ...	1	Stonecutter, ...	1
.. .. ..	9	Horse Dealer	1	Pensioner (Army), ..	6	Summons Server, ..	2
.. ..	2	Horse Trainer	1	Pensioner (Police), ..	1	Surveyor, ...	1
er, ...	1	Hotel Keeper	1	Pensioner (R.I.C.), ..	12	Tailor, ...	38
.. ..	60	Ironmonger, ...	1	Petty Sessions Clerk, ..	2	Toll Collector, ...	1
aler, ...	3	Labourer, ...	22	Pilot, ...	1	Weaver, ...	10
Officer, ...	6	Land Agent, ...	2	Postmaster, ...	9	Weaver (Wool), ...	15
or, ...	3	Land Proprietor, ...	1	Postmistress, ...	1		

Emigration from the County of Galway during each year, from the 1st of May, 1851, to 31st of December, 1906.

Compiled from the Returns of the Registrar-General.

Years.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Years.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Years.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
om 1st May)	3,844	3,940	7,784	1871 (from 1st April),	1,217	980	2,197	1891 (from 1st April),	1,459	1,933	3,392
.. ..	5,058	5,164	10,222	1872, ...	1,372	1,116	2,488	1892, ...	1,667	2,044	3,711
.. ..	4,429	4,438	8,867	1873, ...	2,133	1,843	3,976	1893, ...	1,430	2,030	3,460
.. ..	3,653	3,925	7,578	1874, ...	1,378	1,500	2,878	1894, ...	1,180	2,083	3,263
.. ..	1,426	1,732	3,158	1875	808	904	1,712	1895, ...	2,006	2,912	4,918
.. ..	1,177	1,339	2,516	1876, ...	398	450	848	1896, ...	1,418	2,032	3,450
.. ..	1,710	1,531	3,241	1877, ...	434	562	996	1897, ...	1,220	1,946	3,166
.. ..	1,054	1,109	2,163	1878, ...	614	809	1,423	1898, ...	1,166	1,933	3,099
.. ..	1,143	1,325	2,468	1879, ...	830	939	1,769	1899, ...	1,546	2,407	3,953
.. ..	1,121	1,235	2,356	1880, ...	2,415	247	4,887	1900, ...	1,897	2,276	4,173
31st March),	253	232	485	1881 (to 31st March),	292	199	491	1901 (to 31st March),	136	99	235
otal, ..	24,868	25,970	50,838	Total, ..	11,391	11,774	23,665	Total, ..	15,125	21,695	36,820
m 1st April),	592	602	1,194	1881 (from 1st April),	1,790	2,177	3,967	1901 (from 1st April),	1,206	1,826	3,032
.. ..	982	1,077	2,059	1882, ...	3,026	3,124	6,150	1902, ...	1,449	1,984	3,433
.. ..	3,074	2,900	5,974	1883, ...	4,794	5,271	10,065	1903, ...	1,381	1,922	3,303
.. ..	3,567	3,057	6,624	1884, ...	1,878	2,336	4,214	1904, ...	1,357	2,049	3,406
.. ..	2,548	2,616	5,164	1885, ...	1,534	2,087	3,621	1905, ...	1,159	1,262	2,421
.. ..	2,464	2,132	4,596	1886, ...	1,744	2,157	3,901	1906 (to 31st December)	1,320	1,260	2,580
.. ..	1,543	1,321	2,864	1887, ...	2,415	2,714	5,129				
.. ..	2,130	1,506	3,636	1888, ...	2,552	2,716	5,268	Total, ..	7,872	10,308	8,175
.. ..	1,908	1,490	3,398	1889, ...	1,998	2,281	4,279				
.. ..	1,549	1,296	2,845	1890, ...	1,951	2,309	4,260	General Total,	104,200	115,177	219,37.
31st March),	260	144	404	1891 (to 31st March),	145	122	267				
Total, ..	20,617	18,141	38,758	Total, ..	23,827	27,294	51,121				

(a) The enumeration of Emigrants from Irish Ports did not commence till the 1st of May, 1851.

APPENDIX X.

S.—STATE-AIDED EMIGRATION.

*** *Information was desired by the Commission as to the number of families who, with the assistance of Public Funds, emigrated from each Union in* 1883–4.

It may be as well to explain that, under 12 and 13 Vic., c. 104, sec. 26, Boards of Guardians were empowered to apply part of the rate and to borrow money "for the purpose of defraying, or assisting to defray, the expenses of the emigration of poor persons."

Under the Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Act, 1882 (45 and 46 Vic., c. 47), power was given to borrow from Public Funds on easier terms for the above purposes, and the Treasury might authorise the Commissioners of Public Works to make grants to Boards of Guardians for the same purposes, the total grants not to exceed £100,000, and the sum granted not to exceed £5 for each person. These grants were confined to the nine counties, part of which are at present scheduled as congested, the Union of Belmullet, Newport, Swinford, Clifden, and Oughterard being specially mentioned,

Under the Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Act, 1883 (46 and 47 Vic., cap. 43), the limit of the grant was increased to £200,000, of which one-quarter might be applied for the purpose of migrating "persons or families," and the limit of individual grants was increased to £8.

The total grants made under these sections amounted to £133,172 10*s.* 2*d.* up to 1891, when they were repealed by Section 35 of the Land Act of 1891, which established the Congested Districts Board.

The following Table shows the total number of State-aided Emigrants from Mayo in 1883-1884, and the amount of grant to each Union :—

Taken from the Thirteenth Report of the Local Government Board, p. 12.

Union.	Emigration Season, 1883.			Emigration Season, 1884.			Total.	Total Grant.
	Canada.	Australia.	United States.	Canada.	Australia.	United States.		
								£. s. d.
Ballinasloe, ...	78	—	46	—	—	—	124	520 10 0
Clifden, ...	541	—	1,050	26	—	321	1,938	10,102 12 8
Galway, ...	489	8	542	—	35	38	1,112	5,655 10
Glennamaddy, ..	10	—	—	—	—	—	10	47 0 0
Gort, ...	66	—	16	—	—	—	82	312 0 0
Loughrea, ...	109	6	67	—	—	—	182	910 0 0
Oughterard, ...	240	—	789	—	7	680	1,716	9,435 5 9
Tuam, ...	189	—	166	—	—	—	355	1,658 0 0
Total, ..	1,722	14	2,676	26	42	1,039	5,519	28,640 17

The following Return shows the number of Consents of the Local Government Board to the expenditure of sums out of the rates to assist in defraying the expenses of the emigration of poor persons from the County of Galway during the year ended the 31st March, 1884 :—

Supplied by the Local Government Board.

Union.	Sums authorised to be expended.	Number of Persons assisted.
	£ *s.* *d.*	
Ballinasloe (part of), ...	254 10 0	138
Clifden, ...	—	—
Galway, ...	731 18 0	601
Glenamaddy	71 10 0	33
Loughrea, ...	121 0 0	112
Mount Bellew, ...	79 0 0	43
Oughterard, ...	—	—
Portumna, ...	1 5 0	1
Tuam, ...	865 7 0	566

EXTENT UNDER CROPS IN STATUTE ACRES.

POOR LAW UNIONS.	CORN CROPS.								GREEN CROPS.										FLAX.	HAY.			TOTAL EXTENT UNDER CROPS	Population in 1901.	POOR LAW UNIONS.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Bere.	Rye.	Beans.	Pease.	TOTAL	Potatoes	Turnips	Mangel Wurzel.	Beet Root.	Carrots.	Parsnips	Cabbage	Vetches.	Rape.	Other Green Crops.	TOTAL.		1st Years'.	2nd and 3rd Years'.	Permanent Meadow.			
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.			
Ballinasloe.* ...	50	4,306	497	–	87	–	–	4,940	3,136	1,502	492	1	1	2	359	1	286	112	5,892	–	1,430	982	14,401	27,645	19,279	Ballinasloe.*
Clifden, ...	–	1,641	58	–	470		–	2,169	2,746	216	287	8		–	100	11	1	16	3,385	–	135	216	3,279	9,184	18,768	Clifden.
Galway, ...	808	5,501	455	–	199		–	6,963	5,507	2,153	1,110	6	8	1	289	4	139	57	9,274	–	2,197	1,892	5,437	25,763	36,465	Galway.
Glennamaddy, ...	2	5,535	5	–	46	–	–	5,588	3,657	674	143	.	1		280	–	58	170	4,983	–	1,135	841	5,510	18,057	16,577	Glennamaddy.
Gort, ...	1,074	2,079	1,202	–	4	–	–	4,359	2,793	1,298	509		–	1	182	7	66	37	4,893	–	1,054	1,153	6,692	18,151	12,286	Gort.
Loughrea, ...	470	3,892	2	–	51	2	–	4,417	3,584	1,097	466		–	–	346	5	213	117	5,828	1	874	892	19,160	31,172	20,126	Loughrea.
Mountbellew, ...	33	3,844	6	–	51	–	–	3,934	3,192	572	278	–	–	–	289	–	141	66	4,538	–	916	789	8,966	19,143	15,019	Mountbellew.
Oughterard, ...	286	2,101	65	–	139	–	–	2,591	2,923	287	256	–	–	1	190	1	2	33	3,693	–	462	649	2,647	10,042	17,732	Oughterard.
Portumna, ...	476	2,019	223	–	60	–	–	2,778	1,781	785	299	–	1	5	143	4	178	73	3,269	–	632	775	9,669	17,123	9,051	Portumna.
Tuam, ...	552	8,153	1	–	113	–	–	8,819	6,150	1,857	287	–	1		353	7	247	237	9,139	–	2,384	1,435	8,422	30,199	30,924	Tuam.
Total for Co. Galway.	3,747	37,997	2,180	–	1,190	3	–	45,116	34,634	10,019	4,014	14	12	10	2,469	40	1,311	910	53,433	1	10,768	9,264	82,078	200,660	192,549	Total for Co. Galway.

* As this Union is situated partly in Co. Galway and partly in Co. Roscommon, the totals for the ten Unions are not the same as the totals for Co. Galway.

2. TABLE showing, by POOR LAW UNIONS, for the COUNTY of GALWAY, the PRODUCE of the CROPS in the Year 1906.

PRODUCE OF THE CROPS.

POOR LAW UNIONS.	CORN CROPS,							GREEN CROPS.								FLAX.	HAY.			POOR LAW UNIONS.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Bere.	Rye.	Beans.	Pease.	Potatoes.	Turnips.	Mangel Wurzel.	Beet Root.	Carrots.	Parsnips	Cabbage.	Vetches.	Rape.		1st Year's'.	2nd and 3rd Years'.	Permanent Meadow.	
	Cwts. of 112 lbs.	Cwts. of 112 lbs.	Cwts. of 112 lbs.	Cwts. of 112 lbs.	Cwts. of 112 lbs.	Cwts. of 112 lbs.	Cwts. of 112 lbs.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Stones of 14 lbs.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	
Ballinasloe.*	866	74,165	8,228	-	1,356		-	9,888	24,799	8,488	14	10	30	3,732	10	2,875	-	3,049	1,556	31,107	Ballinasloe.*
Clifden, ...	-	16,293	622	-	4,332		-	6,355	2,159	3,557	96	-	-	720	110	10	-	233	402	7,199	Clifden.
Galway, ...	10,820	84,891	9,213	-	1,620		-	16,126	33,446	21,045	90	56	8	4,100	32	1,587	-	4,743	3,374	11,960	Galway.
Glennamaddy, ...	34	103,069	86	-	720	-	-	10,312	12,261	3,512		8	-	3,115		640	-	2,030	1,502	11,898	Glennamaddy.
Gort, ...	18,141	34,031	19,631	-	30			8,127	27,045	11,976	-	-	10	1,296	70	791	-	2,488	2,577	16,299	Gort.
Loughrea, ...	8,297	64,352	36		729	32		9,741	14,543	6,758	-		-	3,695	50	1,701	30	1,569	1,360	35,649	Loughrea.
Mountbellew, ...	524	77,412	90		661		-	7,888	9,096	5,376	-			2,942	-	1,213		1,574	1,232	20,292	Mountbellew.
Oughterard, ...	5,302	45,227	1,977		2,979		-	9,622	4,873	3,242	-		10	1,695	10	20	-	808	1,267	4,998	Oughterard.
Portumna, ...	8,323	35,708	3,706		775			5,048	12,782	5,294		8	48	1,547	40	1,344	-	1,055	1,111	19,744	Portumna.
Tuam, ...	6,988	142,210	19	-	1,607		-	22,789	28,339	5,132	-	10		3,390	18	2,241	-	4,109	2,002	18,413	Tuam.
Total for Co. Galway.	59,249	660,100	38,806	-	14,389	32	-	103,902	162,308	72,252	186	92	106	25,773	340	12,225	30	20,459	15,749	172,364	Total for Co. Galway.

* As this Union is situated partly in Co. Galway and partly in Co. Roscommon, the totals for the ten Unions are not the same as the totals for the Co. Galway.

3. TABLE showing the NUMBER of STOCKHOLDERS and the QUANTITY of LIVE STOCK in each POOR LAW UNION in GALWAY in 1906.

Taken from Agricultural Statistics, 1906, pp. 89, *et seq.*

POOR LAW UNIONS.	No. of Stock-holders in each Union.	HORSES (including Ponies).						MULES AND ASSES		CATTLE.					SHEEP.					PIGS.					Number of Goats.	POULTRY.					POOR LAW UNION.
		Two years old and upwards used for			Unbroken Horses.		Total Number of Horses	Number of Mules	Number of Asses	Milch Cows including Heifers in Calf.	Other Cattle.			Total Number of Cattle	Ewes kept for breeding purposes.	Other Ewes, one year old and upwards.	Tups and Wethers	Under one year.	Total Number of Sheep.	Pigs kept for breeding purposes.		Other Pigs.		Total Number of Pigs.		Turkeys.	Geese.	Ducks.	Ordinary Fowl.	Total.	
		Agricultural purposes.	Traffic and Manufactures.	Amusement or Recreation.	One year old and above.	Under one year.					Two years old and upwards	One year old and under two years.	Under one year.							Sows.	Boars.	Six months old and upwards.	Under six months								
Ballinasloe,* ...	3,411	2,101	151	243	690	469	3,654	281	2,305	5,101	10,396	4,986	4,100	24,583	29,270	17,695	3,994	30,859	81,818	475	11	522	5,403	6,411	1,070	6,417	16,117	19,472	63,708	105,714	Ballinasloe.*
Clifden, ...	3,330	1,217	93	34	224	494	1,977	1	1,192	5,517	4,537	3,879	3,751	17,684	16,148	4,950	3,742	12,977	37,817	240	4	187	3,016	3,447	492	365	8,321	7,745	35,520	51,951	Clifden.
Galway, ...	5,099	2,361	192	95	501	742	4,391	68	1,666	6,698	6,578	7,071	5,312	25,650	22,455	7,715	6,560	22,125	58,855	977	11	569	7,793	9,350	1,603	3,387	13,281	22,831	66,643	106,142	Galway.
Glennamaddy, ...	3,231	1,021	14	27	287	260	1,609	448	2,451	4,781	4,602	3,676	3,789	16,848	511	9,942	5,241	11,122	26,816	669	10	695	5,558	6,932	323	1,813	10,672	20,212	75,485	108,212	Glennamaddy.
Gort, ...	3,006	1,736	66	47	648	652	3,149	159	1,170	3,433	4,622	4,317	2,731	15,103	25,167	9,552	4,071	23,846	61,636	438	5	431	4,715	5,589	2,250	2,338	10,025	11,205	35,355	58,933	Gort.
Loughrea.	4,577	2,531	54	154	910	879	4,528	131	2,063	5,719	13,303	7,502	4,723	31,247	34,511	13,818	7,855	36,103	92,287	734	11	892	6,404	8,041	1,707	6,119	20,167	22,998	69,344	118,628	Loughrea.
Mount Bellew, ...	32,279	1,285	46	71	413	347	2,162	310	2,047	4,542	5,072	3,972	3,667	17,253	14,918	6,818	1,628	15,621	39,015	485	5	334	5,394	6,218	861	3,586	11,153	16,832	65,868	97,439	Mount Bellew.
Oughterard. ...	3,262	896	54	30	214	292	1,286	7	1,344	4,796	3,369	3,774	3,356	15,295	21,131	5,196	7,903	16,822	51,052	302	6	338	3,157	3,803	980	1,525	7,795	10,598	3,327	53,245	Oughterard.
Portumna, ...	2,036	1,325	32	73	594	433	2,457	87	1,146	2,483	5,472	3,102	1,982	13,039	12,046	7,094	882	11,792	31,814	334	5	593	2,981	3,916	597	3,428	9,432	10,587	33,501	56,948	Portumna.
Tuam, ...	6,218	2,591	91	80	942	781	4,485	409	3,451	6,671	10,061	8,194	5,379	30,305	38,142	24,079	5,963	40,236	108,420	1,120	20	532	10,249	11,921	896	5,535	21,213	35,103	124,675	186,526	Tuam.
Total for Co. Galway,		16,800	790	840	5,358	5,201	28,959	1,798	18,245	48,342	67,047	49,601	37,822	202,812	42,974	217746	100620	216327	577,667	5,566	82	4,981	53,056	63,685	10,533					920,685	Total for Co. Galway.

* As this Union is situated partly in Co. Galway and partly in Co. Roscommon, the totals for the ten Unions are not the same as the totals for the County Galway.

4. TABLE showing the QUANTITY of LIVE STOCK for the COUNTY of GALWAY in each year from 1897–1906.
Taken from Agricultural Statistics, 1906, pp. 102, 103.

	Years.	NUMBER OF HORSES.			MULES AND ASSES.		NUMBER OF CATTLE.			NUMBER OF SHEEP.		NUMBER OF PIGS.		No. of GOATS.	No. of POULTRY
		Two years old and upwards.	One year old and under two.	Under one year.	No. of Mules.	No. of Asses.	Two years old and upwards.	One year old and upwards.	Under one year.	One year old and upwards.	Under one year.	One year old and upwards.	Under one year.		
WAY:	1897	19,779	5,426	5,383	2,130	17,389	113,566	48,404	34,585	405,795	228,930	7,207	61,662	12,497	927,545
rea.	1898	19,543	5,241	5,018	2,174	17,975	110,020	48,997	33,918	405,483	246,890	5,652	56,574	12,344	918,351
897–98—	1899	19,100	4,598	4,799	2,153	18,158	107,749	52,831	34,156	406,455	249,471	6,837	63,873	12,332	931,097
2 Acres.	1900	18,258	4,028	4,478	2,122	18,207	111,914	51,949	34,522	416,911	236,545	6,714	63,160	13,668	924,903
	1901	16,956	4,291	4,667	1,926	17,373	112,686	50,963	35,589	412,880	241,439	7,802	58,525	12,987	946,016
99–1901—	1902	17,670	4,688	5,163	1,795	17,284	116,534	50,531	38,828	402,231	231,732	7,950	66,090	12,344	915,213
0 Acres.	1903	18,143	4,992	5,293	1,783	17,374	111,235	50,085	38,114	380,991	230,976	8,127	67,151	10,969	904,426
	1904	18,378	4,889	5,271	2,093	18,247	109,162	47,599	38,706	376,470	227,922	7,669	63,827	11,273	899,029
02 1906 -	1905	18,554	5,009	5,113	2,410	18,788	112,538	51,064	38,640	368,671	228,416	7,105	53,809	10,521	916,789
0 Acres.	1906	18,430	5,358	5,201	1,798	18,245	115,389	49,601	37,822	361,340	216,327	63,685		10,533	920,665

LE showing the NUMBER of HOLDINGS exceeding ONE ACRE, and EXTENT of LAND under CROPS, in the COUNTY of GALWAY each year from 1897–1906.
Taken from Agricultural Statistics, 1906, pp. 58–9.

Years.	Number of Holdings exceeding 1 Acre.	EXTENT UNDER CROPS IN STATUTE ACRES IN EACH YEAR FROM 1896 TO 1906.														
		CORN, BEANS, AND PEASE.							OTHER CROPS.							Total extent under Crops.
		Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Bere.	Rye.	Beans and Pease.	Total.	Potatoes.	Turnips.	Mangel Wurzel and Beet Root.	Other Green Crops.	Total Green Crops.	Flax.	Meadow and Clover.	
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1897	34,164	3,443	40,274	2,666	14	2,165	26	48,588	38,121	11,478	3,014	6,284	58,897	—	95,074	202,559
1898	34,065	3,881	40,039	2,220	21	2,431	132	48,724	38,123	11,502	3,308	5,512	58,445	2	96,419	203,590
1899	33,503	4,081	38,656	2,201	61	2,092	10	47,101	37,858	11,461	3,748	5,238	58,305	—	90,900	196,306
1900	33,501	4,054	36,710	1,939	2	1,647	27	44,379	36,768	11,077	3,967	5,019	56,831	—	95,155	196,365
1901	33,577	3,583	36,416	2,142	4	1,578	8	43,736	35,835	10,754	4,590	5,105	56,284	—	96,707	196,727
1902	33,613	3,528	35,923	2,229	1	1,198	7	42,886	35,613	10,349	4,710	5,081	55,753	—	93,937	192,576
1903	33,651	3,061	37,232	2,330	2	1,330	3	43,958	36,033	10,950	4,638	4,940	56,561	—	98,927	199,446
1904	33,571	2,889	36,202	2,117	—	1,354	10	42,572	34,894	9,968	4,267	4,670	53,799	—	101,722	198,093
1905	33,828	3,254	36,893	1,566	1	1,161	—	42,875	34,425	9,955	4,500	4,736	53,616	—	104,509	201,000
1906	34,029	3,747	37,997	2,180	—	1,190	2	45,115	34,634	10,019	4,028	4,752	53,433	1	102,110	200,660

. TABLE showing the AVERAGE RATE of PRODUCE of CROPS to the Statute Acre in the COUNTY of GALWAY in each year from 1897–1906.
Taken from Agricultural Statistics, 1906, pp. 74–5.

Years.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Bere.	Rye.	Beans.	Pease.	Potatoes.	Turnips.	Mangl Wurzel.	Beet Root.	Cabbage.	Flax.	Hay.
	Cwts., 112 lbs.	Cwts., 112 lbs.	Cwts., 112 lbs.	Cwts., 112 lbs.	Cwts., 112 lbs.	Cwts., 112 lbs.	Cwts., 112 lbs.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Stones, 14 lbs.	Tons.
1897	11·3	12·9	13·6	12·0	8·7	16·0	7·6	1·5	10·6	11·0		8·5	—	2·2
1898	16·1	16·3	18·4	12·7	13·2	16·0	11·4	4·7	14·9	15·1		10·6	30·0	2·4
1899	16·1	15·2	15·8	13·4	12·0	16·0	12·0	4·2	12·9	14·4		9·5	—	2·3
1900	13·5	15·2	17·7	13·0	11·3	16·0	12·0	2·7	12·7	13·5		10·1	—	2·4
1901	16·6	16·8	20·1	14·0	14·7	16·5	18·7	5·8	15·1	15·4	10·0	10·4	—	2·2
1902	18·2	17·1	21·4	15·0	13·1	16·0	14·8	5·0	15·6	15·6	—	10·7	—	2·3
1903	14·2	15·1	16·4	15·0	14·6	16·0	14·0	3·6	9·7	11·8	—	10·2	—	2·4
1904	16·5	14·9	15·3	—	12·2	—	14·0	2·5	12·9	13·1	—	10·3	—	2·5
1905	17·4	16·7	20·6	15·0	11·8	—	—	6·1	15·9	15·7	12·0	10·7	—	2·3
1906	15·3	17·4	17·3	—	12·1	16·0	—	3·0	16·2	18·0	13·3	10·4	30·0	2·3

APPENDIX X

7. TABLE showing, by POOR LAW UNIONS for the COUNTY of GALWAY, the proportion per cent. under Co and GREEN CROPS, including Flax, Fruit, Hay, Grass, Mountain Land (Grazed and Barren), Wo and Plantations, Turf, Bog, Marsh, and Water, Roads, and Fences, &c.

Taken from Agricultural Statistics, 1906.

POOR LAW UNION.	PROPORTION PER CENT. UNDER									
	Corn and Green Crops, including Flax.	Fruit.	Hay.	Grass.	Mountain Grazed.	Land. Barren.	Woods and Plantations.	Turf Bog.	Marsh.	Wate. Roads ences &c.
Ballinasloe, ...	6·7	—	10·5	58·0	0·2	0·4	1·7	15·0	3·2	4·3
Clifden, ...	2·9	—	1·9	24·9	33·6	11·9	0·7	10·9	7·7	5·5
Galway, ...	8·2	—	4·8	43·1	21·9	3·2	1·0	4·6	6·5	6·7
Glennamaddy, ..	10·6	—	7·5	54·8	0·1	—	1·5	17·7	3·4	4·4
Gort, ...	8·7	—	8·4	59·7	9·3	1·9	2·8	1·1	1·2	6·9
Loughrea, ...	5·2	—	10·5	50·8	13·3	2·5	2·4	8·0	3·5	3·8
Mountbellew, ...	8·3	—	10·4	52·3	0·2	0·3	1·8	21·1	1·4	4·2
Oughterard, ...	3·6	—	2·2	22·0	47·1	6·0	1·0	7·6	4·1	6·4
Portumna, ...	7·8	—	14·3	52·7	6·9	0·7	2·4	8·4	2·5	4·3
Tuam, ...	9·4	—	6·4	62·1	1·5	0·6	1·7	8·6	3·3	6·4
County Galway ..	6·7	—	7·0	46·4	16·0	3·3	1·6	9·6	4·0	5·4

8. STATEMENT as to SIRES, BULLS, and BOARS.

Taken from Agricultural Statistics, 1906.

The number of Sires in County Galway serving Mares in 1906 was as follows:—

Thoroughbred,		16
Hackney,		4
Clydesdale,		10
Shire,		2
Other distinct Breeds,		8
Half-bred,	Sire or Dam Thoroughbred,	24
	Other half-breds,	28
Common-bred,		47
	Total,	139

The number of Bulls of the principal breeds, &c., in County Galway in 1906 was as follows:—

Shorthorn,	187
Hereford,	27
Aberdeen Angus,	57
Norfolk and Suffolk Red Polled,	
Kerry,	
Dexter,	
Ayrshire,	
Guernsey, Jersey, and Alderney,	
Cross Breed or not included in foregoing,	
Total,	3

The number of Boars kept for breeding purpos in County Galway in 1906 was as follows:—

White pigs,	
Black pigs,	
Tawny or brown pigs,	
Cross-bred,	
Boars not coming under any of the foregoing heads,	
Total,	

9. STATEMENT showing the Total Area under each of the principal varieties of Potatoes grown in COUNTY GALWAY.

Taken from Agricultural Statistics, 1906.

Variety.	Acreage.	Variety.	Acreage.
Champion, ...	25,486	American Roses, ...	213
Up-to-Date, ...	2,578	Ardcairns and Ardcairn Beauties, ..	—
Beauty of Bute, ...	1,059	Gawkies, ...	—
Flounders, ...	2,774	Early Roses, ...	22
Sutton or Sutton's Abundance, ..	40	Elephants or White Elephants, ..	18
Black Skerries or Skerry Blues, ..	52	Bruces, ...	4
Irish Whites, ...	141	Main Crop, ...	7
British Queens, ...	113	All others, ...	557

10. BEE-KEEPING STATISTICS.

TABLE showing, for the COUNTY GALWAY, the Number of STOCKS in the middle of May, 1905; the Number of SWARMS during 1905; the Number of Stocks at the beginning of Winter, 1905; with the quantity of HONEY produced and of WAX manufactured in 1905, snd the Number of STOCKS on 1st April, 1906.

Taken from Agricultural Statistics, 1906.

Number of Stocks on the 1st April, 1905.		Number of Swarms during 1905.		Number of Stocks at beginning of Winter, 1905.		Run Honey produced in 1905, in lbs.		Section Honey produced in 1905, in lbs.		Wax Manufactured in 1905, in lbs. (Quantity of Wax refined or converted into the Bees-wax of Commerce for Household use).		Number of Stocks on the 1st April, 1906.	
In Hives having Movable Combs.	In other Hives.	In Hives having Movable Combs.	In other Hives.	In Hives having Movable Combs.	In other Hives.	In Hives having Movable Combs.	In other Hives.	In Hives having Movable Combs.	In other Hives.	Wax from Hives having Movable Combs.	Wax from other Hives.	In Hives having Movable Combs.	In other Hives.
1,145	390	672	322	1,267	409	5,559	3,080	24,317	668	236	45	1,228	372

11. TABLE showing, for the COUNTY GALWAY, the AREA PLANTED with TREES, and the AREA CLEARED UP during the year ended 30th June, 1906, and the Number of each description of TREE PLANTED or FELLED.

Taken from Agricultural Statistics, 1906.

	Average Planted or Cleared.	Total Number of Trees.	Number and Description of Trees Planted or Felled.									
			Larch.	Fir.	Spruce.	Pine.	Oak.	Ash.	Beech.	Sycamore.	Elm.	Other Trees.	Mixed Trees, Number of each kind unspecified.
Planted, ..	106	303,650	28,700	35,800	15,600	2,800	1,300	300	1,600	500	—	1,050	216,000
Felled, ..	52	34,021	7,244	6,095	4,523	—	1,529	1,780	3,519	268	58	5	9,000

U.—WAGES OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN COUNTY GALWAY IN 1906.

Inquiries were made as to the Wages paid per day to Agricultural Labourers in 1906, and the information received from the District Inspectors of the Royal Irish Constabulary with reference to their respective districts is shown in the following Table and the notes appended thereto.

Taken from Agricultural Statistics, 1906.

CONSTABULARY DISTRICTS.	SUMMER.								WINTER.							
	Men.		Boys.		Women.		Girls.		Men.		Boys.		Women.		Girls.	
	From	To	From	To	From	To	From	To	From	To	From	To	From	To	From	To
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Athenry (a), ...	2 3	2 6	1 9	2 0	1 6	2 0	1 3	1 6	1 6	2 0	1 0	1 6	1 0	1 6	0 9	1 6
Ballinasloe (b), ..	1 6	2 6	1 0	1 6	0 10	1 0	0 8	0 10	1 0	1 6	0 9	1 0	0 6	0 9	—	—
Clifden (c), ...	1 9	2 3	1 1	1 5	1 0	1 5	0 10	1 2	1 3	1 8	0 10	1 1	0 9	1 0	0 8	0 10
Dunmore, ...	1 6	2 6	1 0	1 3	1 0	1 4	0 10	1 0	1 0	1 6	0 10	1 0	0 10	1 0	0 9	1 0
Galway, ...	1 11	2 3	1 3	1 6	1 4	1 6	1 0	1 2	1 4	1 6	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 2	0 8	0 10
Gort (d), ...	1 6	2 0	1 0	1 6	1 0	1 6	0 9	1 0	1 0	1 6	0 8	1 0	0 9	1 0	0 6	0 9
Loughrea, ...	1 9	2 0	1 0	1 3	1 6	2 0	1 0	1 6	1 2	1 6	0 10	1 0	1 0	1 6	0 9	1 3
Mount Bellew (e), ..	1 6	2 0	1 0	1 6	—	—	—	—	1 0	1 6	1 0	1 0	—	—	—	—
Oughterard (f), ..	2 6	3 0	1 0	1 6	1 0	1 6	1 0	1 6	1 0	1 6	0 9	1 0	0 9	1 0	0 9	1 0
Portumna, (g), ...	1 6	2 3	1 0	1 0	1 6	2 0	1 0	1 6	1 6	1 8	1 0	1 3	1 0	1 3	0 10	1 0
Roundstone (h), ..	1 6	2 0	1 0	1 6	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 3	1 6	1 0	1 0	—	—	—	—
Tuam, ...	1 6	2 0	1 0	1 3	1 0	1 3	0 10	1 1	1 2	1 6	0 9	1 1	0 9	1 0	0 8	0 10
Woodford, ...	1 6	2 0	0 8	1 0	1 0	1 3	0 8	0 10	1 0	1 6	0 6	0 10	0 8	0 10	0 6	0 8

(a) With diet. (b) Without diet. Girls not employed in winter. (c) Few women or girls employed.
(d) Women or girls seldo n employed. (e) Women or girls not employed. Very few girls employed
(f) No employment fo women or girls during winter in a large portion of district. (h) Women or girls not employed in winter.

APPENDIX V.

V.—SCHEMES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION OPERATING IN COUNTY GALWAY IN 1906-7.

Specially supplied by the Department.

Agricultural Schemes of the Department in Operation during the Year 1906-7.

Scheme.	Estimated Cost to Joint Fund administered by County Committee of Agriculture.
	£
Itinerant Instruction in Agriculture,	350
Poultry-keeping,	390
Buttermaking,	159
Horticulture and Bee-keeping,	259
Cottage and Farm Prizes,	310
Live Stock,	1,000
Subsidies to Shows,	280

Itinerant Instruction.

Four Itinerant Instructors are employed in the county under the County Scheme, viz.—one in Agriculture, one in Horticulture and Beekeeping, one in Poultry Keeping, and one in Buttermaking.

Agricultural Instruction in Congested Districts.

In addition to the Instructors employed under the County Scheme, an Agricultural Overseer (Mr. R. Y. Smith, Clifden) and five Assistants are employed at present.

Special Demonstration Plots.

Potatoes,	807 plots
Oats,	640 ,,
Turnips and Mangels,	134 ,,
Grass,	86 ,,
Fertilisers,	311 ,,
Lime,	28 ,,

Horse Breeding.

The following registered Thoroughbred Stallions are located in the county :—

Coylton, with Andrew G. Elliott, Stoneyisland, Portumna.
Killaidan (property of Department), located at Athenry.
Merry Saint, with James Cosgrave, Portumna.
Well Fort, with John R. D'Arcy, Well Fort, Kilkerrin.
Blue Hackle, with Michael Dermody, Claremorris, travels to Tuam.
Merry Saint was supplied by Department under their Loan Scheme.

The Department have also placed at their own expense three Half-bred Stallions in the county—one at Clifden, one at Athenry, and one at Aran Island.

The following non-registered Stallions, which were taken over from the Congested Districts Board, are specially located in the county :—

Conn (Connemara pony), at Cornamona.
Movement (Welsh cob), at Gort.
Wolferton Marshes (Hackney), at Spiddal.
Merry Lad (Hackney), at Spiddal.
Oscar (Norwegian), at Leenane.

The County Committee at issuing 200 free nominations of mares under the 1907 scheme, the animals having been selected at the following centres :—

Centre.	Nominations provided.
Tuam,	33
Mount Bellew,	19
Glenamaddy,	15
Ballinasloe,	26
Portumna,	16
Loughrea,	16
Athenry,	16
Gort,	20
Claregalway,	18
Oughterard,	9
Clifden,	12

Ass Breeding.

Stallion Asses have been placed by the Department with—

Name.	*Address.*
James Molloy,	Clough, Ballymacward.
J. Cavanagh,	Trellick, Kinvarra.
P. Kennedy,	Slieveroe, Moyode.
P. Kenny,	Gurbyryan, Woodlawn.
H. M. Barrett,	Tulrush, Ballinasloe.
Thomas Treacy,	Newcastle.
Patrick Tierney,	Boffin Island.
F. J. Connolly,	Clifden House, Clifden.
John Toole,	Annaghvane, Bealadangan.

Cattle Breeding.

Premium Bulls are located under the County Scheme with the following persons :—

Name of Holder.	*Address.*
Michael Dillon,	Shanvally, Portumna.
Margaret Dempsey,	Lisheenavarnogue, Aughrim.
Andrew M'Grath,	Knockavally, Ballyconree.
Patrick Mongan,	Mynish Island, Carna.
Laurence Kelly,	Knockavaddy, Furbo, Barna.
James Molloy,	Clogh, Ballymacward, Gurteen.
Bernard Connaughton,	Lowville, Ahascragh.
Thomas Sweeney,	Mulrock, Kilcolgan.
John Madden,	Bawnmore, Athenry.
Thomas Burke,	Kilenny, Kinvarra.
Michael Diviney,	Fort Hill, Kilbeacanty, Gort.
Patrick M'Donagh.	Drim, Gorumna, Lettermore.
Julia Lydon,	Shanawoneen, Spiddal.
Thomas Welby,	Moyvoon, Oughterard.
John S. Royston,	Heathview, Aughrim.
C. J. Kerin,	Oranmore,
Michael Carr,	Lakeview, Moylough.
Michael Browne,	Portbrowne, Levally.
Michael Cunningham	Rushestown, Toomard, Mount Bellew.
Michael Garvey,	Mount Kelly, Glenamaddy.
Joseph Curran,	Garra, Ballyglunin.
Martin Costello,	Gortroe, Athenry.
Joseph Fair,	Balrickard, Headford.
Martin Hallinan,	Craughwell,.
M. J, Page,	Ohilly House, Woodford.
Bernard Naughton,	Cartron Kelly, Dysart.
Michael Royston,	Boula, Portumna.
Michael Dillon,	Shanvally, Portumna.

Premium Bulls are located with the following, the premiums being paid entirely out of the Department's funds :—

Name of Holder.	*Address.*
Martin Concannon,	Onacht, Aran Island.
Michael Little,	Bunowenbeg, Ballyconneely.
Gilbert Joyce,	Culfin, Renvyle.
The Superior.	Franciscan Monastery, Roundstone.
John Cawley,	Tully, Letterfrack.
John Folan,	Inveran.
Patrick Molloy,	Lettermore.
Patrick Walsh,	Kilbricken, Rosmuck.
Martin Walsh,	Garnagry, Rosscahill.
Patrick Salmon,	Culliaghbeg, Leenane.
Matthias O'Malley.	Attigoodawn, Cleggan.
Harry Toole,	Leam, Derryerglinna, Maam.
Philip Moran,	Moyard, Letterfrack.

Additional Bulls placed by the Department in Congested Districts on Special Instalment Terms.

Name of Owner.	*Address.*
Owen Kyne,	Moycullen.
John Conneely,	Tooreen, Carraroe.
Colman Keane,	Kilkerrin, Carna.
Charles O'Brien,	Coosaun, Oughterard.
Patrick King,	Ard East, Carna.
Anthony Nea,	Lettermakoo, Costello.
Christopher Toole,	Glanturkeen, Cashel.
Frank M'Hale,	Carraroe, Costello.
John Coyne,	Gowlane, Clifden.
Patrick M'Donagh,	Tiernea, Lettermore.
Patrick M'Keown,	Rossaveel, Costello.
Patrick Madden,	Lettershask, Ballyconneely, Clifden.
Peter King,	Derreen, Maam.
Frank Connolly,	Clifden House, Clifden.
Stephen Hyland,	Glanlusk, Cornamona.

APPENDIX X.

Swine Breeding.

Premium Boars are located with the following :--

Name of Owner.	*Address.*
Martin Costelo,	Gortroe, Athenry.
Patrick Cullinan,	Cahergower, Claregalway.
Patrick Kenny,	Gortyroan, Woodlawn.
John Crehan,	Gurteen, Mount Bellew.
Michael Garvey,	Mountkelly, Glenamaddy.
Patrick Fahy,	Lisnageeragh, Ballymoe.
Mrs. Bridget Murray,	Carrowkeel, Dunmore.
Michael Nestor,	Quingaltagh, Dunmore.
Patrick M'Donagh,	Abbey, Loughrea.
Michael Harte,	Drummin, Gort.
John Crehan,	Clonlyon, Ballygar.
Joseph Fair,	Balrickard, Headford.
David A. Page,	Ohilly House, Woodford.
Mrs. M. Dempsey,	Lisheenavarnogue, Aughrim.
Michael Morris,	Barnaderg, Tuam.
Thomas Corless,	Mountscribe, Kinvarra.
Mrs. Mary Treacy,	Knock, Milltown.
Martin Slattery,	Peterswell, Gort.
Patrick Cooke,	Abbey, Ballyglunin.
Martin Hallinan,	Craughwell.
James Larkin,	Slateford, Killimor

Premium Boars are located with the following, the premiums being payable entirely out of the Department's Funds :—

Name of Owner.	*Address.*
Patrick Mannion,	Kilbricken, Rosmuck.
Mrs. Julia Lydon,	Shanavoneen, Spiddal.
Michael Griffin,	Derrynea, Costello, Maam Cross.
Mark Flanagan,	Ballymonough, Clonbur.
Rev. Brother Butler,	Industrial School, Letterfrack.
T. Mulkerrin,	Claddaghduff, Clifden.
Valentine Keaney,	Gowla, Recess.
Laurence Kelly,	Furbo, Barna.
Patrick Cannon	Derrybrien, Gort.

Sheep Breeding.

Rams located in Congested Districts in County Galway in 1906.

Name of Owner.	*Address.*
Patrick Walsh,	Thuriskiheen, Clifden.
Festus Mullen,	Curhour, Claddaghduff.
Patrick Melody,	Glan, Claddaghduff.
Michael Browne,	Faukeeras, Clifden.
Patrick Gavin,	Lettershanna, Clifden.
Anthony Nee,	Lettermuckoo, Costello.
John Coyne,	Glenagnulagh, Leenane.
Patrick Coyne,	Glenagnulagh, Leenane.
Anthony Coyne,	Glenagnulagh, Leenane.
John Mullins,	Kilronan, Aran Island.
Patrick Darcy,	Garnagry, Moycullen.

List showing the Names and Addresses of Holders of Egg Distribution Stations (Hens and Ducks) under the Poultry Scheme, 1906–7.

Name.	*Address.*
Mrs. Clarke,	Thomastown, Tuam.
Sister M. A. Coffey,	Convent, Clarenbridge.
Mrs. Conneely,	Forge, Spiddall.
Mrs. Conroy,	Turloughbeg, Rosmuck.
Miss Curran,	Garra, Ballyglunin.
Mrs. Daly,	Ballymoney, Dunmore.
Mrs. Delany,	Pularossa, Williamstown.
Mrs. Dempsey,	Lisheenavarnogue, Aughrim.
Mrs. Diviney,	Forkhill, Kilbeacanty.
Laurence Farmer,	Gorumna, Lettermore.
P. J. Fitzmaurice,	Drinan, Ballygar.
Miss Flanagan,	Liscune, Woodlawn.
Mrs. Garvey,	Mountkelly, Glenamaddy.
Mrs. Grealy.	Cluid, Drumgriffin.
Mrs. Hallinan,	Craughwell.
Mrs. Hanly,	Letterfrack.
Mrs. Higgins,	Ryehill, Monivea.
Mrs. P. C. Hogan,	Maryville House, Kinvarra.
Mrs. Kelly,	Grangepark, Loughrea.
Mrs. Kelly,	Menlough, Ballinasloe.

List showing the Names and Addresses of Holders of Egg Distribution Stations (Hens and Ducks) under the Poultry Scheme, 1906–7—*continued.*

Name.	*Address.*
Miss King,	Leenane.
Mrs. Larkin,	Slateford, Killimor.
Mrs. M'Quinn,	Eighterard, Oughterard.
Mrs. Mahon,	Moyour, Errecourt.
Mrs. Molloy,	Clough, Ballymacward.
Thomas O'Donnell,	Milltown, Tuam.
Miss O'Flahertie,	Killola, Roscahill.
Mrs. O'Loghlen,	Hotel, Cashel, Connemara.
Miss Prendergast,	Glaregalway.
Mrs. Royston,	Heathview, Aughrim.
Mrs. Taylor,	The Mills, Athenry.
Mrs. Tracey,	Cornamona, Clonbur.
Mrs. Trayers,	Middlethird, Oranmore.

List showing the Names and Addresses of Persons holding Turkey Stations under the 1906–7 Scheme.

Name.	*Address.*
Mary Burke,	Coorhom, Loughrea.
Sister A. Caffrey,	The Convent, Clarenbridge.
Miss Callinan,	Knockourane, Gort.
B. M. Connaghton,	Lowville, Ahascragh.
Miss Curran,	Garra, Ballyglunin.
Mrs. Daly,	Ballymoney, Dunmore.
Mrs. M. Dempsey,	Lisheenavarnogue, Aughrim.
Mrs. S Farrington,	Cushla Lodge, Athenry.
Mrs. Finnegan,	Ballyooley, Kiltormer.
Mrs. Finney,	Hemmingsville, Banagher.
Mrs. D. Flanagan,	Liscune, Woodlawn.
Mrs. Garvey,	Mountkelly, Glenamaddy.
Mrs. Grealy,	Cluid, Drumgriffin.
John Joyce,	Liscananaim, Claregalway.
Mrs. Kelly,	Menlough.
Mrs. Keane,	Kilconly, Tuam.
James Molloy,	Clough, Ballymacward.
Mrs. Mulkerin,	Clydagh, Moycullen.
Miss O'Flahertie,	Killola, Rosscahill.
Mrs. Dinane,	Cappasheen, Kinvarra.
Mrs. Tracey,	Castle Turvin, Athenry.
Mrs. Trayers,	Middlethird, Oranmore.

W.—NOTE ON MIGRATORY LABOURERS.

The special characteristics of the temporary migration of agricultural labourers from the congested districts, which distinguish it from apparently similar movements of labour in other counties and from the ordinary examples of the mobility of labour in other trades, have been briefly discussed in the Donegal Statistical Abstract (see Appendix to Second Report of Commission, Cd. 3319, 1907, p. 253.) The total number of persons (including females) who had temporarily migrated from Ireland, or who at the time of the collection of the Agricultural Statistics in 1906 had expressed their intention of subsequently migrating, was 15,286. Of this number 1,125 were resident in County Galway. Of these 202 were landholders, but of the landless labourers 732 were the sons, and 1 was the daughter of landholders who worked on their parents' farm when at home. The following Table taken from the Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture on Irish Migratory Labourers for 1906 (pp. 36–7), gives further information on the subject.

Poor Law Union.	Number of Migratory Agricultural Labourers not Landholders.	Number of Migratory Agricultural Labourers having Land, and Area of their Holdings.												Total Number of Migratory Agricultural Labourers	Where Employed.			Number of Migratory Agricultural Labourers who had not left their homes at the time of the Inquiry, included in foregoing Columns.
		Not exceeding 1 acre.	Above 1 and not exceeding 2 acres.	Above 2 and not exceeding 3 acres.	Above 3 and not exceeding 4 acres.	Above 4 and not exceeding 5 acres.	Above 5 and not exceeding 10 acres.	Above 10 and not exceeding 15 acres.	Above 15 and not exceeding 20 acres	Above 20 and not exceeding 25 acres.	Above 25 and not exceeding 30 acres.	Above 30 and not exceeding 40 acres.	Above 40 acres.		In England.	In Scotland.	Elsewhere in Ireland.	
Ballinasloe (part of),	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Clifden,	25	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	2	–	–	1	–	31	13	18	–	4
Galway,	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7	7	–	–	–
Glenamaddy,	369	–	–	–	2	1	26	20	9	1	1	–	1	430	430	–	–	37
Gort,	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Loughrea,	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–
Mount Bellew,	151	–	1	3	–	3	13	10	13	1	–	–	–	195	195	–	–	21
Oughterard,	35	–		–	2	1	5	1	1	–		–		45	23	21	1	4
Portumna,	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Tuam,	336				1	5	24	24	18	3	3	1	1	416	416	–	–	60
Total,	923	–	1	3	5	10	72	55	43	5	4	2	(a) 2	1,125	1,085	39	1	126

(a) Comprising one each of 46 and 72 acres.

APPENDIX X.

X.—STATISTICS OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

Taken from the Report of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society for the year ended 30th June, 1906.

1. STATEMENT showing Statistics of Agricultural Credit Societies in County GALWAY.

No.	NAME OF SOCIETY.	Date of Establishment.	Membership.	Loan Capital.	Deposits.	Total Capital.	Total Amount of Loans.	Number of Loans Granted.	Expenses.	Net Profit.	Reserve Fund.	Observ
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1	Aran Isles, .	1898	134	200 0 0	29 5 0	229 5 0	51 10 0	17	0 3 11	6 14 1	38 4 9	
2	Glan, . .	1899	42	50 0 0	—	50 0 0	—	—	0 1 0	0 11 4	16 0 7	
3	Lettermore, .	1900	21	55 0 0	—	55 0 0	—	—	—	0 17 2	4 2 8½	
4	Menlough, .	1898	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Not wor
5	Minna, . .	1899	51	100 0 0	10 0 0	110 0 0	119 10 0	36	0 2 11	2 17 3	14 3 1½	
6	Mountbellew,	1898	46	1 17 1½	35 0 0	36 17 1½	49 0 0	12	0 3 1	1 5 7½	8 7 1½	
7	Moycullen, .	1898	83	260 0 0	—	260 0 0	490 0 0	82	0 8 4	1 18 5½	9 3 1½	
8	Newcastle, .	1899	12	40 0 0	—	40 0 0	19 0 0	5	0 6 3	0 13 0½	3 6 10	
9	Oranmore, .	1899	76	150 0 0	—	450 0 0	450 0 0	49	5 11 5½	4 4 2	24 13 2	
10	Rossmuck, .	1898	70	162 0 0	21 6 7	183 6 7	135 0 0	56	3 10 0	0 9 6	17 14 1½	
11	Selerna, . .	1902	59	168 11 7	36 0 0	204 11 7	171 0 0	37	0 5 6	3 10 3	10 5 0	
12	Spiddal, . .	1898	105	199 0 0	13 0 0	212 0 0	219 0 0	55	3 15 5	0 10 4	17 6 11½	

2. STATEMENT showing Statistics of Home Industries Societies in County Galway.

No.	NAME OF SOCIETY.	Date of Establishment.	Membership.	Paid up Share Capital.	Loan Capital.	Turnover.	Observations.
				£	£	£	
1	Gort, ...	1900	—	—	—	—	Not working, 1905.
2	Kinvara, ...	1902	12	—	—	—	
3	St. Raphael's, ...	1900	10	—	—	53	

V.—Statement of Accounts of Loan Funds working in County Galway in 1905, as rendered by the Loan Fund Board.

Taken from 68th Annual Report of the Loan Fund Board of Ireland, 1905, pp. 8 and 9.

Names of Loan Funds.	1	Amount of Capital to be accounted for on 31st December, 1905.	2	£	790
		Of which is held free of Interest (being Profits). Original Subscription or unappropriated	3	£	41
		Amount of Capital working on 31st December, 1905.	4	£	790
		Total Amount circulated in 1905.	5	£	3,317
		Amount issued in Monthly Loans.	6	£	1,307
		Number of Loans issued in 1905.	7		796
		Average Amount of each Loan.	8	£ s. d.	4 3 4
		Average Cost of the Issue of each Loan to the Society, exclusive of Interest on the Capital.	9	£ s. d.	0 1 9½
		Sum in Borrowers' hands on 31st December, 1905, exclusive of Bad Debts (if any).	10	£ s. d.	931 15 0
		Sum in Treasurer's hands on 31st December, 1905.	11	£ s. d.	—
		Amount of Discount or Interest received in 1905.	12	£ s. d.	74 6 10
		Amount of Fines received in 1905.	13	£ s. d.	32 9 6
		Received from other sources.	14	£ s. d.	—
		Total Amount received for Discount or Interest, Fines, and Cards, or Application Papers in 1905.	15	£ s. d.	113 10 11
		Total paid as Salaries during 1905.	16	£ s. d.	60 0 0
		Number of Paid Officials employed.	17	£	2
		Total Expenses of Management, including Salaries, Rent, &c., in 1905.	18	£ s. d.	71 10 5
		Amount of Interest paid or due by Societies for Capital secured by Debentures, &c. An Asterisk (*) indicates the Societies whose Accounts for 1905 show that Interest, either in whole or in part, was unpaid on 31st December.	19	£ s. d.	30 0 0
		Number of Depositors owning said Capital.	20		3
		Net Profit of 1905 after paying or providing for Interest and all Expenses, and deducting Debts ascertained to be irrecoverable.	21	£ s. d.	10 0 6
		Amount of Bad Debts charged to Stock in 1905.	22	£ s. d.	2 0 0
		Amount Expended for Local useful Purposes in 1905.	23	£	—
Galway Industrial.					Rev. P. Dooley, P.P.

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY.

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE No. 1.

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Abbeygormacan	Corbally More	Lord Clonbrock	238 0 30	184 5 0	3 0 0	
,,	Drumatober ..	Henry B. Trench	90 3 5	41 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Drumeyre ..	Earl of Westmeath	275 1 23	113 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Eskerboy ..	Lord Clonbrock	10 0 39	1 10 0	—	
,,	Gortymadden..	John Smyth	293 0 32	187 0 0	2 0 0	
,,	Kilbeg ..	Henry Trench	64 2 28	0 15 0	—	
Ahascragh ..	Addergoole North	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	826 2 25	68 5 0	2 10 0	
,,	Addergoole South	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	53 3 23	13 0 0	—	
,,	Addergoole West	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart, ..	53 1 1	0 5 0	—	
,,	Ahascragh East	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart, ..	92 3 26	60 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	1 2 13	1 5 0	3 10 0	
,,	Ahascragh West	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	63 0 39	32 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	11 0 32	6 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	12 3 15	8 15 0	—	
,,	Ballyeighter (Dowdall).	James Kearns	76 2 7	12 0 0	0 15 0	
..	,,	Michael Kearns	65 2 14	12 0 0	0 15 0	
..	Ballyeighter (Mahon).	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	70 2 36	0 10 0	—	
,,	Castlegar East	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	214 0 32	67 10 0	58 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	120 1 2	74 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	210 2 10	153 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	60 1 0	47 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	368 0 38	260 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	9 1 18	6 0 0	7 0 0	
,,	,,	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	182 2 32	18 0 0	—	
,,	Castlegar West	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	129 3 20	84 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	115 0 13	79 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	17 3 31	11 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	52 0 37	27 18 0	2 2 0	
,,	Cool	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	63 0 25	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cornamucklagh	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	50 3 5	3 0 0	—	
,,	Curry ..	Peter F. Daly	95 1 36	23 10 0	—	
,,	Dalysgrove ..	Peter F. Daly	400 3 24	98 0 0	32 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Eglish ..	Rev. Sir W. V. R. Mahon, Bart.	302 3 28	213 1 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Rev. Sir W. V. R. Mahon, Bart.	176 1 25	2 0 0	—	
..	Ervallagh (Eighter)	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	3 3 21	2 5 0	—	
,,	Ervallagh (Oughter)	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	5 2 28	4 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	5 0 19	2 0 0	—	
,,	Kilcrin ..	Rev. Sir W. H. Mahon, Bart.	7 1 15	5 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Rev. Sir W. H. Mahon, Bart.	7 1 16	5 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Rev. Sir W. H. Mahon, Bart. ..	71 0 6	49 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Rev. Sir W. H. Mahon, Bart.	37 3 17	0 10 0	—	
,,	Killuppaun (Clonbrock)	Lord Clonbrock	51 3 31	2 15 0	—	
,,	Killuppaun (Mahon)	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	4 1 20	1 15 0	5 0 0	
,,	Lissyegan (Hodson)	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	101 1 23	2 0 0	—	
,,	Lissyegan (Mahon)	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	155 3 13	1 5 0	—	
,,	Srahloughra ..	Rev. Sir W. H. Mahon, Bart.	60 0 30	22 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Rev. Sir W. H. Mahon, Bart. ..	270 2 38	1 15 0	—	
,,	Weston ..	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart.	211 1 5	139 0 0	1 0 0	
Aughrim ..	Attidermot ..	Gustavus R. Wade	85 3 8	66 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Carrowmore ..	R. Rochford Wade	173 1 5	16 0 0	2 10 0	
,,	,,	R. Rochford Wade	4 0 0	2 0 0	25 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	R. Rochford Wade	143 0 14	89 10 0	—	
,,	,,	R. Rochford Wade	61 1 10	25 0 0	—	
,,	,,	R. Rochford Wade	41 2 0	30 0 0	—	
,,	,,	R. Rochford Wade	42 0 30	39 0 0	—	
,,	,,	R. Rochford Wade	156 2 0	106 10 0	—	
,,	,,	R. Rochford Wade	63 2 10	45 0 0	—	
,,	,,	R. Rochford Wade	44 1 0	30 0 0	—	
,,	,,	R. Rochford Wade	6 1 20	4 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonameragaun	R. Rochford Wade	11 0 11	4 10 0	—	
,,	,,	R. Rochford Wade	18 3 27	8 10 0	—	
,,	,,	R. Rochford Wade	17 3 39	14 0 0	—	
,,	,,	R. Rochford Wade	9 2 8	7 5 0	—	
,,	,,	R. Rochford Wade	9 3 35	6 10 0	—	
,,	Coololla ..	R. Rochford Wade	132 2 13	80 9 0	—	
,,	Garrynamishaun or Aughrim Plots	Thomas G. Wade	46 3 11	23 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Thomas G. Wade	52 0 7	27 10 0	—	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE No. 1—*continued.*

ectoral vision.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
,, ..	Killareeny ..	George K. Mahon	161 3 32	63 10 0	25 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Kinnaveelish	Thomas G. Wade	1 2 16	1 15 0	—	
,,	Ardros ..	Thomas B. Hibbitts	136 0 35	55 0 0	3 10 0	
,,	Highfield ..	William A. Usher	50 2 37	23 0 0	—	
,,	Dundoogan ..	William A. Usher	177 0 19	90 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Kilmalaw ..	William A. Usher	41 0 11	2 18 0	—	
,,	Gortnaglogh ..	Reps. C. Usher	112 0 0	58 0 0	1 10 0	
sloe Rural	Ballynamockagh	Captain W. A. Persse ..	66 2 25	1 10 0	—	
,,	Curragh ..	Earl of Clancarty	51 1 28	1 15 0	—	
,,	Derradda ..	Captain W. A. Persse ..	18 2 13	0 5 0	—	
,,	Eskerroe ..	Earl of Clancarty	2 2 32	0 5 0	—	
,,	Garbally Demesne	Earl of Clancarty	430 0 26	258 0 0	3 0 0	
,,	Glennavaddoge	Captain W. A. Persse	47 3 0	26 10 0	—	
,,	Gorteen ..	Thomas Mahon	92 0 36	30 10 0	2 0 0	
,,	Kilcloony ..	Earl of Cloncarty	515 0 17	7 10 0	—	
,,	Knocknagreana	Earl of Clancarty	17 1 6	11 0 0	—	
,,	Mackney ..	Earl of Clancarty	5 3 32	4 10 0	—	
,,	Tobergrellan ..	Earl of Clancarty	134 2 11	27 15 0	3 5 0	
,,	Deerpark ..	Earl of Clancarty	2 1 20	0 5 0	—	
acward	Cave ..	Henry Rose	48 2 5	1 0 0	—	
,,	Cloongawna	Earl of Clancarty	14 0 36	0 1 0	—	
,,	Corskeagh (Trench)	Charles O'Hara Trench ..	326 2 8	77 0 0	3 5 0	
,,	Garrymore ..	Rep. Walter P. Lambert ..	196 0 4	128 0 0	2 10 0	
,,	Hampstead ..	James Raftery	153 0 0	97 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	James Johnston	19 2 0	12 0 0	30 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	James Johnston	210 1 9	106 15 0	—	
,,	Whitepark ..	Earl of Clancarty	34 3 28	1 0 0	—	
..	Abbeyland Great	Reps. Very Rev. C. H. G. S. Butson	8 3 [illegible]	6 10 0	—	
,,	,,	James Howard	38 1 35	29 10 0	—	
,,	Ballynakill ..	Reps. John Pollock	39 3 4	0 13 0	—	
,,	Clonfert Butson	Reps. Very Rev. C. H. G. S. Butson	808 0 7	10 0 0	—	
,,						
,,	Clonfert Demesne	Charles O'Hara Trench ..	522 3 26	410 0 0	20 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Clonfert Demesne Bog	Charles O'Hara Trench ..	202 1 11	1 0 0	—	
,,	Clonfert (Seymour) South	Jane Butson	16 1 6	17 10 0	2 0 0	
,,	Cloonshease (Daly)	Nora Delahunt	77 0 10	41 0 0	3 0 0	
,,	Cloonshease (Persse)	Lord Ardilaun	31 1 4	0 5 0	—	
.	Bishop's Island	Reps. Very Rev. C. H. G. S. Butson	129 3 21	139 17 0	—	
,,	Costello's Island	Reps. Very Rev. C. H. G. S. Butson	6 1 36	4 5 0	—	
.	Craghalan Little Island	Reps. Very Rev. C. H. G. S. Butson	0 1 17	0 2 0	—	
,,	Lisbeg ..	Reps. John Pollok	14 1 30	10 0 0	65 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Rooaun ..	William Daly and Denis St. George Daly	65 1 17	0 10 0	—	
,,	Srahaun ..	Jane Butson	62 1 39	0 10 0	—	
kert ..	Ballyterrim ..	Reps. Right Hon. R. W. Greene	1 0 37	0 1 0	—	
,,	Glenaun ..	Lord Ardilaun	104 3 0	53 0 0	3 0 0	
,,	Loughturk West	James M'Dermott	9 2 29	0 15 0	—	
rove ..	Graigueawoneen	Lady Adeliza Clancarty ..	56 2 37	0 10 0	—	
,,	Kellysgrove ..	Lady Adeliza Clancarty ..	775 1 1	11 15 0	—	
,,	Pollboy ..	Lady Adeliza Clancarty ..	9 1 32	—	—	
ell ..	Attiregan ..	Thomas Glynn	192 2 15	102 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	Ballinderry ..	Andrew N. Comyn	2 2 1	1 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Andrew N. Comyn	316 1 28	192 0 0	16 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Ballynabanaba	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart. ..	441 3 22	190 2 0	2 0 0	
..	Glebe ..	Hugh Blehane	26 0 19	23 0 0	—	
..	Gortroyan West	Mary A. Wade	24 3 16	0 5 0	—	
..	Liscune Lower	Captain Henry Seagriff ..	70 1 27	1 0 0	—	
..	Liscune Upper	Captain Henry Seagriff ..	74 1 33	0 10 0	—	
..	Lisdonnellroe	Patrick L'Estrange	118 0 38	55 0 0	0 8 0	
..	,,	Patrick L'Estrange	1 0 0	0 12 0	—	
..	Trust ..	Patrick L'Estrange	217 2 23	120 0 0	2 10 0	
..	Ballybaun' ..	Lord Ashtown	95 0 5	40 0 0	—	
..	..	Lord Ashtown	59 0 8	0 15 0	—	
..	Beefield ..	Reps. Lord Ashtown	43 2 20	19 10 0	1 10 0	
..	Carrowholla ..	Lord Ashtown	28 1 38	0 7 0	—	
..	Carrowmore	Lord Ashtown	27 0 33	9 0 0	—	
..	,,	Reps. Lord Ashtown	8 1 10	5 5 0	—	
..	,,	Lord Ashtown	30 3 35	0 10 0	—	
..	Castlebin East	Thomas Faulkner	307 2 0	229 0 0	1 0 0	
..	Castlebin North	Lord Ashtown	290 0 2	208 0 0	2 10 0	
..	Cloonahinch ..	Lord Ashtown	215 0 10	86 1 0	0 15 0	
..	Clooncallis (Killallaghtan)	Lord Ashtown	121 3 37	37 0 0	1 0 0	

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE No. 1—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Killaan ..	Cloonymorris	Reps. Lord Ashtown	9 0 17	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ashtown	22 0 4	8 9 0	1 0 0	
,,	Cloverpark ..	Reps. Lord Ashtown	50 2 30	37 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	Coppanagh ..	Reps. Lord Ashtown	176 3 36	57 0 0	1 15 0	
,,	Gortfadda ..	Charles O'Hara Trench ..	7 2 12	0 5 0	—	
,,	Gortmore ..	Reps. Lord Ashtown	164 3 28	93 15 0	0 15 0	
,,	Greenhills ..	Reps. Lord Ashtown	377 1 8	147 5 0	24 0 0	Mansion house
,,	,,	Reps. Lord Ashtown	6 3 0	2 10 0	—	
,,	Killaan ..	Lord Ashtown	83 3 24	38 0 0	3 0 0	
,,	,,	Lord Ashtown	54 0 33	22 5 0	39 0 0	
,,	Knockmore ..	Charles O'Hara Trench ..	125 3 20	81 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Lisnamoltaun ..	Charles O'Hara Trench ..	349 1 34	200 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Laughaunna-vaag	Reps. Lord Ashtown	0 3 31	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ashtown	45 0 10	11 14 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ashtown	0 2 1	0 1 0	—	
,,	Moneyveen ..	Lord Ashtown	212 0 2	142 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Lord Ashtown	129 0 4	60 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ashtown	87 1 0	50 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ashtown	182 0 21	103 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Reps. Lord Ashtown	3 0 35	1 2 0	—	
,,	Moyarwood ..	Reps. Lord Ashtown	354 0 14	2 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ashtown	197 2 36	109 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Lord Ashtown	14 1 17	2 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Lord Ashtown	29 1 16	2 5 0	—	
,,	Radullaan ..	Lord Ashtown	2 3 28	2 10 0	—	
,,	Tooreen ..	Charles O'Hara Trench ..	292 3 8	127 5 0	—	
,,	Woodlawn ..	Lord Ashtown	1,395 3 17	659 8 0	150 0 0	Mansion house.
Killallaghtan ..	Ballinphuill ..	Patrick J. Davy	175 3 8	38 12 0	0 10 0	
,,	Ballintober East	William A. Usher	67 1 6	28 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	John Smith	147 1 20	153 5 0	—	
,,	Ballymabilla	Walter S. Taylor	590 3 20	225 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Ballynaclogh	Patrick J. Davy	300 3 39	154 5 0	3 0 0	
,,	Cappataggle ..	Lord Clonbrock	34 3 24	1 0 0	—	
,,	Eastwell	William A. Usher	308 0 25	119 19 0	81 15 0	Mansion house.
,,	Gortnahoon ..	Laurence Egan	188 1 24	61 15 0	1 10 0	
,,	Hazelfort ..	Edward D. Longworth ..	3 3 3	1 5 0	0 5 0	
,,	Killagh More	Stephen J. R. Donelan ..	730 0 9	376 15 0	33 15 0	Mansion house.
,,	Newcastle (Aughrim)	Francis T. D. Longworth ..	74 1 17	20 0 0	—	
,,	,,	William R. Wade	135 3 31	89 0 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Francis T. D. Longworth ..	1 2 16	1 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Francis T. D. Longworth ..	8 0 15	4 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	Francis T. D. Longworth	121 0 23	88 0 0	—	
,,	Newcastle (Killallagutan)	Francis T. D. Longworth ..	142 3 29	93 15 0	—	
,,	Rayhill ..	Francis T. D. Longworth ..	145 0 6	111 5 0	—	
,,	Slihaun More ..	Edward Dames Longworth ..	0 1 25	—	—	
,,	Woodberry ..	Patrick J. Davy ..	108 0 24	59 10 0	10 0 0	Mansion house.
Killoran ..	Ballinrooaun ..	Nicholas M. Coolahan ..	314 1 20	132 0 0	9 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Brackloon ..	John Smith	215 1 0	149 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Killoran ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	387 3 19	257 0 0	3 0 0	
,,	,,	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	149 0 11	1 15 0	—	
,,	Pollatlugga ..	John Smith	188 0 11	112 0 0	—	
,,	Poppyhill (Killallaghtan)	Alice Ryan	13 2 37	6 5 0	—	
,,	Rooaun	Reps. John J. Madden ..	105 2 24	70 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	Shanbally-colman	George K. Mahon	45 3 11	30 0 0	—	
,,	Springfield ..	Cornelius Pelly	90 1 30	0 4 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	2 3 35	1 0 0	—	
Killure ..	Annaghbeg ..	Patrick Hughes	165 3 22	1 10 0	—	
,,	Ballyglass ..	Bernard Connerton	39 0 28	0 5 0	—	
,,	Ballyglass (Mahon)	Sir William H. Mahon, Bart.	265 1 11	112 0 0	3 0 0	
,,	Cloonigny ..	Lord Clonbrock	295 3 17	1 0 0	—	
,,	Creggaun ..	Lord Clonbrock	161 3 22	1 5 0	—	
,,	Killure Beg ..	James Cooke	449 1 15	244 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Killure Castle	Lord Clonbrock	322 1 24	1 0 0	—	
,,	Killure More ..	Lord Clonbrock	739 1 29	19 10 0	—	
,,	Lenafin ..	Charles O'Hara Trench ..	229 2 26	86 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Lowville ..	Bernard Connaughton ..	62 2 0	50 0 0	—	
,,	,,	John Duignan	158 1 10	142 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Bernard Connaughton ..	126 0 20	50 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Bernard Connaughton ..	104 3 0	63 0 0	—	
,,	,,	John Duignan	121 1 35	93 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Bernard Connaughton ..	170 1 35	147 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	Bernard Connaughton ..	59 3 0	34 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Bernard Connaughton ..	53 3 15	17 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Bernard Connaughton ..	27 2 25	18 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Bernard Connaughton ..	8 2 15	8 0 0	33 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Bernard Connaughton ..	108 3 19	41 5 0	—	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY *continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE No. 1—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observations.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
shane ..	Cankilly ..	Reps. John Pollock	192 2 37	2 5 0	—	
,,	Carta ..	Reps. James N. Atkinson ..	793 2 26	29 0 0	—	
,,	Esker ..	James C. Harter	770 0 31	186 5 0	—	
,,	Inishee ..	James C. Harter	72 3 39	66 0 0	—	
,,	Killaltanagh ..	Mrs. Treanor and Miss Seymour	87 3 0	0 10 0	—	
,,	Killeragh ..	Thomas H. Kenny	189 0 30	52 5 0	5 0 0	
,,	Kilmacshane (Turbett)	Robert J. Turbett	1,015 1 20	29 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Robert J. Turbett ..	0 3 27	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Robert J. Turbett	3 1 25	0 5 0	0 5 0	
,,	Kilnaborris ..	William B. Seton	134 3 17	48 0 0	65 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	William B. Seton	9 2 0	5 0 0	—	
ner ..	Addergoole ..	Owen Ryan	343 1 35	115 11 0	4 0 0	
,,	,,	John Ryan	187 0 13	103 15 0	—	
,,	Balloohy (Kelly)	Patrick Fahy	57 0 15	20 0 0	5 10 0	
,,	Coxtown ..	Edward Fitzmaurice	104 3 34	1 0 0	—	
,,	Derreen ..	Reps. Thomas S. Eyre	1 0 39	1 0 0	—	
,,	Feagh ..	Denis Delahunt	93 3 17	48 15 0	8 0 0	
,,	Gortnaraheen	Peter Larkin	18 2 32	13 10 0	8 0 0	
,,	Kiltormer West	Anna Maria Reynolds ..	15 2 32	0 2 0	—	
,,	Lisheenaguile	Reps. Very Rev. C. H. G. S. Butson	74 2 38	1 0 0	—	
,,	Newtowneyre	Reps. Thomas D. Eyre ..	20 0 0	12 10 0	30 0 0	Mansion house
,,	,,	Reps. Thomas D. Eyre ..	88 3 23	57 10 0	—	
..	Skecoor ..	Rosa Callanan	394 3 17	205 10 0	10 0 0	Mansion house.
ore	Annaghcorrib	Reps. John Pollok	108 2 27	0 10 0	—	
..	Coolcarta West	Reps. John Pollok	10 1 30	0 1 0	—	
..	Fynagh ..	Reps. John Pollok	129 2 35	14 8 0	—	
..	Garryduff	Reps. John Pollok	197 1 0	1 0 0	—	
..	Killevny ..	Reps. John Pollok	213 0 34	174 5 0	—	
,,	Kylemore ..	Reps. John Pollok	660 1 23	17 0 0	—	
cetown	Ballymore Lower	Walter G. Seymour	250 1 10	200 0 0	33 0 0	Mansion house.
..	,,	Rev. Charles Lawrence ..	99 1 27	48 5 0	—	
..	,,	Rev. Charles Lawrence ..	39 0 30	21 10 0	—	
..	Ballymore Upper	Rev. Charles Lawrence ..	188 0 15	124 5 0	—	
..	Belview or Lissareaghaun.	Rev. Charles Lawrence ..	646 1 34	335 7 0	42 0 0	Mansion house.
..	,,	Rev. Charles Lawrence ..	28 0 10	17 0 0	—	
..	,,	Rev. Charles Lawrence ..	52 3 0	27 10 0	—	
..	Craughwell ..	Rev. Charles Lawrence ..	181 3 31	1 0 0	—	
..	Dooros ..	Walter G. Seymour	123 2 36	8 5 0	—	
..	Gortnalug ..	James Cooke	24 3 37	13 10 0	—	
.	Graveshill ..	George B. Poer	16 0 5	0 2 0	—	
,	Laurencetown	Rev. Charles Lawrence ..	30 3 38	19 2 0	.	
..	Moaty	Rev. Charles Lawrence ..	192 2 2	73 0 0	—	
..	Oghilmore ..	Reps. John Pollok	49 3 7	14 0 0	—	
..	Rooghan ..	Reps. John Pollok	162 0 36	104 10 0	—	
ny ..	Ballymanagh	Reps. John Pollok	168 0 7	94 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	Reps. John Pollok	12 1 36	4 5 0	—	
,,	Barnaboy ..	Reps. John Pollok	169 1 22	94 5 0	—	
,,	Coalbeg ..	Charles Seymour	8 1 20	6 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles Seymour	129 0 29	73 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles Seymour	10 3 30	7 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	Crowsnest ..	Reps. John Pollok	318 2 28	147 10 0	13 0 0	
,,	Gannaveen ..	Reps. John Pollok	665 1 3	275 10 0	97 0 0	
,,	Lismanny ..	Reps. John Pollok	1,519 2 33	555 15 0	90 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Reps. John Pollok	210 3 25	139 0 0	7 10 0	
,,	Somerset ..	Charles Seymour	462 1 15	315 0 0	20 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Ballyluoge ..	Lord Clonbrock	57 2 4	0 9 0	—	
,,	Ballynahown ..	Reps. Patrick Kelly	25 1 3	11 12 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Thomas Tully	51 0 5	19 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Cloghagalla Eighter	Lord Clonbrock	12 0 27	1 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonkeen West	Lord Clonbrock	182 2 29	150 0 0	—	
,,	Killallaghtan ..	Lord Clonbrock	94 1 32	87 0 0	—	
,,	Lissawullaun ..	Lord Clonbrock	45 2 28	0 10 0	—	
,,	Lurgan Little	Lord Clonbrock	47 1 37	1 0 0	—	
,,	Park ..	Lord Clonbrock	15 1 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Tooreenard ..	Lord Clonbrock	67 2 30	49 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Oatfield ..	Edward Longworth	836 1 20	573 5 0	11 5 0	Mansion house.

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF CLIFDEN.

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observations.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Ballynakill ..	Addergoole ..	Duke of Manchester	919 3 32	34 0 0	25 10 0	
,,	,,	Florence V. Henry	45 1 35	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Duke of Manchester	1,695 3 30	20 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Ardkyle ..	Mrs. Kate M. F. L. Tulloch ..	227 3 39	32 0 0	—	
,,	Attirowerty ..	Minnie Graham	221 1 38	2 10 0	—	
,,	Bunoge ..	Minnie Graham	959 0 25	31 10 0	1 15 0	
,,	Cartron ..	Kate M. F. L. Tulloch ..	118 3 32	32 0 0	12 0 0	Mansion house
,,	,,	Mrs. Kate M. F. L. Tulloch ..	73 3 23	16 0 0	—	
,,	Clooncree ..	Mrs. Kate M. F. L. Tulloch ..	19 0 0	7 10 0	—	
,,	Crocknaraw ..	Minnie Graham	355 0 24	4 15 0	—	
,,	Derrylahan ..	Mrs. Kate M. F. L. Tulloch ..	67 2 28	21 10 0	—	
,,	Dooneen ..	Mrs. Kate M. F. L. Tulloch ..	19 2 23	9 10 0	—	
,,	Freaghillaun South.	Mrs. Kate M. F. L. Tulloch	59 0 9	7 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Glassillaun ..	Mrs. Kate M. F. L. Tulloch ..	2 1 14	0 10 0	—	
,,	Keelkyle ..	Minnie Graham	26 2 14	9 0 0	10 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Minnie Graham	807 3 28	12 15 0	—	
,,	Letterfrack ..	Samuel Freyer	4 3 7	0 15 0	15 5 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Richard Maxwell and others ..	1 2 25	0 10 0	2 10 0	
,,	,,	Minnie Graham	14 3 31	0 10 0	—	
,,	Maumfin ..	Mrs. Kate M. F. L. Tulloch ..	107 0 9	26 10 0	—	
,,	Mweelin ..	Duke of Manchester	656 3 21	17 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Moyard ..	Minnie Graham	979 1 11	10 0 0	—	
,,	Roscrea ..	Mrs. Charlotte Browne ..	125 3 3	40 0 0	2 0 0	
,,	Rosleague ..	Charlotte Browne	224 1 28	58 0 0	21 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Ross ..	Mrs. Kate M. F. L. Tulloch and Thomas Joyce	127 3 34	47 5 0	25 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Tievegarriff ..	Mrs. Kate M. F. L. Tulloch	118 0 39	24 10 0	—	
,,	Tievemore ..	Mrs. Kate M. F. L. Tulloch ..	49 0 35	21 0 0	—	
,,	Ungwee	Minnie Graham	458 2 16	3 0 0	—	
,,	Islands ..	W. A. L. Tulloch	1 1 5	—	—	
,,	,,	Gilman Browne	0 0 24	—	—	
,,	,,	W. A. L Tulloch	0 3 32	—	—	
Rencorr ..	Ballynahinch	Richard Berridge	679 2 32	145 0 0	118 15 0	Mansion house.
,,	Barnanang	Mitchell Henry	1,199 2 19	22 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	Cloonbeg ..	Richard Berridge	292 3 19	9 5 0	1 10 0	
,,	Derryadd West	Richard Berridge	10 0 10	1 11 0	—	
,,	,,	Richard Berridge	17 2 25	5 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Richard Berridge	31 2 0	5 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	Derryclare ..	Richard Berridge	2,381 2 20	9 0 0	3 0 0	
,,	Islands in Lough Inagh	Richard Berridge	0 2 33	—	—	
,,	Emlaghdauroe	Richard Berridge	623 0 19	2 7 0	0 10 0	
,,	Killeen ..	Richard Berridge	379 3 19	36 5 0	8 5 0	
,,	Tievebreen ..	Richard Berridge	1,562 2 32	6 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Deer Island ..	Richard Berridge	4 0 16	0 13 0	—	
,,	Red Island ..	Richard Berridge	2 3 5	0 8 0	—	
,,	Eagle Island	Richard Berridge	1 2 10	—	—	
,,	Finnisglin ..	Richard Berridge	137 1 0	4 10 0	28 0 0	
Runowen ..	Aillebrack ..	Charles J. Blake	186 2 12	1 9 0	—	
	Ballyconneely	George E. O'Flaherty ..	204 1 10	77 5 0	0 10 0	
	,,	George E. O'Flaherty ..	55 0 38	44 0 0	6 0 0	
,,	,,	Geogre E. O'Flaherty ..	5 3 23	2 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	George E. O'Flaherty ..	9 2 1	4 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	George E. O'Flaherty ..	15 0 25	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles Murphy	31 1 33	8 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	Charles Murphy	14 3 4	3 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles Murphy	19 2 3	2 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles Murphy	7 1 18	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles Murphy	13 0 34	5 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles Murphy	236 1 7	10 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles Murphy	7 1 4	0 17 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles Murphy	32 3 37	4 10 0	—	
,,	Callow ..	Thomas McCullagh & Co. ..	9 1 20	0 18 0	—	
,,	Dolan ..	Thomas McCullagh & Co. ..	9 2 10	0 15 0	—	
,,	Doohulla ..	The Congested Districts Board for Ireland	448 3 6	1 0 0	—	
	ISLANDS—					
,,	Calf and Fox Islands	George E. O'Flaherty ..	5 2 3	3 0 0	—	
,,	Six Islands ..	John C Jones	9 0 4	—	—	
,,	Three Islands	Charles J. Blake	1 3 35	—	—	
,,	Wherune Islands	Rep. John Burke	3 0 10	—	—	
,,	Emlaghmore ..	The Congested Districts Board for Ireland	660 3 25	2 0 0	—	
,,	..	The Congested Districts Board for Ireland	32 1 25	6 2 0	13 15 0	
Cleggan ..	Cleggan ..	Elizabeth Twining	902 1 32	158 10 0	80 0 0	Mansion house
,,	,,	Frederick Twining	0 1 0	0 4 0	1 0 0	
,,	Shanboolard ..	Mrs. Kate M. F. L. Tulloch ..	264 2 10	47 0 0	40 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Shinnanagh ..	Richard Kearney	129 1 24	7 0 0	—	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF CLIFDEN—*continued.*

ectoral vision.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observations.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
..	Shinnanagh ..	Richard Kearney	329 1 2	20 0 0	6 0 0	
,,	,,	Richard Kearney	183 1 26	8 0 0	—	
,,	Tooreen ..	Charlotte Browne	442 0 22	25 2 0	0 18 0	
,,	,,	Samuel Freyer	163 2 16	3 15 0	—	
..	Ardbear ..	Le Baron Henri D'Ivoley ..	0 0 17	0 2 0	—	
,,	,,	Le Baron Henri D'Ivoley ..	17 1 0	11 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Le Baron Henri D'Ivoley ..	13 2 31	9 2 0	—	
,,	Clifden Demesne	Le Baron Henri D'Ivoley ..	203 2 27	58 0 0	45 10 0	Mansion house
,,	Doon ..	Patrick O'Neill	484 0 0	17 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Patrick O'Neill	70 3 12	33 0 0	—	
,,	Eshal Island ..	Richard Berridge	11 2 29	0 15 0	—	
,,	Faul ..	George S. Mansfield	19 3 13	7 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	George S. Mansfield	12 1 4	4 10 0	—	
,,	,,	George S. Mansfield	3 2 27	0 16 0	—	
,,	,,	George S. Mansfield	14 0 17	8 0 0	23 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	George S. Mansfield	14 3 5	4 15 0	3 10 0	
,,	Glenbrickeen	Bernard J. Lee	7 0 0	2 17 0	—	
,,	Flat Island ..	Rep. Robert Mansfield ..	1 1 1	0 10 0	—	
,,	Kill ..	Colin H. Thompson	132 2 35	53 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Colin H. Thomson	1 0 0	1 0 0	12 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Streamstown or Barratrough	Thomas Coneys	5 2 37	1 1 0	—	
,,	,,	Thomas Coneys	2 2 34	0 15 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Thomas Coneys	26 1 6	10 15 0	0 5 0	
,,	Tullyvoheen ..	Moreton Frewen	1 3 20	0 18 0	—	
,,	,,	Moreton Frewen	2 2 12	1 0 0	—	
lery ..	Bunowen ..	Colin H. Thomson	1,437 1 3	53 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	Foher ..	Colin H. Thomson	625 2 15	41 10 0	—	
,,	Inishbarma Island	Colin H. Thompson	22 2 21	1 5 0	—	
,,	Kylemore ..	Lord Ardilaun	303 2 12	4 2 0	10 3 0	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	24 0 10	1 5 0	18 15 0	Mansion house.
..	,,	Lord Ardilaun	914 0 9	20 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	509 0 4	16 5 0	3 0 0	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	411 1 33	14 0 0	2 10 0	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	6 2 0	2 0 0	12 0 0	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	1,337 0 16	16 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Letterettrin ..	Colin H. Thomson	382 2 28	9 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Rosroe ..	Colin H. Thomson	207 0 21	15 10 0	3 0 0	
,,	Salrock ..	Colin H. Thomson	234 1 22	19 0 0	17 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Tullyconor ..	Captain C. H. Thomson ..	274 2 24	8 15 0	—	
,,	Four Islands ..	Francis M. L. Taylor ..	0 3 22	—	—	
,,	Thirteen Islands	Colin H. Thomson	7 1 3	—	—	
nlagh	Emlagh More	Richard Berridge	119 0 0	2 0 0	—	
,,	Toombeola	Richard Berridge	204 2 34	1 0 0	—	
..	Illaunaveal ..	Joseph Gorham	1 0 29	—	—	
,,	Slieveburke ..	John Kendall	1,086 0 0	6 0 0	—	
ghan	Islands ..	Richard Berridge	8 0 33	—	—	
,,	Twenty-one Islands	Richard Berridge	24 1 27	—	—	
,,	Carricklea and Doonawaul Islands	Richard Berridge	12 1 1	—	—	
,,	Two Islands	Ballast Board	2 0 0	—	—	
,,	Leaghcarrick ..	Charles J. Blake	80 0 31	19 5 0	1 0 0	
,,	Mannin Beg ..	Dominick E. Browne	321 0 34	68 2 0	0 8 0	
,,	Mannin More	Dominick L. Browne	422 0 6	80 13 0	2 0 0	
,,	Six Islands ..	Dominick L. Browne	0 1 35	—	—	
,,	Truska ..	Reps. John Kendall	389 0 25	42 15 0	1 5 0	
non ..	Boolagare ..	The Congested Districts Board for Ireland	0 1 14	—	—	
,,	Derryeighter ..	Walter S. Wall	43 0 2	12 0 0	—	
,,	Three Islands	Walter S. Wall	1 0 5	—	—	
,,	Derrygimlagh	Rep. John Kendall	153 3 4	33 5 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Irish Church Missions Society ..	33 2 30	10 0 0	0 3 0	
,,	Drinagh ..	Walter S. Wall	236 3 5	18 18 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Walter S. Wall	23 2 10	4 10 0	6 10 0	
,,	,,	Walter S. Wall	7 1 0	1 15 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Walter S. Wall	9 0 0	2 10 0	—	
,,	Drimmeen ..	John Byrne	49 2 10	16 15 0	9 10 0	
,,	Illaunrush Island	John Byrne	2 3 27	1 0 0	—	
,,	Keerhaun North	Walter S. Wall	50 2 22	13 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	Kill ..	Walter S. Wall	72 1 37	21 5 0	15 0 0	Mansion house
,,	,,	Walter S. Wall	38 0 13	5 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Walter S. Wall	14 2 24	3 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Walter S. Wall	73 2 29	13 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Walter S. Wall	4 3 7	2 5 0	0 5 0	
,,	Ballinaboy ..	James T. A. Morris	45 3 6	1 19 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	James T. A. Morris	53 2 19	5 15 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	James T. A. Morris	22 0 9	0 12 0	1 18 0	

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF CLIFDEN—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Errislannon ..	Ballinaboy ..	James T. A. Morris	3 2 26	0 5 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	James T. A. Morris	44 1 38	7 12 0	8 5 0	
,,	,,	Anna Morris	6 0 15	2 10 0	—	
,,	,,	James Morris	6 2 14	0 14 0	—	
,,	,,	James T. A. Morris	5 1 32	0 1 0	—	
,,	Two Islands ..	Anthony Morris	0 0 7	—	—	
Illion ..	Sue Island ..	Richard Berridge	1 2 2	—	—	
Inishbofin ..	Cloonamore ..	Cyril Allies	17 2 7	1 10 0	—	
,,	Inishark	Cyril Allies	8 0 36	2 2 0	—	
,,	Glassillan Island	Cyril Allies	1 1 36	—	—	
,,	Glassillan Island	Cyril Allies	0 2 6	—	2 10 0	
,,	Blackrock Island	Cyril Allies	1 3 22	—	—	
,,	Glassillanadoon Island	Cyril Allies	1 0 2	—	—	
,,	Lecky Rocks,	Cyril Allies	11 0 10	—	—	
,,	Stags of Bofin	Cyril Allies	7 2 16	—	—	
,,	Knock	Cyril Allies	36 3 4	4 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	Middlequarter	Cyril Allies	27 2 6	8 10 0	10 0 0	Mansion house.
Knockboy ..	Carna ..	Congested Districts Board ..	8 0 11	0 2 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	15 3 2	0 4 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	6 0 31	0 1 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	4 0 18	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Martin Lydon	73 2 0	4 10 0	4 5 0	
,,	Croaghnakeela Island	Richard Berridge	142 0 32	12 0 0	—	
,,	Illaunnacroagh-beg	Richard Berridge	2 2 29	0 12 0	—	
,,	Illaunnacroagh More	Richard Berridge	12 2 36	2 10 0	—	
,,	Moyrus ..	Congested Districts Board ..	12 2 34	0 16 0	—	
,,	Rush Island	Colin H. Thomson	0 2 9	—	—	
Moyrus ..	Two Islands ..	Richard Berridge	0 0 5	—	—	
,,	Lettershinna ..	Richard Berridge	3,771 1 24	6 10 0	—	
Owengowla ..	One Island ..	Richard Berridge	0 3 19	1 0 0	—	
,,	Loughawee ..	Philip Newton	1,045 0 29	6 0 0	—	
Rinvyle ..	Cloonlooaun ..	Caroline J. Blake	314 0 19	25 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Henry E. V. Blake	15 0 0	2 5 0	—	
,,	Curragh ..	Henry E. V. Blake	83 0 3	46 5 0	3 15 0	
,,	Dawrosmore ..	Duke of Manchester ..	7 2 0	3 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Derryherbert ..	Henry E. V. Blake	90 3 32	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Caroline J. Blake	125 3 36	0 19 0	—	
,,	Gorteennaglogh	Caroline J. Blake	18 0 5	0 4 0	—	
,,	,,	Henry E. V. Blake	24 2 36	5 18 0	—	
,,	Broadillaun Island	Caroline J. Blake	4 2 13	0 15 0	—	
,,	Four Islands ..	Henry E. V. Blake	1 0 22	—	—	
,,	Twenty Islands	Henry E. V. Blake	8 0 38	—	—	
,,	Four Islands	Henry E. V. Blake	1 0 22	—	—	
,,	Kanrawen ..	Caroline J. Blake	69 1 37	46 15 0	2 15 0	
,,	Lettergesh West	Duke of Manchester ..	7 2 20	1 8 0	0 10 0	
,,	Mullaghglass	Duke of Manchester	50 2 35	12 0 0	12 0 0	
,,	Pollacappul ..	Duke of Manchester	1,093 1 24	29 8 0	300 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Rusheenduff ..	Caroline J. Blake	32 0 25	16 0 0	24 0 0	
,,	,,	Caroline J. Blake	28 1 10	3 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Caroline J. Blake	79 1 0	28 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Tonadooravaun	Henry E. V. Blake	64 0 30	36 0 0	—	
,,	Tooreena ..	Duke of Manchester	11 1 10	1 12 0	—	
,,	,,	Duke of Manchester	765 2 32	59 0 0	6 0 0	
,,	Tullybeg ..	Henry E. V. Blake	4 2 13	0 11 0	—	
,,	Tullymore ..	Henry E. V. Blake	4 3 16	2 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Caroline J. Blake	7 2 30	0 5 0	1 5 0	
,,	,,	Caroline J. Blake	3 0 20	0 3 0	—	
Roundstone ..	Errisbeg East	Richard Berridge	1,052 1 7	10 0 0	—	
,,	Errisbeg West	Richard Berridge	573 0 2	3 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	Roundstone ..	Richard Berridge	5 1 12	2 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Richard Berridge	6 3 18	0 7 0	—	
,,	Red Island ..	Richard Berridge	1 1 4	0 14 0	—	
Silerna ..	Moorneen ..	A. H. D. Lighton	141 2 8	2 10 0	—	
Skannive ..	Beagha ..	Philip Newton	835 2 0	5 5 0	—	
,,	Kilkieran ..	William Foreman	1 0 20	0 7 0	—	
,,	,,	William Foreman	5 2 0	1 9 0	—	
,,	,,	William Foreman	0 2 20	0 10 0	11 10 0	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

APPENDIX X.

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF GALWAY.

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
ghdown ..	Annaghdown ..	Richard Blake	434 0 35	91 8 0	12 0 0	
,,	Barranny ..	Michael Newell (Peter) ..	37 1 26	2 3 0	0 7 0	
,,	Coteenty ..	Richard Blake	174 0 16	16 15 0	—	
,,	Woodpark ..	Patrick F. Newell	49 3 8	5 15 0	4 10 0	
,,	,,	Michael Newell (Peter) ..	18 0 13	1 0 0	—	
,,	Billybeg Island	John Byrne	0 1 2	—	—	
,,	Muckrush Island	John Byrne	3 0 22	—	—	
,,	Illaunanee Island	Richard Blake	37 2 7	4 6 0	—	
rim ..	Ballinloughaun	Mary Kidd	134 1 23	21 0 0	—	
,,	Ballydavid Middle	Albert Clarke	189 0 5	45 15 0	0 15 0	
,,	Barrettspark ..	Stephen Ruane	150 1 1	11 0 0	—	
,,	Caherbriskaun	John Leonard	153 3 15	26 10 0	—	
,,	Caraunduff ..	John Kelly	185 3 24	17 15 0	—	
,,	Carrowntober East	General George B. Rodney ..	146 0 6	1 0 0	—	
,,	Carnaun ..	Rep. Peter F. Lambert ..	131 2 31	34 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Rep. Peter F. Lambert ..	26 3 32	6 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Rep. Peter F. Lambert ..	5 0 19	1 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Rep. Peter F. Lambert ..	0 1 29	0 5 0	1 5 0	
,,	,,	Rep. Peter F. Lambert ..	128 0 25	36 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Rep. Peter F. Lambert ..	0 3 39	0 2 0	—	
,,	Castle Ellen ..	Rep. Peter F. Lambert ..	379 2 18	142 10 0	35 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Castlelambert	Frank Shaw Taylor	228 2 13	61 10 0	20 0 0	
,,	,,	Frank Shaw Taylor	14 0 20	5 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Frank Shaw Taylor	49 2 0	20 10 0	—	
,,	Fahys Village	Reps. Peter F. Lambert ..	89 0 4	29 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Loughaun-nenaghan	Reps. Peter F. Lambert ..	126 2 9	28 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Mountain North	Reps. Peter F. Lambert ..	192 1 33	30 5 0	—	
,,	Pollagh ..	Reps. Peter F. Lambert ..	114 1 22	25 0 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Reps. Peter F. Lambert ..	3 2 20	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Peter F. Lambert ..	1 3 20	0 15 0	3 0 0	
,,	Saint Ellen ..	Reps. Peter F. Lambert ..	70 0 25	13 18 0	1 5 0	
,,	Tobernavean	Samuel Mortimer Russell ..	15 0 0	0 14 0	2 0 0	
,,	,,	Samuel Mortimer Russell ..	77 3 20	3 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Samuel Mortimer Russell ..	8 1 30	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Samuel Mortimer Russell ..	22 0 0	1 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Samuel Mortimer Russell ..	86 3 28	4 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Samuel Mortimer Russell ..	57 0 0	4 5 0	—	
itemple ..	Kiltullagh ..	Robert W. Holmes	52 2 0	12 0 0	—	
,,	Rockwood ..	Robert W. Holmes	40 3 23	25 0 0	20 0 0	Mansion house.
nacourty ..	Ardfry	Lord Wallscourt	145 2 28	110 0 0	60 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Carrowmore	John A. O'Flaherty	109 0 19	49 0 0	3 15 0	
,,	Cottage ..	Charles V. Pratt	29 0 13	20 0 0	17 0 0	
,,	,,	Charles V. Pratt	136 0 3	80 0 0	—	
,,	Garraun Lower	Lord Wallscourt	15 1 26	9 15 0	—	
,,	Mweenish Island and three other Islands	John A. O'Flaherty	80 1 12	28 10 0	—	
,,	Marshallspark	Lord Wallscourt	18 1 26	11 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Wallscourt	8 1 10	5 10 0	—	
,,	Prospect Hill	Lord Wallscourt	6 2 17	6 5 0	6 0 0	
,,	Treanlaur ..	Lord Wallscourt	81 2 10	48 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Wallscourt	4 1 23	2 5 0	1 15 0	
..	Aille ..	John Redington	105 1 11	23 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Lord Campbell	204 3 29	2 0 0	—	
,,	Attyshonock ..	The Congested Districts Board for Ireland	35 3 3	1 2 0	—	
,,	,,	The Congested Districts Board for Ireland	67 0 29	7 10 0	—	
,,	Ballymoneen East	Marcus Lynch	7 0 11	4 10 0	—	
,,	Barna ..	Marcus Lynch	118 2 6	86 10 0	21 0 0	
,,	Ballybeg East	Marcus Lynch	87 1 1	18 10 0	—	
,,	Brownville ..	The Congested Districts Board for Ireland	157 3 33	55 5 0	13 0 0	
,,	Ballymoneen West	Marcus Lynch	29 0 16	25 12 0	—	
,,	Cappagh ..	Marcus Lynch	109 2 24	24 1 0	—	
,,	,,	Marcus Lynch	16 1 0	3 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonagower ..	Marcus Lynch	32 3 20	20 10 0	—	
,,	Corboley (Morgan)	Lord Campbell	462 2 13	—	—	
,,	Derryloney ..	Marcus Lynch	48 0 9	21 10 0	—	
,,	Drum West ..	The Congested Districts Board for Ireland	15 1 10	1 0 0	—	
,,	Ferramoyle East	Lord Campbell	3 3 20	0 15 0	—	

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 550 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF GALWAY—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Barna ..	Freeport ..	Lord Campbell	5 1 2	2 15 0	—	
,,	Gortnalecka ..	Marcus Lynch	14 1 10	13 0 0	—	
,,	Kimmeenmore	Marcus Lynch	3 0 0	0 15 0	—	
,,	Knockaunnacarragh	Marcus Lynch	10 2 39	3 10 0	—	
,,	Knocknacarragh	Trustees of Alliance Insurance Co.	25 2 3	25 0 0	—	
,,	Lenabower ..	Marcus Lynch	5 0 12	1 0 0	—	
,,	Lenarevagh ..	Marcus Lynch	12 3 37	3 0 0	—	
,,	Lisheenakeeran	The Congested Districts Board for Ireland	2 0 24	0 3 0	—	
,,	Oddacres ..	Lord Campbell	32 3 37	0 10 0	—	
,,	Pollagh ..	The Congested Districts Board for Ireland	52 1 10	2 15 0	—	
,,	Rusheen ..	Marcus Lynch	5 0 20	5 10 0	—	
,,	Shanballyduff	Marcus Lynch	30 1 36	25 18 0	—	
,,	Trusky East	Lord Campbell	12 0 11	3 10 0	—	
,,	Pollnarooma West	Reps. Anne O'Hara	60 2 38	58 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Margaret O'Hara	3 0 0	3 10 0	—	
Belleville ..	Belleville Demesne	Brien T. Mahon	37 1 9	14 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Brien T. Mahon	54 2 30	15 0 0	—	
,,	Caheratee More North	Joseph M. Meldon	89 0 0	9 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Joseph M. Meldon	31 2 0	4 0 0	—	
,,	Coraun ..	Brien T. Mahon	222 3 26	37 15 0	1 5 0	
,,	Cossaun ..	Brien T. Mahon	22 3 27	5 15 0	—	
,,	Farravaun ..	Brien T. Mahon	905 0 34	187 15 0	1 0 0	
Carnmore ..	Lakeview ..	Robert W. Holmes	244 3 7	103 0 0	4 0 0	
Carrowbrowne	Carrowbrowne	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	285 3 26	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cloon ..	Richard French	302 3 6	2 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Richard French	9 1 25	4 15 0	—	
,,	Clooncauneen (Oranmore)	Robert Fair	82 2 37	1 15 0	—	
,,	Sylaun ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	341 3 7	5 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	Pollaghrevagh	Richard French	160 1 8	26 5 0	12 0 0	
Claregalway ..	Curraghmore	Lord Clanmorris	775 1 21	35 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Gortadoosy ..	Thomas C. Lambert	36 0 20	0 3 0	—	
,,	Kiniska ..	Lord Clanmorris	23 3 18	3 11 0	—	
,,	Mullaghrutty	Thomas C. Lambert	20 3 6	10 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	Waterdale ..	Thomas C. Lambert	457 0 2	199 4 0	2 0 0	
Clarinbridge ..	Cloghalahard	Anne Redington	26 2 5	2 13 0	4 2 0	
,,	Gortard ..	Anne Redington	58 2 20	8 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Anne Redington	109 2 31	17 0 0	—	
,,	Kilcornan ..	Anne Redington	935 2 20	454 15 0	100 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Anne Redington	6 0 0	2 0 0	4 0 0	
,,	,,	Anne Redington	0 0 10	0 2 0	3 3 0	
,,	Rinville West	Edmond J. Athy	659 3 11	501 10 0	43 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Slieveaun ..	Anne Redington	5 2 26	1 5 0	—	
,,	Stradbally East	Anne Redington	160 3 31	69 10 0	1 5 0	
,,	Tarramud	Anne Redington	89 1 31	15 15 0	—	
Deerpark ..	Canteeny ..	Joseph M. Meldon	49 2 26	11 10 0	—	
,,	Carheenlea ..	Joseph M. Meldon	256 2 18	44 0 0	22 0 0	
,,	,,	Joseph M. Meldon	1 3 34	0 10 0	—	
Furbogh ..	Allaghfreaghaun	Colonel J. A. Daly	19 1 17	0 5 0	—	
,,	Ballynabown ..	Colonel J. A. Daly	120 2 7	33 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Colonel J. A. Daly	44 0 28	26 10 0	—	
,,	Derryloughaun East	Colonel J. A. Daly	49 2 20	14 14 0	—	
,,	Derryoughter	John Archer Daly	24 3 33	7 3 0	—	
,,	Furboghgarve	John A. Daly	109 2 30	18 0 0	—	
,,	Seershin ..	Colonel J. A. Daly	62 1 1	13 15 0	8 0 0	
,,	Knocknagreena	Colonel J. A. Daly	72 3 26	0 15 0	—	
Galway Rural	Coolanillaun ..	Sir Valentine Blake, Bt. ..	4 1 21	0 6 0	—	
,,	Dangan Lower	William and Sarah Meldon ..	69 1 0	58 10 0	—	
,,	,,	John Redington	2 1 0	0 15 0	—	
,,	Rahylin Glebe	John W. Lynch	20 3 0	20 0 0	—	
,,	Roscam ..	Trustees of Erasmus Smith ..	65 2 28	35 0 0	—	
,,	Tonacurragh ..	Sir Valentine Blake, Bt. ..	237 1 13	12 0 0	—	
,,	Menlough	Sir Valentine Blake, Bt. ..	29 1 10	17 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir Valentine Blake, Bt. ..	14 1 29	8 4 0	0 3 0	
,,	Glenanail ..	R. N. Somerville	13 3 17	7 15 0	—	
,,	Merlinpark ..	W. S. Waithman	1 0 10	0 10 0	—	
,,	Ballybaanbeg	R. N. Somerville	1 0 0	0 12 0	—	
Inishmore ..	Straw Island	Hon. K. D. St. Lawrence and Elizabeth F. Digby	11 0 36	—	—	
,,	Killeany (Hill Quarter)	Lady Guinness and others ..	481 1 0	63 10 0	11 10 0	
Killannin ..	Boliska Oughter	Mary Jane O'Malley	4 1 30	0 3 0	—	
,,	Shaunawoneen	John Archer Daly	487 1 30	3 10 0	—	
,,	,,	John Archer Daly	54 1 33	3 5 0	—	
,,	Bohoona East	Lord Morris	25 1 32	7 8 0	28 2 0	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF GALWAY—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observations.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
kaghbeg ..	Crusheeny ..	Lord Clanmorris	148 3 12	30 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Kiltroge (Lackagh)	Lord Clanmorris	120 0 12	27 5 0	—	
ananaun ..	Auclogeen ..	Errol J. Blake	19 1 7	4 0 0	—	
,,	Barravilla ..	Pierce Joyce	93 2 13	45 0 0	—	
,,	Baunmore ..	Martin Oranmore Kirwan ..	124 3 20	41 10 0	10 0 0	
,,	Cloghaun (Lackagh)	Martin Oranmore Kirwan ..	56 2 33	21 14 0	—	
,,	Cregg ..	Helen C. Blake	225 0 29	95 10 0	40 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Drumbaun ..	Martin Oranmore Kirwan ..	33 2 36	15 0 0	—	
,,	Drumgriffin ..	Joseph S. Butler ..	29 3 21	12 5 0	—	
,,	Liscananaun ..	Martin Oranmore Kirwan ..	312 2 30	37 15 0	2 10 0	
,,	Tonagarraun ..	Francis Butler	122 1 18	29 6 0	18 0 0	
heenavalla ..	Ballymoneen	Pierce Joyce	41 3 15	4 5 0	—	
,,	Cashla ..	Pierce Joyce	20 2 30	2 10 0	—	
,,	Cregcarragh ..	Pierce Joyce	14 2 24	1 0 0	—	
,,	Cregmore ..	Pierce Joyce	42 2 35	9 10 0	—	
rcullen ..	Aubwee ..	Matthew Kenny	69 1 25	6 5 0	—	
,,	Ballycuirke West	Lord Campbell	42 1 39	10 5 0	—	
,,	Clooniff ..	Matthew Kenny	428 0 16	35 15 0	—	
,,	Kylebroghlan	Lord Campebll	48 1 0	1 10 0	—	
,,	Moycullen ..	Lord Campbell	37 3 38	1 4 0	—	
nmore ..	Corrowmoneash	James Blake Butler	216 2 30	88 17 0	26 0 0	
,,	Deerpark ..	James Perry	66 1 23	23 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Oranmore ..	Isabella Ussher	5 1 37	2 0 0	—	
,,	Rocklands ..	Isabella Ussher	75 2 17	22 5 0	13 0 0	
,,	Millplot ..	Martyn J. Comyn	2 3 0	1 2 0	—	
rcaneena ..	Ardderroo ..	Joseph Lee	790 0 31	14 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	Drummavohaun	Charles Kilkelly	7 0 4	0 6 0	—	
,,	Keeagh ..	Rep. James H. Scott	312 2 0	5 15 0	—	
,,	Letter ..	Martin Lydon	1,675 2 16	22 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Oghery ..	Charles Kilkelly	1 0 4	0 12 0	..	
,,	Knockaunranny	The Congested Districts Board for Ireland	1 3 10	0 4 0	—	
,,	,,	Rep. Robert J. Martin ..	51 0 0	0 5 0	—	
idle ..	Sheeaunroe ..	Augusta E. Lynch Coleman ..	21 3 0	8 0 0	10 0 0	
,,	Spiddle East ..	Susannah Palmer	51 3 1	24 7 0	20 0 0	
..	Spiddle West	Lord Killanin	7 1 29	1 15 0	—	
,,	Truskaunnagappul	Susannah Palmer	187 2 31	3 0 0	—	
,,	Killough ..	Augusta E. Lynch Coleman ..	4 2 21	0 17 0	—	
dbally ..	Moyveela (Athenry)	C. T. B. Vandeleur	13 2 1	5 0 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Maud O'Connor Hinchy ..	16 2 24	6 0 0	—	
,,	Shantallow ..	C. T. B. Vandeleur	0 1 5	0 2 0	—	
okyne ..	Ballydotia ..	George E. Burke	55 0 8	16 0 0	—	
,,	Ballynahalia ..	Lord Campbell	163 3 12	14 1 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Campbell	21 2 9	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonnabinnia	George E. Burke	5 0 27	0 10 0	—	
,,	Drimcong ..	Charles E. Kilkelly	102 3 24	41 15 0	15 10 0	
,,	Gortachalla ..	Lord Campbell	104 1 35	2 10 0	—	
,,	Gortyloughlin	Reps. George E. Burke ..	44 1 1	19 10 0	—	
,,	Island in Lough Corrib	Lord Campbell	22 3 20	—	—	
,,	Killarainy ..	Reps. George E. Burke ..	116 3 36	53 15 0	—	
,,	Knockshanbally	Reps. George E. Burke ..	285 2 37	94 15 0	—	
,,	Leagaun ..	Lord Campbell	2 1 27	0 10 0	—	
..	Tullokyne ..	Lord Campbell	12 2 0	2 5 0	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF GLENNAMADDY.

nastack ..	Bushtown ..	Malachi Keaveny	10 3 18	4 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonacross ..	John Morgan	43 2 0	15 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonlara North	Thomas Tighe	81 2 25	0 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	Cloonminda ..	William Alexander	18 3 7	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cuiltifaddoo ..	Martin McDonnell	46 0 30	—	—	
,,	Gorteen ..	John P. Taaffe	295 3 3	140 0 0	8 0 0	
,,	Knockhauns West	Garrett Kelly	57 1 2	21 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Martin McDonnell	123 2 31	1 8 0	—	
,,	,,	Garrett Kelly	32 2 34	0 5 0	—	
,,	Stonepark ..	Malachi Keaveny	88 0 7	40 0 0	4 0 0	
,,	Stonetown ..	Reps. Malachi Keaveny ..	9 1 2	2 18 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Malachi Keaveny ..	106 2 15	40 18 0	0 7 0	
..	Straid ..	Thomas Tighe	16 3 5	0 5 0	—	

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF GLENNAMADDY—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Ballymore ..	Ballaghymurry	Sir N. O'Connor	9 1 15	3 0 0	1 5 0	
,,	Bookalagh ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	399 3 2	2 5 0	—	
	Cloonadarragh	Sir Nicholas O'Connor ..	44 2 15	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonruff ..	Sir N. R. O'Connor	202 1 31	112 0 0	2 0 0	
..	Corliskea ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	314 3 33	6 10 0	—	
,,	Durrow ..	Sir N. R. O'Connor	16 0 39	10 0 0	—	
,,	Tobinstown ..	Isabella Bodkin	56 3 2	36 0 0	15 0 0	Mansion house.
Ballynakill .	Aghalateeve ..	Rev. Solomon Richards & Others	18 2 4	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Rev. Solomon Richards & Others	0 0 32	0 5 0	0 5 0	
,	Cloghfaghna ..	Elliott Armstrong	108 3 0	2 5 0	—	
,	Corgarve ..	Reps. John Pollok	201 3 9	60 0 0	3 0 0	
,	,,	Reps. John Pollok	37 2 38	4 0 0	—	
,	Corlackan ..	Rev. Soloman Richards & Others	14 2 26	1 10 0	—	
,	Glinsk ..	Reps. John Pollok	3 3 0	0 14 0	—	
,,	,,	Rep .John Pollok	96 3 12	1 0 0	4 8 0	
,,	,,	Reps. John Pollok	84 1 27	7 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John Pollok	224 0 0	92 2 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John Pollok	255 0 10	100 0 0	20 0 0	
,,	Newtown ..	Martin Morgan	67 3 33	45 0 0	—	
,,	,,	John Morgan	26 2 9	17 10 0	0 10 0	
,	,,	Owen McDermott Lynch ..	96 3 14	0 18 0	—	
,,	Ussey ..	John Pollock	151 3 20	1 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Rep. John Pollok	4 0 20	0 17 0	—	
,,	,,	Rep. John Pollok	12 3 27	2 15 0	—	
,,	Sonnagh (Ballynakill)	Rep. John Pollok	141 2 36	32 0 0	0 1 0	
,,	Treanpark ..	Rep. John Pollok	112 0 37	54 5 0	0 15 0	
Boyounagh ..	Ballinphuill ..	Martin McDonnell	41 0 17	0 4 0	—	
,,	Boyounagh Beg	Martin McDonnell	66 2 31	0 8 0	—	
,,	Boyounagh More	Farrell McDonnell	13 0 34	2 5 0	—	
,,	Cashel ..	Farrell M'Donnell	97 3 27	0 15 0	—	
,,	Cloonkeen ..	Farrell M'Donnell	49 2 14	0 13 0	—	
,,	Eskeromullacaun	Farrell M'Donnell	211 0 35	1 18 0	—	
,,	Meelick ..	Farrell M'Donnell	190 0 5	1 12 0	—	
Carrownagur ..	Baunroges North	Farrell M'Donnell	50 0 39	28 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Carrowkeelanah-glass	Edward Corless	12 1 6	2 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Carrowntryla	Captain Dicks	319 2 25	170 10 0	45 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Captain Dicks	39 0 24	1 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Captain Dicks	160 3 13	96 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Captain Dicks	149 3 9	66 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonmore ..	Captain Dicks	415 0 17	5 5 0	—	
,,	Gorteen ..	Captain Dicks	0 3 23	0 5 0	3 10 0	
,,	,,	Captain Dicks	242 0 13	8 10 0	—	
,,	Killavoher ..	Captain Dicks	295 0 12	140 15 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Captain Dicks	455 1 5	149 5 0	1 5 0	
,,	Woodfield ..	Captain Dicks	322 1 22	3 15 0	—	
Cloonkeen ..	Ballyedmond	Charles V. Vesey	523 1 5	154 5 0	3 15 0	
,,	Cappantruhaun	Major Charles V. Vesey ..	274 0 21	60 0 0	25 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Cloonkennagran	William P. Cullen	285 0 6	25 3 0	6 10 0	
,,	,,	William P. Cullen	15 2 20	2 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonkeen (Waldron)	William P. Cullen	4 0 28	0 7 0	—	
,,	Cogaula ..	Charles V. Vesey	185 2 16	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles V. Vesey	254 0 8	104 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Derreen Upper	Charles V. Vesey	42 1 21	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles V. Vesey	8 2 31	0 5 0	—	
,,	Kead ..	Charles V. Vesey	114 1 7	10 18 0	—	
,,	Loughil ..	Dominick Browne	198 1 28	74 10 0	0 10 0	
..	Lenaboy ..	Dominick Browne	101 2 1	30 0 0	1 0 0	
Creggs ..	Ballynahowna	Reps. John Pollok	116 3 0	4 10 0	—	
,, ..	Boggauns ..	Reps. John Pollok	189 2 32	1 5 0	—	
,,	Boleythomas	Reps. John Pollok	18 0 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	Camderry ..	Reps. John Pollok	229 0 36	2 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John Pollok	0 1 29	0 6 0	0 4 0	
,,	Clooncullaun ..	Reps. John Pollok	326 2 18	3 15 0	—	
,,	Cuilnacappy ..	Reps. John Pollok	24 0 0	5 10 0	—	
,,	Fairfield ..	Reps. John Pollok	34 1 10	7 16 0	2 2 0	
,,	Funshin ..	Reps. John Pollok	341 0 16	15 2 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John Pollok	24 2 20	4 0 0	2 5 0	
,,	Gortnadeeve East	Reps. John Pollok	5 0 20	1 10 0	—	
,,	Gortnadeeve West	Reps. John Pollok	6 1 38	2 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John Pollok	64 1 24	1 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Reps. John Pollok	1 3 39	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John Pollok	46 2 0	1 0 0	—	
,,	Gorteenfadda	Reps. John Pollok	95 1 0	7 0 0	—	
,,	Gortnalavey ..	Reps. John Pollok	42 2 0	2 15 0	0 10 0	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF GLENNAMADDY—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
..	Knockmascahill	Reps. John Pollok	158 1 38	3 11 0	—	
,,	Lahaghglass South	Reps. John Pollok	0 1 0	0 5 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Reps. John Pollok	38 3 31	0 10 0	—	
,,	Leaha ..	Reps. John Pollok	298 2 32	3 5 0	—	
,,	Moat ..	Reps. John Pollok	7 0 13	2 15 0	—	
,,	Moneenroe ..	Reps. John Pollok	6 1 20	2 10 0	—	
,,	Skehaghard ..	Reps. John Pollok	196 2 0	131 0 0	32 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Reps. John Pollok	45 2 0	6 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John Pollok	24 1 3	—	—	
more ..	Corracullin ..	Hyacinth D'Arcy	151 3 11	1 0 0	—	
,,	Corrameeagh	Hyacinth D'Arcy	190 2 5	1 0 0	—	
,,	Cuilsallagh	Hyacinth D'Arcy	58 2 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	Curraghmore ..	Hyacinth D'Arcy	0 1 15	0 2 0	—	
,,	Derrooghs ..	Reps. Valentine Browne ..	211 0 14	1 6 0	—	
,,	Derrynabrin ..	Hyacinth D'Arcy	143 3 24	0 15 0	—	
,,	Killasmuggaun	Hyacinth D'Arcy	284 1 21	133 15 0	1 1 0	
,,	Newcastle ..	Hyacinth D'Arcy	31 3 15	4 19 0	—	
,,	Newforest ..	Hyacinth D'Arcy	1,078 3 38	135 15 0	25 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Rockfield East	Hyacinth D'Arcy	151 0 36	76 0 0	—	
naddy ..	Ardoslough ..	Robert Browne	205 2 20	3 0 0	—	
,,	Ashfield ..	John M. Kelly	446 2 22	22 1 0	1 0 0	
,,	Ballyhard ..	John Healy	215 3 33	2 0 0	—	
,,	Barna ..	Robert Browne	75 0 37	1 0 0	—	
,,	Clooncon East	Michael Kelly	118 1 10	26 11 0	0 4 0	
,,	,,	Reps. Malachi Keaveney ..	42 0 21	17 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Malachi Keaveney	113 0 36	1 0 0	—	
,,	Clooncon West	Thomas Blake	192 0 25	5 3 0	—	
,,	Clondoyle More	Thomas Garvey	110 3 30	38 10 0	5 10 0	
,,	Cloonlara South	Congested Districts Board ..	237 0 9	53 8 0	—	
,,	Faartan ..	Most Rev. J. Healy	65 1 36	0 5 0	—	
,,	Fraas ..	Congested Districts Board ..	234 1 8	20 15 0	—	
,,	Gortnagier East	Robert Browne	36 3 15	1 1 0	—	
,,	Timacat ..	Robert Browne	154 2 34	1 14 0	—	
,,	Mount Kelly	Robert Browne	11 3 25	—	—	
..	Castlefield ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	143 0 26	1 11 0	—	
,,	Derrywode ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	40 0 35	0 10 0	—	
,,	Farm ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	198 0 3	1 10 0	—	
,,	Forty Acres ..	Daniel O'C. French	31 3 11	0 5 0	—	
,,	Island East ..	James Lynch	14 3 7	0 10 0	—	
,,	Island West ..	James Lynch	60 0 29	0 10 0	—	
,,	Kilbeg ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	318 1 33	2 0 0	—	
,,	Knockanarra ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	55 1 29	0 10 0	—	
,,	Lettera ..	James Lynch	25 2 5	0 10 0	—	
,,	Moneen ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	39 0 13	0 5 0	—	
,,	Moneenally ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	15 0 14	0 5 0	—	
,,	Moorfield ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	175 0 36	1 7 0	—	
..	Carrownderry	Catherine Bodkin	90 1 17	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Catherine Bodkin	1 2 37	1 2 0	—	
,,	Castletogher ..	Catherine Bodkin	65 2 36	0 10 0	—	
,,	Corrianaff ..	Catherine Bodkin	2 1 10	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Catherine Bodkin	135 3 11	8 0 0	—	
,,	Corralough ..	Mrs. C. Bodkin	30 0 19	0 9 0	—	
,,	,,	Catherine Bodkin	0 3 16	0 2 0	—	
,,	Gortdrishagh ..	Owen M'Dermott	47 2 1	25 5 0	10 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Liskea ..	Reps. William Johnston ..	30 1 11	0 5 0	—	
,,	Monasterowen	Mrs. Catherine Bodkin ..	36 2 37	0 15 0	—	
,,	Pollaneyster ..	Mrs. Catherine Bodkin ..	4 2 37	1 7 0	—	
..	Pollshask ..	Reps. William Johnston ..	2 1 28	0 1 0	—	
..	Springfield ..	Owen M'Dermott	90 0 10	43 0 0	—	
..	,,	Owen M'Dermott	2 0 0	1 5 0	—	
.	Kilsallagh ..	Murray M. Blacker	104 1 26	0 12 0	—	
..	Ahaun ..	Reps. John D'Arcy	42 0 36	1 0 0	—	
..	Kiltullagh ..	Reps. James Roe	387 1 18	140 12 0	0 8 0	
..	Rockfield West	Martin Grady	162 0 11	49 0 0	—	
.	Glen ..	Hyacinth D'Arcy	9 0 20	3 0 0	—	
.	,,	Hyacinth D'Arcy	31 1 20	9 0 0	—	
..	Kippaunagh ..	Charles D. O'Rourke	17 0 15	0 10 0	—	
.	,,	Charles D. O'Rourke	10 0 14	0 10 0	—	
..	Lerhin ..	George E. Deering	15 3 12	0 4 0	—	
.	Parkbaun	George E. Deering	75 1 31	1 4 0	—	
.	Park East ..	Reps. Sir St. George Gore, Bart.	190 3 38	28 10 0	—	
.	,,	Reps. Sir St. George Gore, Bart.	107 2 31	47 5 0	—	
.	Patch ..	George E. Deering	11 2 32	0 5 0	—	
.	Polleighter ..	Reps. Sir St. George Gore, Bart.	78 3 6	0 15 0	0 10 0	
.	Shantallow ..	George E. Deering	28 1 3	0 5 0	—	
.	Timard ..	George E. Deering	49 1 36	0 5 0	—	
..	Annaghbeg ..	Robert Digby	306 0 29	75 0 0	3 0 0	
.	Ballinphuill ..	Robert Digby ..	135 3 31	22 0 0	0 10 0	
.	Cloonkeencleare	Robert Digby	162 3 27	8 6 0		
.	Cloonkeen-leananode	Robert Digby	380 1 18	55 15 0	—	

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF GLENNAMADDY—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observations
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Screggy ..	Cloonkeen (Eighter)	Robert Digby	222 2 25	47 15 0	2 7 0	
,,	,,	Robert Digby	0 1 2	0 4 0	0 4 0	
,,	Cloonkeen (Oughter)	Robert Digby	321 1 0	50 5 0	—	
,,	Derrinlough ..	Robert Digby	54 0 18	12 10 0	—	
,,	Gortnashaskany	Robert Digby	68 0 31	22 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Moat ..	Robert Digby	608 3 19	136 0 0	25 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Robert Digby	6 1 32	2 10 0	6 10 0	
,,	Richmond	Robert Digby	386 0 26	51 17 0	—	
,,	Screggy East ..	Robert Digby	112 2 10	4 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Robert Digby	1 1 6	0 10 0	—	
,,	Screggy West	Robert Digby	118 3 24	7 15 0	—	
,,	Trasternagh South	Robert Digby	293 0 36	123 16 0	—	
Shankill ..	Cloonconore ..	Hyacinth D'Arcy	281 3 29	2 10 0	—	
,,	Curraghlehanagh	John Joseph Eyre	183 2 24	0 15 0	—	
Templetoher ..	Brierfort ..	James Lynch	10 2 31	0 2 0	—	
,,	Kildaree ..	Reps. Sir St. George Gore, Bart.	16 0 14	0 5 0	—	
,,	Kilmore ..	Daniel O'C. French ..	173 0 1	1 15 0	—	
,,	Lisrivis ..	Daniel O'C. French	71 0 2	0 5 0	—	
,,	Pollremon ..	Daniel O'C. French	79 1 34	1 5 0	—	
,,	Beagh ..	Thomas J, F. Roe, J.P., Arabella Victoria Roe, William Roe, M.D.	330 1 31	65 15 0	0 15 0	
,,	Pollagh North	Thomas J. F. Roe, J.P., Arabella Victoria Roe, William Roe, M.D.	8 2 9	—	—	
Toberadosh ..	Ballagha-dorragha	Stephen J. M'Donagh ..	326 2 20	122 10 0	2 10 0	
,,	Ballintava ..	Samuel Barrett	434 1 33	156 16 0	13 12 0	Mansion house.
,,	Castle ..	Reps. Sir St. George Gore, Bart.	78 3 16	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cluid ..	Farrell M'Donnell	109 0 11	0 10 0	—	
,,	Flaskagh Beg	John Martin	154 3 6	39 10 0	10 10 0	
,,	Tobernaclug ..	Samuel Barrett	27 2 2	13 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Farrell McDonnell	15 1 10	0 5 0	—	
,,	Curragh West	Thomas J. F. Roe, J.P, Arabella Victoria Roe, William Roe, M.D.	133 3 24	1 4 0	—	
Toberroe ..	Curraghmul-murry	John J. Cheevers	169 1 4	2 10 0	—	
,,	Kilcolumb ..	John J. Cheevers	167 0 4	3 5 0	—	
,,	Lisnageeragh ..	John J. Cheevers	316 3 32	2 10 0	—	
,,	Oughtagh ..	John J. Cheevers	241 1 6	2 0 0	—	
,,	Toberroe East	John J. Cheevers	28 3 19	1 15 0	—	
,,	Turlough ..	John J. Cheevers	9 0 36	6 0 0	—	
,,	,,	John J. Cheevers	172 1 8	125 0 0	7 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	John J. Cheevers	179 3 31	128 0 0	1 5 0	
,,	Keeloges East	Reps. John Pollok	6 3 17	—	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF GORT.

Ardamullivan ..	Ardamullivan..	Lord Gough	0 2 0	0 2 0	—	
,,	Bunnasrah ..	Lord Gough	2 0 30	0 5 0	—	
,,	Carrowgarriff	Lord Gough	245 0 12	60 0 0	—	
,,	Derrycallan South	Lord Gough	40 2 11	0 10 0	—	
,,	Derrycallan North	John Boland	52 2 2	23 10 0	2 0 0	
,,	,,	John Boland	53 2 23	17 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Gortacarnaun..	Lord Gough	158 1 10	9 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Gough	4 1 36	—	—	
,,	,,	Lord Gough	210 3 15	22 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Lord Gough	54 1 5	8 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Gough	381 1 24	54 0 0	1 5 0	
,,	Beagh Island	Lord Gough	5 1 20	0 15 0	—	
,,	Ricks Island	Lord Gough	1 3 38	0 3 0	—	
,,	Parson's Island	Lord Gough	3 3 10	0 10 0	—	
,,	Apple Island	Lord Gough	2 0 18	0 5 0	—	
,,	Sally Island and Swan Island	Lord Gough	0 2 32	—	—	
,,	Castle Island	Lord Gough	10 3 1	5 0 0	—	
,,	Pollagh ..	Lord Gough	214 1 13	23 0 0	—	
,,	Prospect ..	Lord Gough	8 1 24	5 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Gough	82 3 20	37 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Gough	149 3 32	71 0 0	—	
,,	Tiraloughan	Lord Gough	110 3 1	17 3 0	3 10 0	
,,	Tullybrattan ..	Lord Gough	87 1 20	38 7 0	—	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF GORT—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
allivan ..	Tullybrattan ..	Lord Gough	15 0 0	4 0 0	—	
..	Loughcooter Demesne	Lord Gough	879 3 9	449 10 0	300 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	..	Lord Gough	4 3 18	2 15 0	1 0 0	
an ..	Ardrahan North	William Shaw Taylor ..	17 3 7	12 0 0	—	
,,	..	William Shaw Taylor ..	0 0 15	0 5 0	2 15 0	
,,	Ballyboy ..	Lord Clanmorris	46 0 17	32 0 0	—	
,,	..	Lord Clanmorris	64 2 30	29 0 0	—	
,,	Ballylara ..	Lord Clanmorris	22 1 0	13 10 0	2 10 0	
,,	Caherkelly ..	Lord Clanmorris	43 3 28	25 0 0	—	
,,	Cregaclare Demesne	Lord Clanmorris	316 0 25	206 0 0	50 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	..	Lord Clanmorris	4 1 28	3 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	..	Lord Clanmorris	151 0 3	99 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	..	Lord Clanmorris	61 1 20	32 0 0	—	
,,	Furzypark ..	Lord Clanmorris	201 0 36	85 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Lackan ..	Lord Clanmorris	173 0 9	116 0 0	1 10 0	
,,	Rooghaun ..	Walter S. Taylor	243 2 24	143 5 0	—	
,,	Shantallow ..	Lord Clanmorris	112 2 16	74 10 0	—	
alan ..	Annagh ..	Ross Mahon and George G. Mahon	269 3 34	150 0 0	2 0 0	
,,	Ballyconnell ..	Edward J. Martyn	11 2 15	0 2 0	—	
,,	Derrywee West	William Arthur Persse ..	50 1 10	15 0 0	—	
,,	Gardenblake ..	Brother J. Edwards (Superior Roundstone Monastery) ..	58 3 2	38 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Richard Galbraith	1 2 38	0 3 0	—	
,,	Gardenblake Commons	Richard Galbraith	30 2 20	16 5 0	—	
,,						
,,	Inchaboy North	George G. Mahon and Ross Mahon	38 1 22	27 15 0	—	
,,	Lahardaun ..	William Arthur Persse ..	305 2 27	39 5 0	9 15 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	William Arthur Persse ..	111 2 25	11 5 0	—	
,,	Lisbrine ..	Myles J. Burke	57 1 16	37 10 0	6 0 0	
,,	,,	John Burke	80 3 3	44 0 0	11 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Lurgabaun ..	Richard Burke	21 0 15	4 18 0	—	
..	Ashfield Demesne	Lord Gough	385 1 3	230 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Gough	0 3 20	0 8 0	0 7 0	
,,	,,	Lord Gough	0 1 28	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cregg Demesne	Robert Thomas Latty.. ..	161 0 37	80 10 0	33 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Derry ..	John Boland	63 1 30	40 5 0	—	
,,	Fiddaun ..	Hyde Blackquere	180 0 0	51 0 0	—	
,,	Gortavoher ..	Butlers Minors	13 3 0	0 10 0	—	
,,	Newtown ..	Thomas E. Lahiff	3 2 13	1 0 0	—	
,,	Sheeaun ..	Thomas E. Lahiff (in Chancery)	35 0 30	0 10 0	—	
,,	Ballyboy ..	John Boland	44 2 0	36 0 0	—	
re ..	Caherwoneen North	James W. Brady Murray ..	4 3 18	1 14 0	—	
,,	Caherwoneen South	James W. Brady Murray ..	105 3 30	42 5 0	—	
,,	,,	James W. Brady Murray ..	4 2 30	2 15 0	1 10 0	
,,	Drumharsna North	Lord Ashtown	76 0 39	18 0 0	—	
,,	Drumharsna South	Lord Ashtown	687 3 35	186 0 0	14 0 0	
,,	Pollataggle ..	Robert O'Hara	5 1 10	2 0 0	—	
..	Ballynahowna	Richard Galbraith	171 3 33	34 13 0	—	
.	Cappard Demesne	Richard Galbraith	383 0 26	227 5 0	53 15 0	Mansion house.
.	,,	Richard Galbraith	6 2 19	1 10 0	—	
..	..	Richard Galbraith	2 1 0	1 10 0	1 0 0	
..	Farnaun ..	Richard Galbraith	45 3 21	22 10 0	—	
.	Hollymount ..	Richard Galbraith	11 2 18	7 3 0	—	
ter ..	Barratreana ..	Walter S. Taylor	35 3 24	18 10 0	1 10 0	
..	Caheratiege ..	Peter W. Dolphin	344 1 37	90 0 0	0 10 0	
.	Castletaylor North	Walter S. Taylor	249 1 28	67 10 0		
.	Castletaylor South	Walter S. Taylor	432 0 38	260 0 0	50 0 0	Mansion house.
.	Cregmore ..	Walter S. Taylor	188 3 0	25 0 0		
.	Toberacreggaun	Walter S. Taylor	79 0 14	53 0 0	—	
..	Doorus ..	Count de Basterot	0 1 0	0 5 0	—	
.	,,	Count de Basterot	15 3 29	14 5 0	10 0 0	Mansion house.
.	Doorus Park ..	John W. Lynch	38 1 16	13 0 0	13 0 0	Mansion house.
.	,,	John W. Lynch	90 2 22	69 0 0	—	
.	Tawnagh West	Viscount de Basterot	6 2 34	7 5 0	—	
.	,,	Count de Basterot	0 2 28	1 5 0	—	
..	Ballinderreen	Mrs. Catherine St. George and Mrs. Josephine Concannon	2 1 24	1 15 0	2 0 0	
.	Ballyvullaun ..	Mrs. Catherine St. George and Mrs Josephine Concannon	115 2 9	70 10 0	—	
.	..	Mrs. Catherine St. George and Mrs. Josephine Concannon	13 1 2	3 0 0	—	

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF GORT—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Drumacoo ..	Caherpeak West	Richard St. George	257 3 9	51 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Richard St. George	5 2 14	1 0 0	—	
,,	Drumacoo ..	Mrs. Catherine St. George and Mrs. Josephine Concannon	47 0 15	28 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. Catherine St. George and Mrs. Josephine Concannon	0 3 14	0 3 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. Catherine St. George and Mrs. Josephine Concannon	23 0 30	18 0 0	—	
,,	Kilcolgan ..	Richard St. George	18 3 28	6 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Matilda St. George	176 3 29	137 0 0	3 0 0	
,,	,,	Richard St. George	24 2 22	14 15 0	—	
,,	Killeely More	Richard St. George	77 1 2	32 5 0	—	
,,	Killeenmunter-lane South	Matilda St. George	74 1 15	12 0 0	—	
,,	Ringeelaun ..	Matilda St. George	143 2 0	75 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Roymore ..	Mrs. Catherine St. George and Mrs. Josephine Concannon	2 1 0	0 10 0	—	
,,	Stradbally West	Mrs. Catherine St. George and Mrs. Josephine Concannon	97 3 12	67 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. Catherine St. George and Mrs. Josephine Concannon	26 3 0	22 10 0	—	
,,	Tyrone ..	Mrs. Catherine St. George and Mrs. Josephine Concannon	240 1 25	168 12 0	—	
,,	Small Islands	Mrs. Catherine St. George and Mrs. Josephine Concannon	1 3 14	0 5 0	—	
Gort ..	Cloghnakeava (Parish of Beagh)	Lord Gough	54 0 18	32 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonnahaha ..	Lord Gough	49 1 37	43 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Gough	22 0 24	24 15 0	—	
,,	Glenbrack ..	Thomas E. Lahiff (in Chancery)	0 1 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	Gort ..	Lord Gough	10 3 10	11 0 0	—	
,,	Gortstuckanagh	Edward J. Martyn	84 0 31	68 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Lavally (Parish of Beagh)	Lord Gough	3 1 2	3 15 0	—	
,,	Rindifin ..	Lord Gough	159 2 27	139 15 0	1 10 0	
Kilbeacanty ..	Ballyturin ..	John C. Bagot	648 2 22	320 16 0	17 19 0	Mansion house
,,	Cloonmorris ..	John W. H. Lambert ..	124 0 39	69 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	Derreen ..	John C. Bagot	23 0 0	4 5 0	—	
,,	Derrykeel ..	William Norton Barry ..	83 0 21	12 0 0	—	
,,	Drummin ..	John W. H. Lambert ..	314 2 26	41 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Gorteenboy ..	John C. Bagot	1 1 23	—	—	
,,	Holly Island ..	Lord Gough	0 0 10	—	—	
,,	Hawthorn Island	Lord Gough	0 1 34	—	—	
,,	Five Small Islands	Lord Gough	0 1 31	—	—	
,,	Kilcrimple ..	John H. Lambert	88 0 34	43 0 0	2 0 0	
Killeely ..	Laghtphilip	Hugh Greaney	193 3 8	37 15 0	6 10 0	
,,	Lavally ..	Delia Mullin	54 3 20	9 15 0	20 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Parkroe (Killeely)	Michael Lynch	2 0 20	1 0 0	—	
,,	Ballynagran ..	Hugh Greaney	119 1 4	24 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Hubert Greaney	37 3 26	14 15 0	1 10 0	
Killeenavarra ..	Ballyculloo ..	Llewellyn Blake	127 1 11	25 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Ballymore ..	Llewellyn Blake	318 2 16	111 15 0	2 5 0	
,,	Cahernalinsky	Llewellyn Blake	103 2 30	23 5 0	—	
,,	Carraghadoo ..	Llewellyn Blake	314 0 12	57 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Cloghballymore	Llewellyn Blake	220 2 33	60 0 0	18 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Cloghboley ..	Llewellyn Blake	387 2 22	104 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Cregballymore	Llewellyn Blake	149 1 21	15 0 0	3 10 0	
,,	Creglucas ..	Llewellyn Blake	86 3 11	11 10 0	—	
,,	Cuildooish ..	Llewellyn Blake	259 0 37	35 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Frenchpark ..	Llewellyn Blake	150 0 8	13 0 0	—	
,,	Gortaroe ..	Llewellyn Blake	91 3 27	16 15 0	—	
,,	Keamsellagh East	Llewellyn Blake	67 2 17	12 5 0	—	
,,	Keamsellagh West	Llewellyn Blake	219 0 0	78 0 0	—	
,,	Killeenavarra	Llewellyn Blake	99 1 35	42 0 0	—	
,,	Killeenhugh ..	Llewellyn Blake	58 1 7	16 0 0	—	
,,	Knockballyclery	Llewellyn Blake	43 1 14	19 0 0	—	
,,	Lisheeneenaun East	Llewellyn Blake	67 0 25	25 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	Lisheeneenaun West	Llewellyn Blake	288 1 8	117 0 0	—	
,,	Muggannagh ..	Llewellyn Blake	150 0 36	28 10 0	—	
,,	Parkatleava ..	Llewellyn Blake	216 3 18	45 0 0	—	
,,	Tarrea ..	Llewellyn Blake	145 1 21	37 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	Tooreen East ..	Llewellyn Blake	45 0 8	10 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	Tooreen West	Llewellyn Blake	45 0 6	19 5 0	—	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF GORT—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d	
inny ..	Ballyvoher ..	Walter S. Taylor	160 2 9	35 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Cappanapisha North	Walter S. Taylor	122 2 5	35 0 0	—	
,,	Cappanapisha South ..	Walter S. Taylor	12 2 34	2 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonafunshin	Walter S. Taylor	175 1 15	64 5 0	—	
,,	Fannin ..	Walter S. Taylor	13 0 37	1 5 0	—	
,,	Garryland ..	Walter S. Taylor	350 3 22	60 15 0	9 10 0	
,,	Kilmacduagh	Walter S. Taylor	284 1 1	55 17 0	0 10 0	
,,	Knockaunatouk	Walter S. Taylor	44 1 36	8 0 0	—	
,,	Lisnagyreeny ..	Walter S. Taylor	25 0 0	10 18 0	1 2 0	
,,	Normangrove	Miss M. L. Foster	523 2 20	87 0 0	2 5 0	
,,	Rockpark ..	Walter S. Taylor	80 3 28	9 10 0	—	
,,	Shigaunagh ..	Walter S. Taylor	584 2 19	165 0 0	1 5 0	
,,	Tawnagh East	Walter S. Taylor	130 3 33	60 10 0	3 15 0	
,,	,,	Walter S. Taylor	51 0 22	25 0 0	—	
,,	Tawnagh West	Walter S. Taylor	39 0 18	16 5 0	—	
,,	Turavaghla ..	Walter S. Taylor	74 1 7	22 10 0	—	
urtan ..	Ballylee (Kiltartan)	Walter R. Gregory	26 2 37	0 10 0	—	
,,	Ballyloughan	Walter R. Gregory	34 1 18	7 10 0	—	
,,	Castletown ..	Walter R. Gregory	7 1 20	1 15 0	—	
,,	Coole Demesne	Walter R. Gregory	97 3 15	37 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Walter R. Gregory	55 2 2	43 5 0	60 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Walter R. Gregory	25 2 0	16 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Walter R. Gregory	119 0 13	23 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Rep. Sir W. H. Gregory ..	178 0 6	43 15 0	—	
,,	Cloonbeg ..	Ross Mahon	35 0 19	23 6 0	1 0 0	
,,	Cloondine ..	Thomas E. Lahiff (in Cancery)	5 2 21	0 5 0	—	
,,	Crannagh ..	Rep. Very Rev. C. H. G. Butson	1 0 27	—	—	
,,	Islandmore ..	Mary Lahiff (ni Chancery) ..	37 0 20	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Walter R. Gregory	31 1 15	1 15 0	—	
,,	Kiltartan ..	Walter R. Gregory	9 0 30	4 10 0	—	
,,	Rinrush ..	Walter R. Gregory	17 0 21	1 15 0	—	
,,	Turra Beg ..	Ross Mahon	55 0 10	32 5 0	—	
,,	Turra More ..	Ross Mahon	68 1 25	41 10 0	—	
omas ..	Ballylahy ..	James D. Daly	1 3 20	1 5 0	—	
,,	,,	James D. Daly	40 1 17	28 15 0	2 10 0	
,,	Bullaunagh (Ardrahan)	Andrew B. Nolan ..	178 2 37	114 0 0	17 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Bullaunagh (Kilthomas)	Andrew B. Nolan	98 3 27	50 0 0	—	
,,	Castledaly ..	James D. Daly	28 0 0	20 0 0	34 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Gorteenaniska	James D. Daly	79 2 29	31 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	Lissadoill ..	Herbert Dolphin	80 2 14	41 0 0	—	
,,	Scalp ..	James D. Daly	54 3 25	20 0 0	—	
arra ..	Carrowkilleen	Michael Mannion	163 2 2	24 18 0	2 10 0	
,,	Funshin More	John W. Lynch	230 0 27	10 5 0	—	
,,	Loughcurra North	James W. Brady-Murray ..	38 3 32	16 15 0	—	
,,	,,	James W. Brady-Murray ..	26 3 31	12 0 0	—	
,,	Northampton	James W. Brady-Murray ..	215 2 29	100 10 0	31 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Pollnaveagh ..	James W. Brady-Murray ..	60 3 35	25 5 0	—	
,,	Trellick ..	Michael A. Hennessy	55 0 9	22 5 0	—	
sane ..	Carrowmaneen	Walter S. Taylor	110 3 1	40 0 0	2 0 0	
,,	Liskevin ..	Walter S. Taylor	144 2 24	70 15 0	0 15 0	
anagh ..	Ballinduff ..	Edward J. Martyn	36 3 23	2 0 0	1 5 0	
,,	Ballymariscall	Edward J. Martyn	74 3 24	51 10 0	—	
,,	Caheratrim ..	Edward J. Martyn	53 1 20	30 0 0	—	
,,	Carrownamona	Edward J. Martyn	78 1 37	31 10 0	—	
,,	Kinmona North	Edward J. Martyn	73 0 28	56 0 0	—	
,,	Rathanlon ..	Edward J. Martyn	69 0 24	45 0 0	—	
,,	Reaskgarriff	Edward J. Martyn	70 2 31	11 0 0	—	
,,	Tullira ..	Edward J. Martyn	650 2 14	438 0 0	100 0 0	Mansion house.

RURAL DISTRICT OF LOUGHREA.

..	Sonnagh Old	Earl of Clancarty	569 1 10	2 0 0	—	
ory ..	Blean ..	J. F. Wright	0 1 2	0 5 0	—	
,,	Bottom ..	Burton W. Persse	101 2 31	24 17 0	1 0 0	
,,	Boyhill ..	Burton W. Persse	51 1 24	28 5 0	5 10 0	
,, ..	,,	Burton W. Persse	129 1 5	57 0 0	4 0 0	
,,	Farranblake West	Raymond Kelly	51 2 35	22 15 0	15 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Furzepark	Raymond Kelly	41 1 22	21 3 0	—	
,,	Gloves Middle (Par. of Athenry)	Michael J. Monaghan ..	148 2 38	45 15 0	7 15 0	

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF LOUGHREA—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Athenry ..	Gloves Middle (Parish of Kiltullagh)	Michael J. Monaghan	60 1 0	36 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Mizie O'Farrell	7 0 0	3 10 0	—	
,,	Gorteenacra	Reps. Peter F. Lambert ..	54 2 14	38 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	Kingsland South.	Reps. Peter F. Lambert ..	95 1 17	53 10 0	—	
,,	Looobroe ..	Burton W. Persse	49 1 12	13 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Turloughalanger	Raymond Kelly	47 0 37	10 10 0	—	
,,	Toberconnelly	Burton W. Persse	3 3 35	1 15 0	—	
Ballynagar ..	Ballinlough ..	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	75 2 0	17 0 0	—	
,,	Ballyglass ..	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	22 3 27	12 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	Ballynagar ..	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	107 1 30	78 0 0	16 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Ballygowan ..	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	32 2 7	18 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	13 3 20	7 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	17 2 18	9 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	19 1 25	10 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	16 3 32	8 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	43 3 9	27 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	28 1 27	18 10 0	—	
,,	,,	John M. A. Lewis	3 2 7	2 5 0	—	
,,	,,	John M. A. Lewis	0 1 23	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	23 2 34	11 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	4 2 20	2 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	14 3 10	7 0 0	1 5 0	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	27 0 22	15 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	25 0 0	12 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	11 2 34	5 5 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	15 0 15	7 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	114 1 13	68 0 0	3 10 0	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	145 2 19	25 8 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	7 2 24	5 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	Cappagh ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart.	87 0 10	11 13 0	—	
,,	Cappaghcon East	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	13 3 37	10 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	9 1 16	5 12 0	—	
,,	Coarsepark ..	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	152 1 27	59 15 0	—	
,,	Cregg	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	22 1 17	12 0 0	—	
,,	Creggpark ..	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	8 3 5	7 0 0	—	
,,	Cuilleendaegh	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	81 1 16	52 5 0	2 10 0	
,,	Derrylahan ..	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	15 3 30	5 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Drumminamucka South	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	104 2 1	1 0 0	—	
,,	Gortnakilla ..	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	1 2 0	0 10 0	—	
,,	Kylagowan ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	125 1 2	15 5 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Sir Henry G. Burke, Burt. ..	179 3 34	8 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	9 0 6	1 17 0	0 8 0	
,,	Mountain Park	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	23 2 19	2 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	41 1 0	6 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	106 0 16	5 15 0	—	
,,	Newtown South	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	37 0 20	24 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	33 2 21	18 0 0	1 10 0	
,,	Silverstream ..	Reps. John M. A. Lewis ..	33 1 6	17 0 0	1 0 0	
Bracklagh ..	Brackery ..	John Mannion	107 2 20	40 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Cartron	Laurence M. Egan	47 2 0	23 0 0	5 0 0	
,,	Limehill ..	Earl of Clancarty	89 0 6	0 10 0	—	
Bullaun ..	Ballybroder ..	Eleanor M. Burke	108 0 3	28 0 0	10 0 0	Mansion house
,,	,,	Eleanor M. Burke	40 2 24	21 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Eleanor M. Burke	36 3 20	16 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Ballymurry ..	Hubert Dolphin	1 3 2	1 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Ballayarha North	John A. Daly	29 0 2	0 10 0	—	
,,	Ballayarha South ..	John A. Daly	100 3 20	2 0 0	—	
,,	,,	John A. Daly	13 3 1	2 0 0	—	
,,	Bullaun ..	Hubert Dolphin	17 1 30	8 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Hubert Dolphin	126 3 9	71 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Cahernagarry	Dominick F. Burke	79 0 22	0 15 0	—	
,,	Carrowmore ..	John A. Daly	28 3 0	0 10 0	—	
,,	Gortcam ..	Hubert Dolphin	94 0 30	41 9 0	0 15 0	
,,	Lackafinna North	John R. Lopdell	77 3 17	39 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Lisduff ..	R. D. Tighe	343 1 12	115 10 0	15 15 0	Mansion house.
Cappalusk ..	Creeraun ..	Court of Chancery	21 1 35	0 5 0	—	
,,	Fahy ..	William and Denis St. George Daly	71 1 18	0 10 0	—	
,,	Gorteen ..	William and Denis St. George Daly	22 2 39	0 7 0	—	
,,	Gortnahultra ..	William and Denis St. George Daly	90 2 18	2 10 0	—	
,,	Gortnalone North	Charles Trench	63 2 0	1 5 0	—	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF LOUGHREA—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
alusk ..	Gortronnagh ..	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly ..	83 2 34	0 10 0	—	
,,	Shanballard ..	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly ..	55 3 6	0 13 0	—	
,,	Ballyglass ..	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	24 3 16	0 4 0	—	
,,	Clogh ..	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	624 0 35	3 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	Corskeagh (Daly)	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	270 2 13	1 17 0	—	
eboy ..	Ballybackagh	Captain Arthur Persse ..	13 0 24	3 0 0	—	
,,	Castleboy ..	Algernon Persse	71 0 0	52 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Captain Arthur Persse ..	328 0 26	217 10 0	—	
,,	Cregganore ..	Captain Arthur Persse ..	27 3 33	10 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Captain Persse	46 2 20	30 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Captain Arthur Persse ..	102 1 9	46 15 0	2 10 0	
,,	Gortard ..	Captain Arthur Persse ..	84 2 32	52 5 0	2 10 0	
,,	Grannagh .. (Parish of Grannagh)	Algernon Persse	441 1 12	225 15 0	1 10 0	
	Grannagh (Parish of Kilthomas)	Algernon Persse	157 2 8	77 15 0	—	
,,	Grannagh Beg	Algernon Persse	78 1 1	44 0 0	—	
,,	Isertkelly North	Captain Arthur Persse ..	365 1 11	206 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Isertkelly South	Captain Arthur Persse ..	35 3 0	9 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Captain Arthur Persse ..	61 3 19	32 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Captain Arthur Persse ..	88 3 32	43 15 0	—	
,,	Kilbeg ..	Captain Arthur Persse ..	996 3 13	62 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Limepark .. North	Harry Persse	19 2 0	4 0 0	—	
,,	Lisheenynaun	Captain Persse	57 2 3	36 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Captain Arthur Persse ..	45 1 0	10 0 0	—	
,,	Mehernanspark	Captain Arthur Persse ..	15 3 0	4 0 0	—	
,,	Moneen East	Captain Arthur Persse ..	137 2 21	69 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	Moneen West	Captain Arthur Persse ..	112 2 3	52 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Pollacurra ..	Captain Arthur Persse ..	67 2 19	37 0 0	—	
keen ..	Attimonbeg ..	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	61 0 0	0 6 0	—	
,,	Attimon More South	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	8 3 8	0 3 0	—	
,,	Ballynanulty	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	60 1 39	0 7 0	—	
,,	Cornakelly .. North	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	263 0 16	—	—	
,,	,,	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	37 0 15	4 5 0	1 10 0	
,,	Cornakelly South	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	104 0 4	15 15 0	—	
,,	Cloonbrush ..	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	88 2 37	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonkeenbeg	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	211 3 15	1 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonkeenmore North	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	248 1 20	1 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonkeenmore South	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	394 1 35	1 15 0	—	
,,	Gloves East ..	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	104 2 1	1 0 0	—	
,,	Laragh ..	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	58 0 16	1 4 0	—	
,,	Lisduff ..	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	12 0 11	0 12 0	—	
well ..	Ballymore ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	1 3 4	1 0 0	—	
,,	Carnanthomas	Thomas W. Lambert	23 1 28	6 15 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Thomas W. Lambert	4 0 10	2 5 0	—	
,,	Craughwell ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	3 0 12	0 8 0	—	
,,	Crinnage or Ballywulash	Charles S. Graham	272 2 28	144 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	Killara ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	1 0 30	0 4 0	—	
,,	Mannin ..	Anne C. Maxwell	1 2 5	2 5 0	—	
,,	Pollnabanny ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	13 1 3	2 10 0	—	
,,	Roo ..	Reps. Charles Maxwell ..	12 2 29	6 15 0	—	
,,	Slieveroe ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	184 1 2	33 18 0	1 0 0	
,,	Templemartin	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	58 1 1	17 10 0	—	
,,	Lecarrow ..	Reps. Charles Maxwell ..	91 2 8	35 0 0	1 10 0	
keary ..	Allygola ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	37 3 23	1 5 0	—	
,,	Drumkeary West	Earl of Huntingdon	277 2 2	8 0 0	—	
,,	Eaglehill ..	Anne Martin	113 0 0	75 5 0	15 15 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Anne Martin	43 3 26	10 0 0	—	
,,	Inchy	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	45 0 11	9 5 0	..	

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF LOUGHREA—*continued.*

Electoral Division	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observations.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Drumkeary	Inchy	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart.	6 0 0	0 15 0	—	
,,	Kyleaglannawood	Lnrd Clonbrock	164 2 24	19 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Ross	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart.	0 0 20	—	—	
,,	Barratoor	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart.	3 0 16	—	—	
Graigabbey	Ballyboggan	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	165 0 16	1 7 0	—	
,,	Binn	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	3 2 31	1 0 0	—	
,,	Graigabbey	Rep. Albert L. Clarke	4 1 25	1 15 0	—	
,,	Newcastle	Henry T. Hall	24 2 4	—	—	
,,	Shoodun	Henry T. Hall	107 3 33	1 0 0	—	
,,	Kilcornan	Rep. Albert L. Clarke (in Chancery)	7 0 0	2 10 0	0 10 0	
Grange	Beech Hill	Edward C. Villiers	496 3 37	187 15 0	26 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Ben Beg	Reps. Peter H. Dolphin	305 1 39	162 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Carra	John J. Smith	168 3 22	40 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	John J. Smith	296 1 4	162 0 0	—	
,,	,,	John J. Smith	389 0 0	216 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Cloonbenes	Charles O'H. Trench	362 1 11	71 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Charles O'H. Trench	31 2 0	8 0 0	—	
,,	Cross	Reps. Peter H. Dolphin	15 2 30	—	—	
,,	,,	George Phillips	28 3 39	9 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	Grange	Charles O'H. Trench	117 3 8	40 15 0	—	
,,	Rahilly	John Doyle	2 1 29	1 0 0	—	
Greethill	Castleturvin	John McCoy	35 1 18	10 0 0	—	
,,	,,	John McCoy	40 1 10	21 0 0	8 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	John McCoy	37 2 35	20 10 0	—	
,,	,,	John McCoy	3 0 30	1 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	Rockfield	Hon. Richard A. Nugent	207 2 27	79 4 0	27 1 0	Mansion house.
Kilchreest	Ballycuddy	Capt. A. Persse	1 1 25	1 0 0	4 10 0	
,,	,,	Capt. A. Persse	2 0 0	2 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Capt. A. Persse	8 0 30	3 0 0	—	
,,	Ballygunneen	Capt. A. Persse	102 2 37	74 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Capt. A. Persse	97 0 10	21 10 0	—	
,,	Ballymullen	Capt. A. Persse	14 0 11	6 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Caherbinny	Capt. A. Persse	9 1 8	2 10 0	—	
,,	Deerpark	Capt. A. Persse	118 1 31	80 0 0	—	
,,	Eskershanore	Capt. A. Persse	201 2 6	100 0 0	—	
,,	Kilchreest	Capt. Persse	37 2 7	17 11 0	1 12 0	
,,	,,	Capt. Persse	2 0 32	2 2 0	—	
,,	,,	Capt. Persse	66 0 9	23 19 0	—	
,,	,,	Capt. A. Persse	15 3 25	13 5 0	2 0 0	
,,	,,	Capt. A. Persse	44 2 26	37 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	Lackabaun (Parish of Kilinan)	Capt. Persse	48 2 25	34 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Capt. Persse	23 1 20	7 10 0	—	
,,	Lackabaun (Parish of Kilchreest)	Capt. Persse	131 2 9	88 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Capt. Persse	26 0 31	3 10 0	—	
,,	Lahardaun	Capt. Persse	59 1 31	38 15 0	—	
,,	Pollnashinagh	Capt. Persse	112 0 27	66 10 0	—	
,,	Roxborough	Capt. Persse	216 2 20	137 0 0	70 0 0	Mansion house.
Kilconickny	Carrowclogh	William Rogers	83 1 2	45 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonoo East	Marquis of Clanricarde	75 0 38	5 10 0	—	
,,	Derryhoyle More	Robert F. O'Hara	124 2 24	48 8 0	12 15 0	Mansion house.
Kilconierin	Ballynahivnia	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	3 0 10	2 5 0	1 0 0	
,,	Bookeen South	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	1 1 28	0 13 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	52 0 38	13 14 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	85 3 16	21 15 0	—	
,,	Carrowkeel	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	7 0 2	4 5 0	2 5 0	
,,	St. Clerans	Anne Maxwell	632 0 18	451 17 0	46 3 0	Mansion house.
,,	Tooloobawnbeg	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	246 1 1	159 0 0	25 0 0	
,,	,,	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	73 2 0	27 10 0	0 15 0	
Killimor	Gortnalone South	John A. Daly	98 0 31	1 0 0	—	
,,	Lenareagh (Parish of Cloonkeen)	Charles Trench	53 1 8	0 5 0	—	
,,	Lenareagh (Parish of Killimordaly)	Charles Trench	127 2 1	1 10 0	—	
,,	Brackloon	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	35 3 2	0 12 0	—	
,,		William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	24 2 0	0 7 0	—	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF LOUGHREA—*continued.*

toral sion.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
..	Cappaghnanool	John A. Daly	99 1 30	1 0 0	—	
,,	Cappanasruhaun	John A. Daly	297 1 29	1 15 0	—	
,,	Clooncah ..	Reps. Harriett Galway ..	512 0 11	117 10 0	30 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Cloonsheecahill	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	235 2 19	1 0 0	—	
,,	Dooghcloon	Lord Ashtown	618 2 28	109 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Knockroe ..	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	15 3 9	0 10 0	—	
,,	Kilconnell ..	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	394 0 4	6 10 0	—	
,,	Lenamore ..	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	120 1 12	0 10 0	—	
een ..	Monksfield	Walter S. Taylor	357 2 17	180 10 0	14 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Carrowsteelagh	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	147 1 9	56 7 0	0 8 0	
,,	Ballygarraun ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	590 2 12	248 0 0	26 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Ballyshea ..	Col. A. H. Courtney	106 0 28	54 15 0	—	
..	Ballydoogan ..	Michael H. Burke	14 2 23	1 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Michael H. Burke	23 3 38	11 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Michael H. Burke	25 0 15	6 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Michael H. Burke	99 3 18	78 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Michael H. Burke	4 0 24	1 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Michael H. Burke	138 0 34	38 0 0	26 15 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Michael H. Burke	57 2 36	32 5 0	2 5 0	
,,	,,	Michael H. Burke	24 2 5	19 5 0	—	
,,	Carra ..	Lord Clonbrock	446 3 11	200 0 0	1 10 0	
,,	Carrowroe ..	Denis B. Daly	9 1 12	4 15 0	9 0 0	
,,	Cooleeny ..	John J. Smyth	279 1 31	165 15 0	20 5 0	Mansion house.
,,	Kilcooly ..	John J. Smyth	364 0 9	387 10 0	2 0 0	
,,	Kilmeen ..	M. H. Burke	56 1 0	34 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Capt. T. E. Burke, Reps. Capt. J. H. Burke, Reps. G. S. Burke	16 3 21	14 10 0	—	
..	,,	H. M. Burke	10 2 23	0 15 0	—	
l ..	Ballyhogan ..	John J. Smyth	349 1 0	196 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Cloonmain ..	Lord Clonbrock	22 2 25	0 10 0	—	
,,	Doon ..	Charles O'Farrell	717 3 25	394 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Meanus ..	Dominick F. Burke	0 2 36	0 16 0	—	
,,	Glennaskehy ..	John J. Smyth	424 3 16	95 0 0	0 15 0	
l ..	Aerebeg ..	John J. Smyth	44 2 9	26 0 0	2 0 0	
,,	Aille ..	Charles O'Farrell	59 1 32	46 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Ballinlawless ..	Lord Clonbrock	674 2 11	12 15 0	—	
,,	Commons (Parish of Killeenadeema)	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	10 2 8	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cossaunaclamper	Charles O'Farrell	73 3 26	66 0 0	—	
,,	Drummin ..	Lord Clonbrock	74 2 20	0 15 0	—	
,,	Knockaunbaun	Charles O'Farrell	108 0 11	86 15 0	0 5 0	
,,	Lisheenaleen ..	Charles O'Farrell	383 2 20	89 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	Masonbrook ..	John J. Smyth	269 2 2	184 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	Moanmore ..	John J. Smyth	283 3 31	169 13 0	—	
,,	Moanmore East	John J. Smyth	126 2 8	92 12 0	60 0 0	Mansion house.
gh ..	Brush ..	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	27 1 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	Carrowna-morrissy	Lord Ardilaun	162 1 5	117 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	Deerpark ..	William and Denis St. Geo. Daly	310 0 0	50 0 0	1 10 0	
,,	Skeagharegan ..	Lord Ardilaun	87 3 34	41 10 0	1 0 0	
..	Bushfield ..	John Smyth	203 3 0	87 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	Lackalea ..	John J. Smyth	42 0 13	15 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	John J. Smyth	311 1 9	169 15 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	John J. Smyth	152 0 19	60 0 0	2 0 0	
..	Ballyargadaun	Charles O'Farrell	157 0 24	120 0 0	4 0 0	
..	Ballymerrett ..	Lord Clonbrock	187 0 10	8 10 0	—	
,,	Dalystown Demesne	Charles O'Farrell	511 1 0	290 0 0	50 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Killeen ..	Charles O'Farrell	40 0 0	9 5 0	—	
,,	Kylebrack East	Matthew J. Whyte	2 2 8	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Richard O'Farrell	70 2 28	16 8 0	—	
,,	Kylebrack West	Charles O'Farrell	78 1 39	10 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Clonbrock	133 2 20	8 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Clonbrock	14 0 8	3 0 0	3 0 0	
,,	Leitrim Beg ..	Charles O'Farrell	53 2 15	35 18 0	—	
,,	Leitrim More	Charles O'Farrell	26 1 8	11 15 0	—	
Rural	Baunoge ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	0 1 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Ardnadoman East	Major O'Hara	70 0 9	33 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	Ardnadoman West	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	69 3 38	3 10 0	—	
,,	Carn ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	197 2 25	131 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	Cuscarrick ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	4 0 35	4 10 0	—	
,,	Earlspark (Parish of Killeenadeema)	Earl of Westmeath	41 0 0	28 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Raruddy West	Burton W. Persse	298 3 33	134 5 0	2 10 0	
,,	Tonaroasty ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	4 0 13	2 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	9 2 0	6 15 0	—	

APPENDIX

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF LOUGHREA—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observation
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Loughrea Rural	Tonaroasty ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	11 0 0	10 15 0	—	
,,	Tullagh Upper	R. D. Levinge	74 1 31	71 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Caheronaun ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	10 2 0	6 0 0	—	
,,	Gortsheela ..	William Conway	10 1 31	6 5 0	0 10 0	
Marblehill ..	Carrowroe ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	175 1 37	108 5 0	8 5 0	
,,	Cloghvoley ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	706 1 31	15 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	Cullenagh ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	3 1 23	0 5 0	—	
,,	Derreenamucka	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	437 1 24	8 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	31 1 12	2 5 0	—	
,,	Drum ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	227 0 33	8 15 0	—	
,,	Gorteenayanka	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	3 1 1	0 15 0	—	
,,	Knockdrummore	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart ..	13 1 0	2 0 0	12 15 0	
	Laggoo ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	33 3 2	0 10 0	—	
,,	Loughpark ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	98 0 32	66 0 0	—	
,,	Marblehill ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	489 3 30	324 0 0	55 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Moyglass ..	Reps. James Haig	168 0 36	87 0 0	8 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Reps. James Haig	13 3 25	2 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. James Haig	4 0 4	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. James Haig	2 0 16	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cartron South	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	1 0 26	0 5 0	—	
Mountain ..	Boleybeg ..	Earl of Huntingdon	319 0 23	2 0 0	—	
,,	Bookeen ..	Earl of Huntingdon	11 3 18	0 5 0	—	
,,	Curhoor ..	Earl of Huntingdon	211 3 33	1 8 0	—	
,,	Killeenadeema West	Earl of Huntingdon	228 0 36	2 3 0	—	
,,	Coppanagh ..	Patrick J. Davy	555 2 5	7 11 0	0 4 0	
Moyode ..	Cahercormick	Maria C. White	35 1 18	18 5 0	—	
,,	Cappagh South	Maria C. White	38 1 15	13 5 0	—	
,,	Ganty ..	Maria C. White	11 0 35	5 5 0	—	
,,	Gortagowan	Maria C. White	72 1 11	31 0 0	—	
,,	Hollypark ..	Maria C. White	100 3 34	58 0 0	20 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Kilconieran ..	Maria C. White	58 3 36	35 15 0	1 15 0	
,,	Lickerrig ..	Lord Ardilaun	263 0 20	150 15 0	3 10 0	
,,	Moyode ..	Lord Ardilaun	808 3 26	197 10 0	3 5 0	
,,	Moyode Demesne	Lord Ardilaun	598 2 8	338 0 0	72 15 0	Mansion house
Raford ..	Carrownaglogh	John A. Daly	248 1 17	117 0 0	1 5 0	
,,	Carrowreagh ..	John A. Daly	51 0 10	1 10 0	—	
,,	Galboley ..	John A. Daly	53 3 38	8 10 0	—	
,,	Killescragh ..	John A. Daly	291 1 5	46 15 0	1 10 0	
,,	Abberanville ..	John A. Daly	24 2 7	9 10 0	—	
,,	Clashaganny ..	John A. Daly	66 3 38	6 5 0	—	
,,	Farta ..	John A. Daly	146 2 39	64 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	Galboley ..	John A. Daly	281 0 26	146 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	Harriet T. Blake	120 1 10	113 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Gortakeeran ..	John A. Daly	36 3 4	7 10 0	7 15 0	
,,	Raford ..	John A. Daly	397 3 26	145 0 0	40 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Sraheendoo ..	John A. Daly	48 3 7	12 15 0	—	
,,	Turoe ..	Hubert Dolphin	249 1 4	139 0 0	16 0 0	Mansion house
,,	,,	Hubert Dolphin	105 0 15	64 5 0	—	
Tiaquin ..	Corrantarramud	Henry T. Hall	332 0 12	18 10 0	—	
,,	Cuddoo East	Henry T. Hall	155 0 14	0 7 0	—	
,,	Knockbrack ..	Henry T. Hall	515 0 12	65 5 0	36 10 0	Mansion house
,,	Mountgarrett	Henry T. Hall	173 0 16	24 10 0	—	
,,	Tisaxon ..	Henry T. Hall	84 0 38	19 0 0	0 10 0	
Woodford ..	Clonco ..	John K. Burke	125 1 22	40 0 0	7 0 0	Mansion house
,,	,,	Reps. Richard Burke	15 2 16	3 6 0	—	
,,	,,	John K. Burke ..	106 2 37	10 0 0	—	
,,	Derrycrag ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	194 0 19	9 0 0	—	
,,	Woodford ..	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	24 1 25	2 10 0	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF MOUNTBELLEW.

Annagh ..	Annagh ..	Reps. Christopher Ussher ..	49 0 30	5 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Reps. Christopher Ussher ..	105 0 19	2 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonatleva Lower	Norah Johnston	49 1 39	23 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	Norah Johnston	103 1 15	45 5 0	—	
		Norah Johnston	9 0 14	4 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonatleva Upper ..	Norah Johnston	60 3 3	25 10 0	—	
,,	Esker ..	Reps. Mrs. Anne Wood Martin	68 0 10	2 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Mrs. Anne Wood Martin	21 2 25	8 0 0	—	
,,	Fohanagh ..	Patrick Burke	6 3 20	4 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Norah Johnston	5 0 6	2 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Norah Johnston	152 3 21	77 10 0	10 0 0	
,,	,,	Norah Johnston	74 1 39	40 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Norah Johnston	15 0 0	9 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	Norah Johnston	82 2 17	52 3 0	0 17 0	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF MOUNTBELLEW—*continued.*

...ctoral ...ision.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
..	Fohanagh ..	Norah Johnston	142 1 23	1 10 0	—	
,,	Garrafine	Reps. Richard Carter	30 3 4	0 5 0	—	
,,	Garrafine (Ussher)	Reps. Christopher Ussher ..	56 2 35	0 10 0	—	
,,	Lisgub East ..	John W. Comyn	1 2 24	0 13 0	0 12 0	
,,	Lisgub (Ward)	John W. Comyn	46 0 6	30 0 0	—	
kill ..	Ballyralahy ..	Cecilia Fallon	222 2 28	47 5 0	—	
,,	Carrownagappul	James Crozier	654 3 0	5 0 0	—	
,,	Castlegar ..	Reps. Robert R. Smith	184 1 20	91 0 0	20 0 0	
,,	Cloonavihony	James Crooks	171 3 35	23 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Cecilia Fallon	172 2 22	62 5 0	2 10 0	
,,	Gunnode ..	Martin McDonnell	304 1 14	20 10 0	—	
,,	Rushestown Curraghduff"	Cecilia Fallon	354 0 25	22 10 0	—	
,,	Springlaun ..	Reps. J. W. Maunsell ..	5 1 17	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	William Fleming	9 3 14	1 15 0	—	
,,	Tully ..	Cecilia Fallon	86 3 30	18 10 0	—	
,,	Windfield ..	Cecilia Fallon	325 1 36	208 0 0	31 0 0	Mansion house.
..	Ballintleva ..	Sir Henry G. Bellew	56 1 18	0 8 0	—	
,,	Belderny North	James Keogh	176 0 31	26 15 0	5 0 0	
,,	,,	James Keogh	4 0 35	0 15 0	—	
,,	Cartron ..	James Cullen	55 1 15	29 0 0	4 5 0	
,,	Garryduff ..	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew	168 0 0	113 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Graiguena-vaddoge	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew	13 1 32	0 1 0	—	
,,	Kinclare ..	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew	9 2 22	6 10 0	2 10 0	
,,	,,	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	137 1 30	74 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	194 0 6	110 0 0	1 0 0	
keney	Ballynahattina	John Blakeney	22 2 39	0 2 0	—	
,,	Creggaun ..	John Blakeney	141 1 37	0 13 0	—	
,,	Gallagh ..	John Blakeney	5 0 22	0 5 0	—	
,,	Hundredacres	John Blakeney	180 2 27	114 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	Lehanagh ..	John Blakeney	108 2 34	0 13 0	—	
rench	Ballinlass ..	Reps. James Mulry	29 3 6	17 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. James Mulry	26 0 0	12 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. James Mulry	4 2 26	2 0 0	—	
,,	Ballinvoher North.	Reps. James Mulry ..	36 2 20	0 12 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. James Mulry	4 1 28	0 2 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. James Mulry	23 3 27	13 10 0	—	
,,	Ballinvoher South	Reps. James Mulry	200 1 31	1 5 0	—	
,,	Ballyvoneen ..	Reps. Emanuel Churcher ..	61 1 26	2 5 0	—	
,,	Castle Ffrench East	Reps. Emanuel Churcher ..	260 3 11	2 0 0	—	
,,	Castle Ffrench West	Reps. Emanuel Churcher ..	200 3 4	3 0 0	—	
,,	Clooonascarberry North	Reps. James Mulry	1 2 15	0 15 0	0 15 0	
..	Cloonascarberry South	Reps. James Mulry	205 2 18	140 0 0	—	
,	Cloonnabricka	Reps. Emanuel Churcher ..	131 1 0	9 0 0	—	
,	Cornananta Beg	Reps. Emanuel Churcher ..	103 1 33	2 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Reps. Emanuel Churcher ..	2 1 2	1 5 0	—	
,,	Corrabaun ..	Reps. Emanuel Churcher ..	65 3 26	1 0 0	—	
,	Creggaun (Machugh)	William Potts	70 0 12	46 10 0	1 5 0	
.	Curraghboy ..	Michael Neary	166 3 7	105 0 0	35 0 0	Mansion house.
,	Ffrench's Acres	Thomas K. Mahon	20 0 26	16 10 0	—	
,	Gortacoosaun	Reps. Emanuel Churcher ..	71 1 7	0 15 0	—	
,	Gowla ..	Reps. Emanuel Churcher ..	815 1 28	16 5 0	—	
,	Loonaghtan (Kelly)	William Magauran	89 2 17	49 0 0	0 10 0	
.	Loonaghtan (Mahon)	Sir William Henry Mahon, Bart.	48 3 20	0 10 0	—	
.	Loughaunboy	Lord Clonbrock	25 3 18	3 5 0	—	
,	Newtown ..	Reps. Emanuel Churcher ..	7 3 17	2 5 0	—	
,	Shanballymore	Thomas K. Mahon	56 3 23	0 5 0	—	
,	Trihill East	Reps. Hon. Mrs. Ffrench ..	228 2 17	2 15 0	—	
,	Trihill West	Reps. Hon. Mrs. Ffrench ..	190 3 8	2 0 0	—	
..	Ballybaun ..	Lord Clonbrock	29 2 8	3 7 0	2 15 0	
.	Ballyboggan ..	Lord Clonbrock	6 0 0	0 1 0	—	
.	Bunavan ..	Lord Clonbrock	10 3 7	0 4 0	—	
.	Clonbrock ..	Lord Clonbrock	34 2 16	8 10 0	—	
.	Clonbrock Demesne	Lord Clonbrock	1,985 3 11	1002 5 0	135 0 0	Mansion house.
.	Clonmannon (Kelly)	Lord Clonbrock	393 0 35	175 15 0	10 5 0	
,	Derrymore ..	Lord Clonbrock	247 0 0	81 12 0	—	
,	Doon Lower	Reps. Thomas L'Estrange ...	118 1 37	9 5 0	—	

APPENDIX X

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF MOUNTBELLEW—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observations
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Clonbrook ..	Doon Upper	Lord Clonbrock	8 3 24	6 15 0	4 0 0	
,,	,,	Lord Clonbrock	263 1 8	7 10 0	—	
,,	Keave ..	Reps. Emanuel Churcher ..	5 1 38	0 1 0	—	
,,	Kilglass ..	Lord Clonbrock	5 3 10	2 0 0	—	
,,	,, ..	Lord Clonbrock	5 0 0	1 10 0	2 10 0	
,,	,, ..	Lord Clonbrock	5 0 30	0 13 0	—	
,,	Killeen ..	Lord Clonbrock	36 1 11	7 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Clonbrock	26 1 18	0 8 0	—	
,,	Latton ..	Lord Clonbrock	248 0 6	144 5 0	1 15 0	
,,	,,	Lord Clonbrock	158 1 2	3 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Clonbrock	9 3 29	6 0 0	—	
,,	Lenaloughra ..	Lord Clonbrock	24 3 9	10 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Clonbrock	36 1 0	26 0 0	—	
,,	Lislea ..	John A. Daly	19 0 14	0 15 0	—	
,,	Lurgan ..	Lord Clonbrock	82 2 36	4 10 0	—	
,,	Sruhaunfusta	Lord Clonbrock	31 0 22	1 10 0	—	
Cloonkeen ..	Ballynacorra (Davies)	Thomas Cornwall	111 0 2	50 0 0	8 0 0	
,,	Bleannagloos ..	Congested Districts Board ..	10 2 4	3 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	1 1 34	0 2 0	—	
,,	Boggauns ..	Thomas Cornwall	14 2 31	3 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Thomas Cornwall	70 0 8	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonkeen (Netterville)	Cecilia Fallon	95 1 18	20 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Cloonshivna ..	Reps. Emanuel Churcher ..	36 1 21	1 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonshivna .. (Kelly-Meelick)	Reps. Emanuel Churcher ..	45 0 16	0 10 0	—	
,,	Kilcoosh	Cecilia Fallon	253 0 5	47 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	St. Brendan's or Cregganagrogy	Congested Districts Board ..	21 0 21	3 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	2 0 29	0 1 0	—	
Cooloo ..	Carrowkeel ..	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	22 0 8	11 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	Cloonascragh ..	Michael Hoban	158 2 16	0 13 0	—	
,,	Cooloo ..	Congested Districts Board ..	10 3 28	2 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	186 0 29	1 9 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	143 3 35	76 0 0	25 0 0	Mansion house
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	9 3 34	5 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	30 0 6	11 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	14 1 21	4 0 0	—	
,,	Cooloo Mountain	Congested Districts Board ..	47 1 27	11 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	0 2 32	0 5 0	—	
,,	Coolwoneen ..	Congested Districts Board ..	2 3 18	0 7 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	13 2 27	4 0 0	—	
,,	Elmhill ..	Francis J. Ffrench	258 1 5	51 9 0	6 6 0	
,,	,,	Francis J. Ffrench	3 3 20	2 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Francis J. Ffrench	10 2 14	4 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	Gortaganny ..	Matthew Cheevers	67 1 6	30 5 0	1 10 0	
,,	Gorteenlahard	Francis J. Ffrench	8 0 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Francis J. Ffrench	4 3 10	1 15 0	—	
,,	Moylough Beg	Harry Burke	222 1 30	82 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Mullaghmore West	Reps. James F. Jameson (Court of Chancery)	347 0 32	210 0 0	5 0 0	
,,	Summerville ..	John Lyons	159 2 20	86 10 0	13 10 0	Mansion house
,,	,,	John Lyons	11 0 0	5 10 0	—	
,,	Trasternagh North	Robert K. Digby	153 1 18	41 15 0	0 15 0	
,,	Windfield Demesne	Jameson (a Minor)	197 1 15	27 0 0	35 15 0	Mansion house
,,	,,	Jameson (a Minor)	67 1 20	25 5 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Reps. James F. Jameson ..	16 0 15	10 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Jameson (a Minor)	0 3 20	0 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Jameson (a Minor)	101 1 0	43 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Jameson (a Minor)	39 2 0	22 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Jameson (a Minor)	64 2 0	32 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Jameson (a Minor)	3 2 0	1 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. James F. Jameson ..	3 2 0	2 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Jameson (a Minor)	80 3 0	39 15 0	—	
Derryglassaun	Ballaghnagrosheen	St. George R. Johnston ..	36 3 35	0 5 0	—	
,,	Ballynamona	Kathleen Ffrench	209 1 21	3 2 0	—	
,,	Carrownacregg West	Michael Browne	220 3 11	109 4 0	22 11 0	Mansion house
,,	Cloonmweelaun	St. George R. Johnston ..	8 1 24	0 5 0	—	
,,	Derryglassaun	Kathleen Ffrench	230 2 30	0 15 0	—	
,,	Gorteendrishagh	Kathleen Ffrench	6 0 0	2 5 0	—	
,,	Menlough Commons	Kathleen Ffrench	31 2 19	0 5 0	—	
,,	Menlough Oughter	Kathleen Ffrench	0 3 10	0 7 0	—	
,,	Pollacrossaun	Kathleen Ffrench	96 0 31	0 6 0	—	
,,	Skehanagh ..	Reps. James C. F. Kenny ..	70 2 35	0 6 0	—	
Killeroran ..	Aghrane or Castlekelly (Killeroran)	Charles Henry Bagot	659 2 30	205 5 0	1 17 0	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF MOUNTBELLEW—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Killeroran ..	Aghrane or Castlekelly (Athleague)	Charles Henry Bagot ..	939 1 37	222 2 0	56 15 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Charles Henry Bagot	22 2 5	8 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Charles Henry Bagot	2 2 0	1 10 0	—	
,,	Attifarry ..	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	88 0 7	21 15 0	—	
,,	Ballygar ..	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	31 1 22	0 7 0	—	
,,	,,	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	20 3 34	23 0 0	—	
,,	Cartron ..	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	90 0 19	1 18 0	—	
,,	Clooncannon	Reps. John Lloyd Neville Bagot	56 0 34	8 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonlyon ..	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	307 3 13	13 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	18 2 0	9 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	20 2 22	6 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	16 2 0	6 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	Cloonruff ..	William J. Talbot	320 2 39	192 15 0	2 0 0	
,,	,,	William J. Talbot	20 0 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Coalpits ..	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	96 0 23	5 15 0	—	
,,	Curraghbaghla	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	12 3 2	0 5 0	—	
,,	Drinaun ..	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	296 2 36	4 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	1 3 0	0 10 0	—	
,,	Easterfield or Cornacask	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	187 1 5	4 7 0	—	
,,	Gorteenruckaun	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	23 0 9	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	67 2 0	19 0 0	—	
,,	Hermitage	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	64 3 13	0 12 0	—	
,,	Hollygrove ..	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot ..	77 1 29	2 0 0	—	
,,	Killeroran ..	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	79 2 31	0 6 0	—	
,,	,,	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	3 1 26	1 10 0	—	
,,	Kilmore ..	Reps. John Lloyd Neville Bagot	44 3 2	16 2 0	—	
,,	,,	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	206 1 7	6 1 0	—	
,,	,,	Trustees of Christopher N Bagot	7 3 28	3 8 0	—	
,,	,,	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	3 3 0	0 12 0	—	
,,	Knockauna-rainy	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	116 2 30	1 0 0	—	
,,	Lisheenteige ..	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	48 2 38	0 18 0	—	
,,	,,	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	36 2 13	32 5 0	—	
,,	Mallyree ..	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	111 1 11	20 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	Monasternalea or Abbeygrey (Parish of Athleague)	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	173 0 4	2 7 0	—	
,,	,,	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	164 3 5	66 15 0	3 10 0	
,,	Monasternalea or Abbeygrey (Parish of Killeroran)	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	160 0 1	33 12 0	—	
,,	,,	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	9 0 20	2 5 0	—	
,,	Muckanagh North	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	66 1 26	0 10 0	—	
,,	Muckanagh South	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	280 1 8	1 10 0	—	
,,	Slievemurry	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	248 3 10	14 8 0	—	
,,	Tully ..	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	72 2 14	0 14 0	—	

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF MOUNTBELLEW—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Killeroran ..	Tullyroe ..	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	49 0 16	1 6 0	—	
Killian ..	Buncam ..	John J. Cheevers	25 3 36	14 0 0	—	
,,	Carrowmore (Cheevers)	John J. Cheevers	60 2 8	34 15 0	—	
,,	Carrowmore (Kelly)	Thomas K. Mahon	30 2 26	8 5 0	—	
,,	Carrownafreevy	John J. Cheevers	17 2 7	10 15 0	—	
,,	,,	John J. Cheevers	2 1 20	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	John J. Cheevers	4 0 19	1 5 0	—	
,,	,,	John J. Cheevers	1 0 0	0 13 0	—	
,,	,,	John J. Cheevers	116 1 12	69 5 0	—	
,,	Currafarry ..	Lord Clonbrock	99 2 37	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Clonbrock	18 0 35	9 0 0	—	
,,	Killian ..	John J. Cheevers	1 3 38	1 10 0	1 5 0	
,,	,,	John J. Cheevers	333 0 30	135 17 0	40 13 0	Mansion house,
,,	Killosolan ..	Lord Clonbrock	704 3 36	3 13 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Lord Clonbrock	2 0 7	1 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Lecarrow	Lord Clonbrock	5 1 23	1 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Clonbrock	40 3 4	16 10 0	—	
,,	Tirur ..	John J. Cheevers	65 2 5	0 10 0	—	
,,	Tonacurra ..	John J. Cheevers	25 0 11	7 10 0	—	
Mount Bellew ..	Barnwell's Grove	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	30 1 0	8 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	42 3 4	33 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonreleagh (Bellew)	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	99 2 23	29 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	44 1 10	9 0 0	—	
,,	Gorteen	Major Foster	20 2 37	0 5 0	—	
,,	Mount Bellew Demesne (Ballynakill)	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	57 2 8	14 5 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	12 0 20	8 10 0	—	
,,	Bovinion ..	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	219 3 17	45 10 0	3 0 0	
,,	,,	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	1 2 10	0 10 0	—	
,,	Mount Bellew Demesne (Moylough)	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	419 0 10	229 10 0	84 15 0	Mansion house.
,,	Shankill	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	521 1 16	110 0 0	1 10 0	
,,	Treanrevagh ..	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	9 3 5	7 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	1 0 5	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	12 1 35	6 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonoran Oughter.	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	329 0 20	173 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Doonwood ..	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	194 1 7	21 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	35 3 0	8 0 0	—	
,,	Eskerroe ..	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	161 3 0	85 15 0	0 15 0	
,,	Killoscobe ..	Reps. Julia Browne ..	6 2 4	0 1 0	—	
,,	Annaghmore East	Reps. Emily M. Trench ..	298 1 36	2 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Emily M. Trench ..	31 3 17	9 10 0		
,,	,,	Trustees of F. A. Trench ..	344 0 6	127 0 0	8 10 0	
,,	,,	Reps. Emily M. Trench ..	216 1 25	85 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	Ballingatta ..	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	5 3 23	2 0 0	1 10 0	
,,	Ballymageraghty	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	133 2 21	0 12 0	—	
,,	Castlebellew ..	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	31 2 39	0 10 0	—	
,,	Clooncallaga	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	81 3 19	1 0 0	—	
,,	Creggauns ..	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	180 3 8	45 0 0	2 0 0	
,,	Marlay ..	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	253 2 8	1 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	4 3 11	3 10 0	—	
,,	Moylough More.	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	171 2 1	38 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	54 2 21	49 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	37 1 6	15 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew (in Chancery) ..	55 0 5	37 10 0	—	
,,	Tomree ..	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	43 2 8	41 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir Henry Grattan Bellew ..	262 0 22	1 5 0	—	
,,	Carrownagannive	James Donohoe	11 1 0	6 10 0	—	
Mounthazel ..	Aghanahil ..	Edmund Concannon	222 3 31	126 15 0	21 5 0	Mansion house.
,,	Ballynasooragh Eighter	Walter Joyce	172 3 19	94 10 0	27 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Ballynasooragh Oughter	Walter Joyce	248 1 31	123 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	Caltraghcreen	Pierce Joyce	68 1 28	0 5 0	—	
	Corgerry Eighter	Walter Joyce	355 2 12	125 0 0	1 15 0	
,,	Corgerry Oughter	Walter Joyce	63 3 0	26 7 0	—	
	,,	Walter Joyce	7 2 0	3 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Walter Joyce	85 2 25	49 10 0	—	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF MOUNTBELLEW—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observations.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
athazel ..	Corgerry Oughter	Walter Joyce	54 2 7	23 3 0	—	
,,	,,	Walter Joyce	81 1 39	47 0 0	—	
,,	Fairhill ..	Walter Joyce	71 1 18	35 9 0	—	
,,	,,	Walter Joyce	29 3 15	9 0 0	0 7 0	
,,	,,	Walter Joyce	178 3 23	102 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Walter Joyce ..	47 2 27	8 15 0	—	
,,	Kilfelligy ..	Walter Joyce	29 2 37	17 0 0	—	
,,	Killooaun .. (Ballymacward)	Duc de Stackpoole	20 2 3	0 1 0	—	
,,	Killooaun (Browne)	Duc de Stackpoole	50 0 37	41 0 0	—	
,,	Killooaun (Cloonkeen)	Mrs. O'Connor Henchy ..	124 0 0	1 10 0	—	
,,	Killamude East	Duc de Stackpoole	24 2 33	1 15 0	—	
,,	Killamude West	Duc de Stackpoole	33 0 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Lismoes ..	Nicholas J. Blake	83 0 15	44 10 0	—	
,,	Moneen (Killoscobe)	Nicholas J. Blake	92 0 27	53 19 0	49 16 0	Mansion house.
,,	Moneen (Ballymacward)	Nicholas J. Blake	80 0 0	77 7 0	—	
,,	Mounthazel ..	Duc de Stackpoole	179 3 21	80 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Duc de Stackpoole	105 2 16	86 15 0	55 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Duc de Stackpoole	22 2 0	12 10 0	—	
,,	Rahins ..	Walter Joyce	5 1 19	2 18 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Walter Joyce	31 3 2	16 18 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Walter Joyce	34 0 27	17 10 0	1 5 0	
ooy ..	Acre East ..	Major A. D. D. Kelly ..	152 3 30	1 0 0	—	
,,	Caltraghduff ..	Major A. D. D. Kelly ..	178 3 7	1 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonshee (Dillon)	Lord Clonbrock	160 2 22	1 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonshee (Kelly)	John Kelly	82 2 26	10 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Cloonshee (Rochford)	Ferdinand Dignan	300 1 10	56 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Philip Dignan	219 2 37	75 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonshee (Trench)	Charles O'Hara Trench ..	208 3 37	64 15 0	3 10 0	
,,	Corracoolia ..	Major A. D. D. Kelly ..	0 2 15	0 3 0	—	
,,	,,	Major A. D. D. Kelly ..	77 1 5	0 7 0	—	
,,	Derreen ..	Trustees of Christopher N. Bagot	279 1 11	2 10 0	—	
,,	Derryfadda ..	Major A. D. D. Kelly ..	1,412 0 19	8 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Major A. D. D. Kelly ..	4 0 30	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Major A. D. D. Kelly ..	31 3 1	10 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Major A. D. D. Kelly ..	26 2 30	3 15 0	—	
,,	Killaderry ..	Major A. D. D. Kelly ..	470 3 23	5 15 0	—	
,,	Muckloon ..	Major A. D. D. Kelly ..	310 1 11	10 5 0	—	
,,	Srahgarve ..	Sir William Henry Mahon, Bart.	146 1 26	16 1 0 0	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF OUGHTERARD.

..	Illaunnaginga Island	Richard Berridge	1 3 10	0 3 0	—	
bur ..	Ardaun East	Lord Ardilaun	10 2 5	3 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	62 2 17	19 10 0	—	
,,	Ardaun West	Lord Ardilaun	6 1 17	2 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	41 0 2	15 5 0	—	
,,	Ardnageeha ..	Lord Ardilaun	38 1 30	14 12 0	0 9 0	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	91 1 33	32 15 0	—	
,,	Ashford or Cappacorcoge	Lord Ardilaun	225 2 3	112 5 0	167 12 0	Mansion house.
,,	Ballymaglancy	Lord Ardilaun	1 0 6	0 11 0	—	
,,	Ballynamona ..	Lord Ardilaun	1 2 30	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	2 3 25	0 6 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	6 1 37	1 15 0	—	
,,	Breandrim ..	Lord Ardilaun	107 2 20	45 0 0	5 0 0	Head rent paid to Trinity College, Dublin.
,,	Cappacorcoge	Lord Ardilaun	144 0 11	65 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	Clogher ..	Lord Ardilaun	126 0 28	65 8 0	3 10 0	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	20 3 25	3 18 0	1 10 0	
,,	Cloonnamarve	Lord Ardilaun	44 0 10	14 12 0	0 5 0	
,,	Carrowbaun ..	Lord Ardilaun	37 1 39	11 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	2 0 8	0 10 0	—	
,,	Carrowhekeen	Lord Ardilaun	47 0 15	14 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	1 3 6	1 0 0	—	

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF OUGHTERARD—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observations.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Cloonbur	Carrowhekeen	Lord Ardilaun	4 0 35	1 0 0	—	
,,	Dooroy ..	Lord Ardilaun	32 1 35	10 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	30 2 4	11 17 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	20 3 23	7 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	1 2 0	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	0 3 30	0 8 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	7 3 4	2 17 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	3 0 4	0 5 0	—	
,,	Gortnaclassagh	Lord Ardilaun	2 3 5	1 15 0	—	
,,	Creggaree ..	Lord Ardilaun	64 0 8	8 5 0	5 0 0	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	2 2 14	2 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	Croaghrim ..	Lord Ardilaun	63 3 16	26 8 0	4 5 0	
,,	Culleenalena ..	Lord Ardilaun	26 2 8	17 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	12 1 20	0 16 0	—	
,,	Deerpark ..	Lord Ardilaun	106 1 27	50 5 0	2 0 0	
,,	Toberbiroge ..	Lord Ardilaun	93 2 13	29 10 0	—	
,,	Tumneenaun	Dr. Joseph Boyd	200 2 20	58 15 0	27 5 0	
	ISLANDS IN LOUGH CORRIB:					
,,	Inishconga ..	Lord Ardilaun	3 0 37	0 15 0	—	
,,	Illaundarragh	Lord Ardilaun	3 2 12	0 15 0	—	
,,	Illaunree ..	Lord Ardilaun	4 2 34	0 10 0	—	
,,	Ardillaun ..	Lord Ardilaun	8 1 34	2 0 0	—	
,,	Conor's Island	Lord Ardilaun	3 1 32	0 10 0	—	
,,	Small Islands	Lord Ardilaun	7 0 34	—	—	
,,	Ballyweeaun ..	Lord Ardilaun	12 1 13	3 1 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	17 1 28	2 16 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	13 0 32	3 5 0	—	
,,	Cahergal ..	Lord Ardilaun	2 0 6	1 6 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	3 2 33	0 16 0	0 6 0	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	4 0 39	0 5 0	—	
,,	Kilbeg Upper	Lord Ardilaun	7 0 12	6 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	9 0 36	3 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	3 3 34	0 15 0	—	
,,	Cloghbrack Upper	Lord Ardilaun	8 1 39	0 19 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	14 0 13	2 4 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	21 0 35	0 9 0	—	
,,	Cloghbrack Lower	Lnrd Ardilaun	4 3 12	1 10 0	—	
,,	Cappaghna-gapple or Petersburgh	Richard C. Lynch	1 3 0	—	—	
,,	,,	Richard C. Lynch	274 3 33	100 15 0	23 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Cloonbur ..	Lord Ardilaun	176 0 3	62 0 0	2 15 0	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	1 2 5	1 5 0	—	
,,	Rusheen West	Lord Ardilaun	3 3 20	2 0 0	—	
,,	Coolin ..	Lord Ardilaun	381 2 36	15 0 0	—	
,,	Tonlegee ..	Lord Ardilaun	37 3 23	3 2 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	35 2 21	—	—	
,,	Rusheen East	Lord Ardilaun	97 2 22	44 19 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	5 3 26	1 15 0	—	
,,	Kilbeg Lower	Lord Ardilaun	224 2 0	123 0 0	15 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Rosshill ..	Lord Ardilaun	198 3 28	50 0 0	—	
,,	Fahy ..	Lord Ardilaun	9 3 30	6 15 0	15 10 0	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	5 3 22	2 15 0	—	
,,	Cregdotia ..	Lord Ardilaun	46 1 14	10 0 0	1 10 0	
	ISLANDS IN LOUGH MASK:					
,,	Wood Island	Lord Ardilaun	5 2 36	0 10 0	—	
,,	White Island	Lord Ardilaun	36 0 26	8 10 0	—	
,,	Red Island ..	Richard Lynch	17 3 20	3 10 0	—	
Cong ..	Glenlusk ..	Henry J. B. Clements ..	156 3 0	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Henry J. B. Clements ..	25 1 10	0 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Henry J. B. Clements ..	6 2 10	0 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Henry J. B. Clements ..	90 2 7	1 15 0	—	
,,	Carrowgarriff	Henry B. Clements	105 1 19	1 10 0	—	
,,	Carrick Middle	Lord Ardilaun	7 1 0	0 15 0	—	
,,	Carrick West	Rev. Ralph Sadlier	33 2 0	1 10 0	—	
,,	Claggan ..	Henry B. Clements	123 1 13	2 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Henry B. Clements	11 1 30	0 13 0	—	
,,	Cornamona	Lord Ardilaun	166 3 38	2 0 0	—	
,,	Drumsnauv ..	Lord Ardilaun	427 1 13	58 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Ardilaun	39 2 0	6 15 0	12 5 0	
,,	Farnaght ..	Henry B. Clements	262 2 37	18 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Moneenmore	Henry B. Clements	2 1 33	1 0 0	5 0 0	
,,	,,	Henry B. Clements	133 2 7	11 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	ISLANDS IN (LOUGH CORRIB:					
	Cleenilaun ..	Lord Ardilaun	12 2 14	2 0 0	—	
	Illaunagawna	Lord Ardilaun	3 1 15	0 7 0	—	
	Inishaunagh	Lord Ardilaun	14 3 18	2 15 0	—	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF OUGHTERARD—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
..	Island of Burr	Lord Ardilaun	5 1 35	0 3 0	—	
..	Cur ..	Henry J. B. Clements ..	882 1 23	20 15 0	—	
..	Teernakill North	Lord Ardilaun	2 0 2	1 0 0	—	Head rent paid to Trinity College, Dublin.
kaun	Culliaghbeg ..	Thomas F. Joyce	4 2 20	1 0 0	—	
,,	Gowlaunlee ..	Richard T. King	1,718 3 0	44 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Griggins ..	Lord Ardilaun	733 0 0	30 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Munterowen West	Thomas F. Joyce	264 2 4	14 10 0	3 0 0	
,,	Poundcartron	Richard T. King	808 0 13	26 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Culliaghmore ..	Arthur Joyce	645 1 38	5 0 0	2 0 0	Head rent paid to Trinity College, Dublin.
,,	,,	Thomas E. Joyce		5 0 0	1 0 0	Do.
,,	,,	Thomas E. Joyce		5 5 0	0 15 0	Do.
e ..	Annaghbeg	H. Dudley Hodgson	51 1 5	7 10 0	—	
	Ballygally ..	H. Dudley Hodgson ..	191 0 23	23 5 0	—	
,,	,,	H. Dudley Hodgson	2 0 0	0 10 0	0 15 0	
,	Barnagorteeny	H. Dudley Hodgson	9 3 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	
,	Barretleva ..	H. Dudley Hodgson	474 1 28	16 15 0	0 5 0	
,	Curraghduff West	H. Dudley Hodgson	241 1 33	36 0 0	1 0 0	
,	Currarevagh ..	H. Dudley Hodgson	211 1 5	51 5 0	40 10 0	Mansion house.
,	Gorterwulla ..	H. Dudley Hodgson	56 3 10	12 12 0	—	
,	Gowlaun ..	H. Dudley Hodgson	294 0 35	5 5 0	—	
,	Cow Island ..	Trustees Henry Hodgson ..	0 0 13	—	—	
,	Fish Island ..	H. Dudley Hodgson	0 0 3	—	—	
,	Illaundauvrack Island	H. Dudley Hodgson	2 2 9	0 5 0	—	
,	Small Islands	H. Dudley Hodgson	3 1 16	—	—	
.	Currarevagh .. Islands	H. Dudley Hodgson	0 1 10	—	—	
.	Roughillaun Island	H. Dudley Hodgson	1 1 30	—	—	
.	Lackavrea ..	H. Dudley Hodgson	1,482 1 7	7 10 0	0 10 0	
d ..	Annaghwood ..	H. Dudley Hodgson	28 1 10	4 15 0	0 5 0	
.	Ardnasillagh ..	George E. O'Flaherty ..	150 1 11	63 7 0	5 10 0	
.	Ardvarna ..	John P. O'Flahertie	19 1 2	12 10 0	—	
.	Canrawer West	John P. O'Flahertie	61 3 12	0 8 0	—	
.	Cappagarriff ..	H. Dudley Hodgson	53 0 28	12 0 0	—	
.	Clare ..	John P. O'Flahertie	1 2 20	0 15 0	—	
.	Claremount ..	Richard Berridge	308 1 24	6 18 0	—	
.	Cloghermore ..	H. Dudley Hodgson	1,835 1 0	10 15 0	0 5 0	
.	Clooshgereen ..	Trustees of Richard D. Burke ..	403 0 30	4 15 0	—	
.	Cregg ..	John P. O'Flahertie ..	189 0 34	1 15 0	—	
.	,,	John P. O'Flahertie	13 3 23	0 12 0	—	
.	Fough East ..	John P. O'Flahertie	4 3 3	2 0 0	—	
	Glengowla East	John P. O'Flahertie	224 1 17	17 10 0	0 5 0	
	Glengowla West	John P. O'Flahertie	2 2 10	0 10 0	3 0 0	
	Gortrevagh ..	Mary A. Willis	158 2 32	53 0 0	0 10 0	
	Illaunfadda Beg Island	George E. O'Flaherty ..	8 1 4	1 0 0	—	
	Illaunnagower Island	George E. O'Flaherty ..	7 1 2	0 15 0	—	
	Rabbit Island	George E. O'Flaherty ..	26 3 27	7 15 0	—	
	Knockkillaree	James O'Hara	31 1 0	0 18 0	—	
	Lemonfield ..	John P. O'Flahertie	386 1 31	88 15 0	20 0 0	Mansion house.
	Lettercraffroe ..	George E. O'Flaherty ..	1,016 3 18	5 0 0	—	
	Magheramore	Scrope Doig	12 0 0	6 10 0	—	
	Newvillage ..	H. Dudley Hodgson	50 0 0	2 0 0	—	
	Portacarronbeg	Mary Browne	49 2 27	11 0 0	0 10 0	
	Rushveala ..	Mary Browne	1 0 0	0 10 0	—	
	Tullyvealnaslee	Trustees Henry Hodgson ..	6 1 20	0 5 0	—	
..	Gowlaun ..	Lord Ardilaun	1,362 2 3	30 10 0	2 10 0	
	Crumlin West	Lord Ardilaun	1,086 2 2	52 10 0	1 0 0	Head rent paid to Trinity College, Dublin.
	Drin ..	James A. Lyle	711 3 5	36 0 0	0 10 0	Do.
	Toorloggagh ..	James A. Lyle	740 1 39	45 0 0	1 0 0	Do.
	Islands in Lough Mask: Earls Island	James A. Lyle	6 3 38	1 5 0	—	Do.
..	Knockadav ..	Richard Berridge	4,412 0 12	16 0 0	0 15 0	
..	Carrowmore-knock	Robert J. Martin	30 3 3	—	—	
	Doon ..	Robert W. M. Martin ..	23 0 35	7 10 0	—	
	Gortacarnaun	Robert W. M. Martin ..	2 0 0	0 15 0	—	
	Killaguile ..	James E. Jackson	1,053 0 36	72 15 0	18 0 0	Mansion house.
	Killannin ..	Robert J. Martin	65 0 19	2 13 0	—	
	Larragan ..	Edward Guilfoyle	149 2 30	3 14 0	—	
	Ower ..	Edward Guilfoyle	593 0 39	7 10 0	—	

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF OUGHTERARD—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observations.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Wormhole ..	Roscahill East	Robert J. Martin	45 2 4	21 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Robert J. Martin	73 2 8	12 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Robert J. Martin	5 0 5	1 5 0	—	
,,	Ross Demesne	Robert J. Martin	440 0 15	158 2 0	2 10 0	
,,	Wormhole ..	Edward Guilfoyle	118 2 14	0 15 0	—	
,,	Roscahill West	Robert J. Martin	9 0 0	2 0 0	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF PORTUMNA.

Abbeyville ..	Cloonmoylan	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	317 3 0	1 10 0	—	
,,	Coolfin ..	Earl of Westmeath	20 0 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Derryvunlam	Edward R. Mathews	544 0 28	72 0 0	18 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Edward R. Mathews	16 2 20	2 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Edward R. Mathews	38 3 27	9 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Edward R. Mathews ..	19 2 16	4 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Edward R. Mathews	72 2 17	18 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Edward R. Mathews	98 3 20	21 17 0	—	
,,	Easterfield ..	Earl of Westmeath	78 0 32	26 15 0	—	
Ballyglass ..	Knockbrack ..	Earl of Westmeath	80 2 18	46 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Lisduff South	Earl of Westmeath	29 0 13	14 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Moannakeeba East	Earl of Westmeath	343 2 8	3 0 0	—	
,,	Moannakeeba West	Earl of Westmeath ..	326 1 21	1 10 0	—	
Coos ..	Coos South ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	128 3 15	1 3 0	—	
,,	Derryoober West	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	351 2 6	8 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Derrygoolin South.	Marquis of Clanricarde	2 0 19	0 11 0	—	
Derrew ..	Cloonoolish ..	Reps. Patrick J. Cowan ..	90 1 10	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonamasky	William B. Ruthven	16 3 0	0 8 0	—	
,,	Killadullisk ..	William B. Ruthven ..	42 3 18	0 5 0	—	
,,	Raheen	William B. Ruthven ..	92 2 2	0 10 0	—	
,,	Timsallagh or Springgrove	Algernon Persse	35 1 19	11 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Algernon Persse	169 3 2	69 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Algernon Persse	114 3 15	44 12 0	2 18 0	
Drummin ..	Bauntia ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	69 0 23	0 11 0	—	
,,	Cloonoon	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	170 3 33	0 15 0	—	
,,	Derrygill ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	432 2 6	26 2 0	0 13 0	
,,	,,	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	27 2 8	1 0..0	—	
,,	Dooros ..	Marquis of Clanricarde	144 3 15	1 0 0	—	
,,	Drummin	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	21 3 35	1 0 0	—	
,,	Gorteeny ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	11 1 29	1 0 0	—	
,,	Kylenamelly	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	194 1 39	4 5 0	—	
,,	Looscaun ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	8 3 30	0 2 0	—	
,,	,,	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	5 2 22	2 13 0	—	
,,	Rosmore ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	232 1 38	1 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	64 3 34	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	43 0 5	8 15 0	—	
,,	Srah ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	187 0 35	1 5 0	—	
Eyrecourt	Ballyna-muddagh	Reps. John Pollok	282 1 29	195 10 0	41 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Budellagh and Cloghbrack	Rep. John Pollok	55 3 8	29 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	Rep. John Pollok	24 3 20	15 15 0	10 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Lissanacody ..	Rep. John Pollok	325 0 32	145 0 0	7 0 0	
,,	,,	Rep. John Pollok	117 2 0	83 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Rep. John Pollok	34 2 10	23 0 0	—	
,,	Feaghbeg ..	Lord Ardilaun	92 2 7	1 0 0	—	
,,	Feaghmore Eighter	Captain S. J Cowan	49 1 25	22 10 0	—	
,,	Reaskmore ..	Stephen J. Cowan	47 0 25	29 10 0	—	
,,	Tully ..	Stephen J. Cowan	45 0 19	32 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Stephen J. Cowan	17 2 20	15 0 0	7 0 0	
,,	,,	Stephen J. Cowan	32 0 37	25 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Stephen J. Cowan	10 2 25	8 5 0	—	
Killimor	Ahanduff Beg	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	5 3 33	1 10 0	2 0 0	
,,	,,	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	3 2 36	1 15 0	—	
,,	Ahanduff More	James A. Hunter and H. E McKay	151 3 37	70 5 0	—	
,,	,,	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	12 0 20	3 15 0	—	
,,	Ardane ..	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	25 3 0	8 5 0	—	
,,	,,	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	74 3 4	50 17 0	—	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF PORTUMNA—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
..	Ballycahill ..	Francis W. Lynch	31 0 18	16 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Michael Lynch	6 0 37	0 1 0	—	
,,	Caher ..	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	60 0 37	43 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	Clarary ..	James McDermott	13 2 24	0 2 0	—	
,,	,,	James McDermott	8 3 23	2 10 0	—	
,,	Conors Park ..	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	49 1 27	25 0 0	—	
,,	Coolbaun	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	86 0 31	54 3 0	—	
,,	Derradda ..	Hamden Lawless	16 3 14	0 5 0	—	
,,	Garrynasillagh	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	1 0 30	0 10 0	—	
,,	Hearnesbrook Demesne	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	82 3 6	66 0 0	44 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Heathlawn ..	James H. Monahan	710 2 26	287 0 0	31 5 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	James H. Monahan	0 2 5	0 8 0	3 2 0	
,,	Kilnamullaun	James McDermott	8 2 30	4 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Killimor and Boleybeg	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	4 2 20	2 10 0	—	
,,	,,	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	67 2 0	49 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Lisdeligny ..	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	23 0 3	0 2 0	—	
,,	,,	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	133 0 35	1 0 0	—	
,,	Moneenaveena	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	25 2 23	2 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	1 0 12	0 5 0	—	
,,	Rathmore-ahanduff	James McDermott	81 0 9	32 15 0	—	
,,	,,	James McDermott	6 3 10	2 15 0	—	
,,	Rusheeny ..	William Daly and Denis St. George Daly	47 0 7	0 10 0	—	
,,	Rathmore Demesne	James McDermott	256 1 24	157 10 0	39 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	James McDermott	35 1 20	23 10 0	—	
,,	Raheen	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	43 3 22	22 5 0	—	
oge ..	Cappasallagh ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	45 1 20	0 7 0	—	
,,	,,	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	89 2 21	54 0 0	—	
,,	Corr ..	Marcella Blake Forster ..	75 2 19	4 0 0	1 6 0	
,,	,,	Marcella Blake Forster ..	201 0 30	119 0 0	15 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Marcella Blake Forster ..	2 3 17	1 0 0	—	
,,	Derryhiveney North	Charles W. Thompson ..	25 0 20	12 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles W. Thompson ..	6 2 6	2 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles W. Thompson ..	5 2 10	1 13 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Charles W. Thompson ..	4 3 39	1 8 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles W. Thompson ..	109 2 25	50 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Charles W. Thompson ..	303 1 0	144 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Charles W. Thompson ..	216 0 35	145 0 0	—	
,,	Derryhiveny South	F. N. Young	211 2 16	182 0 0	2 0 0	
,,	,,	F. N. Young	93 2 39	54 15 0	—	
,,	,,	F. N. Young	14 0 35	9 0 0	—	
,,	,,	F. N. Young	6 0 37	4 10 0	—	
,,	,,	F. N. Young	13 2 10	4 5 0	—	
,,	,,	F. N. Young	25 3 23	10 14 0	—	
,,	,,	F. N. Young	97 0 4	50 0 0	—	
,,	,,	F. N. Young	31 1 0	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	F. N. Young	5 3 34	2 10 0	—	
	Gortrea or Fairfield	John A. O'Kelly	141 0 4	34 10 0	20 10 0	Mansion house.
	,,	John A. O'Kelly	8 2 20	5 0 0	1 10 0	
	,,	John A. O'Kelly	45 3 0	20 10 0	—	
	,,	John A. O. Kelly	2 3 29	1 0 0	—	
	,,	John A. O'Kelly	50 3 20	24 15 0	—	
	,,	John A. O'Kelly	11 3 10	5 15 0	—	
	Kilmalinoge	John A. O'Kelly	64 0 13	11 10 0	—	
	,,	John A. O'Kelly	10 3 0	3 5 0	0 5 0	
	,,	John A. O'Kelly	97 3 21	76 15 0	—	
	Gortyneill ..	John A. O'Neill	98 0 12	62 0 0	—	
	Toormore ..	John A. O'Kelly	65 3 11	50 0 0	—	
	Gortaha ..	George Cheevers	311 2 30	201 5 0	—	
	,,	George Cheevers	17 0 4	7 10 0	—	
	Ballycrossaun	John D. Lemon	139 1 25	97 0 0	—	
	Gortadillisk ..	Denis Kelly	172 3 11	91 0 0	14 15 0	Mansion house.
..	Moorfield ..	James Howard, Jr.	211 0 25	145 0 0	28 0 0	Mansion house.
	Lissaniska North	Reps. Patrick J. Cowan ..	139 2 29	0 15 0	—	

APPENDIX I.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF PORTUMNA—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observations.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Kilquain ..	Lissaniska South ..	Reps. John Pollok	194 0 22	61 0 0	—	
,,	Ardgraigue ..	Reps. Patrick J. Cowan ..	242 3 1	48 15 0	0 15 0	
,,	Cloonaghmore	Reps. John Pollok	45 3 20	13 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Deerpark ..	Reps. John Pollok	138 3 20	73 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	Derrew ..	Lord Ardilaun	69 1 28	1 5 0	—	
,,	Killachunna	Reps. Patrick J. Cowan ..	63 3 32	0 15 0	—	
,,	Moorfield or Gortnamona	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	131 2 7	0 10 0	—	
,,	Muingbaun ..	Reps. John Pollok	128 2 3	28 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. George C. Kenny ..	24 1 21	0 5 0	—	
,,	Stowlin	Kate Watson	541 0 19	275 0 0	33 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Woodfield ..	Reps. John Pollok	276 2 1	73 10 0	2 15 0	
Meelick ..	Prospect Demesne	Ernest Kenny	54 3 20	41 5 0	12 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Meeneen	William Daly and Denis St. George Daly	30 1 10	1 5 0	—	
,,	,,	William Daly and Denis St. George Daly	96 3 3	1 0 0	—	
,,	Muckanagh ..	William Daly and Denis St. George Daly	35 2 2	0 10 0	—	
Moat ...	Cloonnacusha	James A. Hunter and H. E. McKay	23 0 16	20 15 0	—	
,,	Lisduff ..	H. D. M. Barton	264 0 15	167 0 0	43 15 0	Includes mansion house (£18).
,,	Clooncona ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	6 2 35	0 9 0	—	
Pallas	Bouluskeagh .. or Flowerhill	Earl of Westmeath	26 2 20	10 10 0	—	
,,	Feebrack or Nutgrove	Earl of Westmeath	17 3 4	0 5 0	—	
,,	Foolagh ..	Earl of Westmeath	4 2 33	1 2 0	1 8 0	
,,	,, ..	Earl of Westmeath	15 3 0	6 5 0	—	
,,	Knockauneevin or Ballywatteen	Earl of Westmeath	14 0 30	7 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	Ballydonagh ..	Earl of Westmeath	105 3 9	73 5 0	3 0 0	
,,	Brackery North	Earl of Westmeath	78 0 12	32 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Earl of Westmeath	40 1 5	17 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Earl of Westmeath	2 2 20	0 15 0	—	
,,	Cappacur ..	Earl of Westmeath	0 3 10	0 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	Earl of Westmeath	2 1 15	1 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Earl of Westmeath	4 1 20	3 10 0	—	
,,	Connet ..	Earl of Westmeath	69 1 3	30 5 0	0 5 0	
,,	Garraun ..	Earl of Westmeath	3 0 19	1 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	Pallas ..	Earl of Westmeath	639 0 15	432 0 0	52 5 0	Mansion house
,,	Parknahown ..	Earl of Westmeath	90 2 33	37 10 0	—	
,,	Quarryhill ..	Earl of Westmeath	29 2 0	18 0 0	—	
,,	Racecourse ..	Earl of Westmeath	117 3 8	64 0 0	—	
,,	Reaghan ..	Earl of Westmeath	7 0 30	5 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Earl of Westmeath	106 2 12	28 0 0	—	
Portumna ..	Ballynaheskeragh	James H. Monahan	210 3 35	78 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	4 3 11	0 3 0	—	
,,	Agrimhill ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	89 0 38	60 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Ballyhanry ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	138 0 3	96 0 0	—	
,,	Ballyshrule ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	9 0 0	1 18 0	—	
,,	Capira ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	73 0 24	0 5 0	—	
,,	Claggernagh East	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	174 2 0	89 15 0	1 10 0	
,,	Coolpowra ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	30 3 26	0 5 0	—	
,,	Deerpark ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	110 2 0	80 0 0	—	
,,	Drumscar ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	352 3 34	185 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Fairyhill ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	31 3 22	25 15 0	—	
,,	Portumna ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	74 1 0	47 5 0	—	
,,	Portumna Demesne	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	1,425 3 27	749 0 0	40 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Sawnagh ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	115 2 5	17 13 0	—	
,,	Stonyisland ..	Marquis of Clanricarde ..	153 2 19	2 5 0	—	
Tiranascragh ..	Ashfield ..	John D. Lemon	38 2 21	22 5 0	—	
,,	Cappakeela ..	John D. Lemon	10 3 33	6 5 0	—	
,,	Knavagh ..	John D. Lemon	34 3 2	22 5 0	1 10 0	
,,	Kill ..	Congested Districts Board ..	304 1 19	137 10 0	—	
,,	Longford ..	Congested Districts Board ..	99 3 12	53 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	153 3 24	83 15 0	3 5 0	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	168 1 15	96 5 0	12 10 0	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	118 1 21	51 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	23 0 20	11 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	6 3 15	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	0 3 10	0 7 0	0 3 0	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	176 2 13	94 0 0	—	
,,	Magheranearla	Reps. John Pollok	121 2 6	69 0 0	2 0 0	
,,	Tiranascragh	Colonel John A. Daly	150 0 0	0 15 0	—	
Tynagh, ..	Ballynamona..	Martin M. Egan	84 0 13	16 10 0	0 15 0	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY *continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF PORTUMNA—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
agh ..	Brackagh ..	Reps. Thomas Davy ..	109 2 36	32 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonacastle ..	Colonel Martin P. Blake ..	46 2 11	11 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Colonel Martin P. Blake ..	120 1 35	73 0 0	—	
,,	Feagh ..	John A. O'Kelly	331 1 16	196 15 0	3 15 0	
,,	Killederdaowen	Martin M. Egan	67 3 34	23 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Lisheennagal	Michael Lynch	69 1 27	30 0 0	8 0 0	
,,	Shanbally ..	Colonel M. P. Blake	97 3 30	69 0 0	1 5 0	
,,	,,	Colonel M. P. Blake	21 2 5	7 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Colonel M P. Blake	3 2 10	—	—	
,,	Spring Garden	Hon. Richard A. Nugent ..	275 1 16	168 10 0	10 0 0	

RURAL DISTRICT OF TUAM.

y East ..	Clashard ..	Charles Kelly	208 3 3	89 0 0	—	
,,	Liss ..	Charles Kelly	156 0 35	59 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Newtown ..	Charles Kelly	406 1 5	171 0 0	41 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Abbert ..	John Blakeney	67 0 31	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	John Blakeney	8 3 18	3 5 0	—	
,,	Abbert Demesne	John T. Blakeney	880 2 30	95 10 0	35 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	John T. Blakeney	13 3 30	2 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	John T. Blakeney	95 1 6	30 0 0	—	
,,	,,	John T. Blakeney	74 0 0	48 0 0	—	
,,	Carrowmore ..	John T. Blakeney	196 3 28	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	John T. Blakeney	37 1 38	12 10 0	—	
,,	Graiguebaun ..	John T. Blakeney	350 3 30	137 0 0	15 0 0	
,,	Cloonkeen ..	John T. Blakeney	323 2 1	39 15 0	—	
,,	Farmhill ..	Charles Kelly	225 0 6	101 15 0	6 15 0	
y West ..	Abbey ..	Emmanuel Churcher	91 1 24	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	R. Blake	216 2 26	11 0 0	—	
,,	Ballynamona	Robert Blake	9 2 15	3 0 0	—	
,,	Caherphuca ..	Robert Blake	3 2 29	0 15 0	1 5 0	
,,	Culliagh North	Robert Blake	134 3 12	85 10 0	—	
,,	Feagh West ..	Robert Blake	173 0 21	1 0 0	—	
,,	Pollaworla ..	Robert Blake	38 0 32	14 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Robert Blake	215 0 16	82 5 0	—	
,,	Ballynakilla	Robert Blake	270 3 33	82 13 0	1 7 0	
rgoole ..	Ardcloon ..	Emmanuel Churcher	33 2 23	0 10 0	—	
,,	Carrowntomush	Catherine Cunniff	27 2 14	0 5 0	—	
,,	Kinnakinnelly	Anne E. Wilson	51 0 20	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cloondergan ..	Thomas Revington	92 1 8	2 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonfane ..	Martin O. Kirwan	90 3 30	0 15 0	—	
,,	Curraghaun ..	Martin Kirwan	5 2 11	1 9 0	0 6 0	
,,	,,	Martin O. Kirwan	212 1 34	66 0 0	4 10 0	
,,	,,	Martin O. Kirwan	43 2 2	18 0 0	—	
,,	Stripe North ..	Patrick J. Daly	138 2 6	2 0 0	—	
,,	Conagher ..	Frederick T. Lewin	62 0 18	0 15 0	—	
,,	Darrary North	O. B. and M. M. B. Miller ..	61 1 29	0 8 0	—	
ghdown ..	Tomnahulla ..	Rev. John E. Egan	101 3 17	11 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Rev. John E. Egan	11 3 36	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Rev. John E. Egan	157 2 6	31 0 0	12 0 0	
,,	,,	Rev. John E. Egan	90 2 18	20 5 0	—	
,,	Balrobuckmore	Peter R. Skerritt	13 2 4	—	—	
derry ..	Ballinderry ..	Col. John P. Nolan	312 2 7	6 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Col. John P. Nolan	217 2 10	113 5 0	20 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Ballinphuill ..	Colonel John P. Nolan ..	3 1 8	0 8 0	0 7 0	
,,	,,	Colonel John P. Nolan ..	1 1 10	1 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Colonel John P. Nolan ..	291 2 15	71 13 0	—	
,,	Ballybanagher	Christopher Browne	204 1 39	98 13 0	17 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Cloonkeen South	Christopher Browne	80 3 26	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Christopher Browne	11 2 33	0 11 0	—	
,,	Mahanagh ..	Christopher Browne	182 3 20	50 5 0	—	
,,	Rathmore ..	Colonel John P. Nolan ..	39 2 15	4 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Colonel John P. Nolan ..	117 1 26	57 5 0	—	
,,	Turloughmartin	Colonel John P. Nolan ..	86 0 11	16 10 0	—	
duff ..	Ballinduff ..	James G. Alcorn	216 1 0	64 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Ballydonnellan	James Alcorn	335 2 10	123 0 0	—	
,,	Ballynew ..	James Alcorn	130 1 21	31 10 0	—	
,,	Inish ..	James Alcorn	75 3 3	13 0 0	20 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Kilcoona ..	James Alcorn	21 3 11	8 5 0	—	
,,	Kilroe ..	James Alcorn	82 3 2	35 0 0	3 10 0	
apark ..	Ballyglooneen	Robert Blake	448 1 35	189 5 0	20 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Ballynastuckaun	Robert Blake	59 0 23	0 3 0	—	
,,	Doonbeg ..	Robert Blake	49 3 15	0 5 0	—	
,,	Gortbeg ..	Robert Blake	72 0 25	0 5 0	—	
,,	Pollsillagh ..	Robert Blake	0 1 33	0 5 0	0 0 0	

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF TUAM—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation List.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observation
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Ballynapark ...	Pollsillagh ..	Robert Blake	194 0 14	61 10 0	1 5 0	
,,	Ballina ..	Robert Blake	150 2 20	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Martin J. Blake	265 1 13	129 12 0	8 10 0	
,,	Cloonlush ..	Robert Blake	134 1 26	0 10 0	—	
,,	Garra ..	Joseph Curran	124 2 12	45 0 0	7 5 0	
,,	Gortbeg ..	Robert Blake	21 2 2	0 5 0	—	
Beaghmore ...	Beaghmore (Ummoon)	Josephine Browne and Catherine St. George	79 0 16	1 0 0	—	
,,	Beaghmore (Beaghmore)	Josephine Browne and Catherine St. George	573 3 29	294 15 0	2 0 0	
,,	Beaghmore (Carragh)	Josephine Browne and Catherine St. George	417 0 34	5 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Josephine Concannon and Catherine St. George	20 2 14	12 15 0	—	
,,	Cloonbar ..	Percy P. Bernard	821 0 6	153 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Carheenard ..	Luke Brien	208 3 10	99 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Luke Brien	5 0 34	2 15 0	3 10 0	
,,	,	Luke Brien	2 0 7	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Luke Brien	23 2 20	12 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Luke Brien	15 3 20	7 0 0	—	
Belclare ..	Sylaun (Belclare)	D. O'Conor Donelan	148 3 28	9 5 0	6 0 0	
,,	,,	D. O'Conor Donelan	82 1 0	45 15 0	—	
,,	Treanbaun (Belclare)	D. O'Conor Donelan ..	40 3 12	6 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	D. O'Conor Donelan	8 1 0	4 10 0	—	
,,	Woodquay ..	D. O'Conor Donelan	222 1 4	1 15 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	D. O'Conor Donelan	19 1 0	6 15 0	—	
,,	Sylaun (Killower)	D. O'Conor Donelan	28 1 32	15 5 0	—	
,,	,,	D. O'Conor Donelan	12 0 0	6 15 0	—	
,,	Treanbaun (Killower)	D. O'Conor Donelan	147 2 37	1 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonascragh ..	Reps. Wm. M. Day	21 0 3	0 2 0	—	
,,	Ballybay ..	George C. Lynch	29 2 25	12 5 0	—	
,,	,,	George C. Lynch	233 3 17	10 11 0	8 0 0	
,,	Mullagh ..	Frederick T. Lewin ..	133 1 22	0 10 0	—	
,,	Pollacorragune	William M. Day	0 1 20	0 1 0	—	
Carrowrevagh ..	Bettyspark ..	Kate O'Kelly	29 0 17	13 0 0	—	
,,	Fear More ..	John J. Daly	2 0 0	1 10 0	8 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Aghlisk ..	John A. Heard	128 1 34	42 15 0	4 15 0	
,,	Ballynamona	Major Charles C. W. Vesey ..	86 1 21	23 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	Cartron ..	Major Charles C. W. Vesey ..	45 3 11	16 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	,	Major Charles C. W. Vesey ..	98 0 36	2 13 0	—	
,,	Drumaskin (Tuam)	Reps. Walter O'Kelly ..	106 2 27	17 15 0	10 10 0	
,,	Drumbulcaun	Major Charles C. W. Vesey ..	231 1 18	63 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Garrauns ..	Charles D. O'Rourke	54 0 26	4 10 0	—	
,,	Knockavanny	Reps. W. O'Kelly	167 2 39	58 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	Drumaskin (Dunmore)	Reps. W. O'Kelly	43 1 28	16 10 0	—	
Clare Tuam ..	Ballagh ..	Robert Blake	77 3 15	30 0 0	—	
,,	Ballydotia East	John Martyn	112 3 22	36 15 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	John Martyn	3 1 30	1 12 0	2 0 0	
,,	Caherlea ..	Robert Blake	0 3 26	0 5 0	0 10 0	
	Carrowbeg North	Charles Lynch	173 0 30	105 0 0	8 10 0	Mansion house
,	Carrowbeg South	Richard A. Clarke	62 1 8	25 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	Carrowntemple	Richard A. Clarke	41 2 24	11 0 0	—	
,,	Claretuam ..	Reps. Lord Vesey Fitzgerald ..	82 0 15	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonmore ..	Thomas R. Roche	289 0 32	176 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Culleen ..	Robert Blake	143 1 24	60 0 0	—	
,,	Polldarragh ..	Reps. Lord Vesey Fitzgerald ..	108 3 26	0 10 0	—	
,,	Rusheens North	Thomas R. Roche	308 3 22	150 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Thomastown	Richard A. Clarke	98 3 5	65 0 0	10 10 0	Mansion house
,,	,,	Richard A. Clarke	10 3 20	6 3 0	0 12 0	
,,	Tulrush ..	Richard A. Clarke	11 1 36	0 5 0	—	
Clonbern	Claddagh East	Martin McDonnell	35 0 34	0 5 0	—	
,,	Claddagh West	Martin Connolly	189 1 7	51 14 0	1 16 0	
,,	Cloonarkan ..	Thomas McCormack	355 1 15	36 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Garraunbaun	Martin McDonnell	3 3 34	0 5 0	—	
,	Garrauns ..	Martin Connolly	63 0 8	8 15 0	—	
,,	Lomaunaghroe	Martin McDonnell	60 3 24	0 10 0	—	
,,	Mahanagh ..	Martin McDonnell	66 0 9	0 10 0	—	
,,	Carrowroe East	Martin Gleeson	143 2 39	52 10 0	4 0 0	
,,	Dumblaney	M. M. B. and O. B. Miller ..	449 1 32	229 0 0	1 0 0	
,	Meelickmore ..	Martin McDonnell	60 2 17	0 15 0	—	
Cummer ..	Clogh North ..	John J. Smyth	99 2 2	130 0 0	0 10 0	
	Cummer ..	John J. Smyth	535 2 34	191 0 0	—	
	Pollacossaun Oughter.	John Smyth	60 0 11	22 10 0	—	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF TUAM—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
er ..	Turloughour	Colonel John P. Nolan ..	4 3 8	1 15 0	—	
,,	Carheenshowagh	John Smyth	306 0 13	165 0 0	0 10 0	
patrick	Bellanagarraun	Lord de Clifford	0 0 16	0 2 0	0 3 0	
,,	,,	Lord de Clifford	54 1 7	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord de Clifford	15 0 33	—	—	
,,	Bunnasillagh ..	Countess de Lusia and Mary Anne D. Nesbitt	20 2 24	0 10 0	—	
,,	Derrymore ..	Lord de Clifford	105 1 14	2 15 0	—	
,,	Tonacooleen ..	William Murphy	363 1 24	211 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	Cloonee ..	Catherine Lynch	158 3 8	95 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Corillaun ..	Lord de Clifford	24 2 31	—	—	
,,	,,	Lord de Clifford	28 0 20	—	—	
,,	Killamanagh	William Murphy	27 0 1	—	—	
ally ..	Carrowntootagh	Captain Dick	84 3 24	0 10 0	—	
,,	Lurgan ..	John Golding	95 2 20	2 5 0	—	
,,	Ballantise ..	Captain Quinton Dick	129 2 0	76 12 0	—	
,,	Carrowculleen	Hyacinth Golding	142 3 8	67 0 0	2 10 0	
,,	,,	Hyacinth Golding	1 3 0	1 10 0	—	
,,	Carrowpadeen West	Henry Kirwan	23 2 6	1 0 0	—	
,,	Lurgan (Dunmore)	Captain Dick	185 3 10	1 12 0	—	
,,	Quarrymount	Congested Districts Board ..	116 3 12	95 0 0	32 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Sylaun East	Captain Quinton Dick ..	230 1 3	153 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Kilcloony (Liskeevy)	Congested Districts Board ..	80 1 8	59 3 0	—	
,,	Ardnagall ..	Congested Districts Board ..	4 0 33	0 4 0	—	
,,	Carrowreagh ..	Congested Districts Board ..	1 2 0	1 0 0	—	
te ..	Addergoole More	Robert J. Browne	177 2 17	92 10 0	3 0 0	
,,	,,	Captain Dick	12 1 15	0 10 0	—	
,,	Castlefarm ..	George E. Deering	47 1 17	1 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonagh ..	George E. Deering	231 3 6	1 0 0	—	
,,	Derrymore ..	Patrick Martin	7 3 21	2 0 0	—	
,,	Gortnagoyne ..	George E. Deering	0 2 26	0 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	George E. Deering	101 2 38	0 15 0	—	
,,	Gortnalea ..	George E. Deering	54 2 21	1 5 0	—	
,,	Knockatee West	George E. Deering	32 0 11	0 5 0	—	
,,	Knockaunnagat	George E. Deering	35 3 14	0 10 0	—	
,,	Lisduff ..	Kate Martin	46 1 37	1 15 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	John Martin	156 1 3	65 5 0	2 15 0	
,,	Mullaghmarkagh	George E. Deering	5 1 35	—	—	
,,	Lissybroder ..	Stephen J. McDonagh ..	139 2 30	97 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Martin McDonnell	7 2 39	4 5 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Farrell McDonnell	52 3 20	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Martin McDonnell	6 3 9	4 15 0	—	
..	Bunagarraun ..	Frederick T. Lewin	21 3 29	13 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	24 1 12	13 10 0	—	
,	Castlegrove East	Frederick T. Lewin ..	223 1 4	103 10 0	55 15 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin ..	60 1 33	54 15 0	—	
,,	Castlegrove West	Frederick T. Lewin	36 3 20	24 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	166 2 20	164 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	131 2 26	34 17 0	1 0 0	
,,	Fartagar ..	Frederick T. Lewin	88 3 7	4 5 0	2 10 0	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	57 0 18	36 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	24 3 30	14 13 0	—	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	1 2 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	Lissaleen ..	Frederick T. Lewin	225 3 24	126 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Lissananny ..	Frederick T. Lewin	5 1 21	3 5 0	—	
,,	Park ..	Frederick T. Lewin	26 0 17	13 0 0	3 0 0	
,,	Sylaun ..	Frederick T. Lewin	61 1 38	13 0 0	—	
,,	Blindwell ..	M. M. B. and O. B. Miller ..	641 0 7	310 15 0	33 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	M. M. B. and O. B. Miller ..	17 1 31	8 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	,	Frederick T. Lewin ..	8 3 32	5 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	M. M. B. and O. B. Miller ..	502 0 35	257 0 0	1 10 0	
,,	Bulcaun ..	Frederick T. Lewin ..	31 1 10	—	—	
,,	Cloonmweelaun	Frederick T. Lewin	187 1 34	1 5 0	—	
,,	Urracly ..	Frederick T. Lewin	455 2 11	200 0 0	3 10 0	
,,	Ballynagittagh	Frederick T. Lewin	16 0 10	5 15 0	—	
,,	Beagh ..	Frederick T. Lewin	68 1 25	51 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	5 0 24	1 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	3 2 0	1 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	7 0 0	2 16 0	—	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	262 1 14	6 17 0	1 15 0	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	11 3 37	2 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	10 1 33	2 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	2 2 0	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	20 2 7	16 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin	4 2 23	0 4 0	—	

APPENDIX X.

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF TUAM—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Headford ..	Ballynakillew	Catherine Lynch	121 2 32	48 10 0	6 10 0	
,,	Balrickard ..	Thomas McDonagh	154 1 4	93 10 0	45 15 0	Mansion house.
,,	Kilmurray ..	Catherine Lynch	50 3 33	38 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Barnabay ..	James McDonnell	209 2 32	145 5 0	15 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Cloonavarnoge	Robert Botterell	99 2 28	57 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Deerpark (Kilkilvery)	Martin McDonagh	35 2 0	10 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Thomas McDonagh	60 0 0	54 10 0	16 0 0	
,,	Lodge ..	Thomas McDonagh	14 0 10	5 0 0	—	
,,	Racepark ..	Anne Eliza Morris	37 1 34	34 0 0	—	
,,	Deerpark (Killeany)	Thomas McDonagh	146 0 11	93 5 0	3 0 0	
,,	,,	Thomas McDonagh	134 0 11	104 5 0	—	
,,	Liss ..	Richard Golding, Jr.	213 3 20	106 0 0	4 0 0	
,,	,,	John Golding	197 0 31	110 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Thomas McDonagh	4 2 15	2 15 0	—	
,,	Cordarragh ..	Martin Lydon	82 0 16	29 12 0	2 0 0	
,,	Headford ..	Rev. John Barrett	7 3 36	8 8 0	—	
,,	Kilkilvery ..	Congested Districts Board ..	110 3 30	67 0 0	—	
,,	Gortarica ..	Congested Districts Board ..	76 0 29	51 0 0	—	
Hillsbrook ..	Cloondahamper (Blake)	Robert Blake	137 0 35	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonriddia ..	Hugh Henry	85 3 26	0 15 0	—	
,,	Cottage ..	Mary O'Sullivan	25 0 24	0 3 0	—	
,,	Hillsbrook Demesne	Michael D. Keating	9 0 29	0 2 0	—	
,,	Lisnaminaun	Hugh Henry	94 3 11	0 15 0	—	
,,	Pollacuppal ..	Hugh Henry	88 0 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Stowelodge ..	Mary J. Kirwan	37 2 20	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonconra ..	Hugh Henry	114 2 21	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cornacartan ..	Hugh Henry	46 1 31	0 10 0	—	
,,	Corralea ..	Hugh Henry	4 2 5	—	—	
Kilbennan ..	Kilcreevanty	Colonel Burke	295 2 32	3 5 0	—	
,,	Liskeevy ..	Alicia Lynch	10 2 16	—	—	
Kilcoona ..	Lisdonagh ..	Peter Mahony	163 0 5	95 10 0	18 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Raheen ..	Countess de Luisi and M. A. Nesbitt	21 1 34	0 5 0	—	
,,	Pollnahallia ..	Francis Blake	61 0 0	18 15 0	—	
,,	Cave ..	John O'Neill Donelan ..	165 2 2	64 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	John O'Neill Donelan ..	3 1 23	1 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	Donaghpatrick	James McDonnell	25 0 0	4 10 0	—	
Killeany ..	Mountross ..	James McDermott	5 1 20	1 10 0	—	
Killeen ..	Beaghbaun ..	Dermott O'C. Donnellan ..	91 1 9	38 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Carrowbaun ..	John Rushworth	119 1 0	31 0 0	—	
,,	Carrownagarry	Henry Kirwan	224 3 11	84 5 0	—	
,,	Curraghaun ..	Major C. C. W. Vesey ..	127 1 32	1 5 0	—	
,,	Gardenfield ..	Henry Kirwan	298 3 31	140 14 0	8 0 0	
,,	Lenamore ..	Major C. C. W. Vesey ..	123 1 34	54 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Lissavally (Vesey)	Major C. C. W. Vesey ..	7 2 36	—	—	
,,	,,	Major C. C. W. Vesey ..	109 2 33	49 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	Marley ..	George Paget	94 1 28	38 19 0	2 5 0	
,,	Masmore ..	Rep. Thomas Rushworth ..	105 2 15	47 18 0	—	
,,	Meelick West	Henry Kirwan	19 3 21	0 8 0	—	
,,	Queensfort ..	Patrick M. Leonard ..	115 3 16	53 10 0	16 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Major Luke Leonard	134 0 39	50 15 0	6 0 0	
,,	Tonmoyle ..	Major C. C. W. Vesey ..	45 2 18	0 10 0	—	
,,	Joycegrove ..	M. O'C. Henchy	75 2 33	14 0 0	48 0 0	Mansion house.
Killererin ..	Addergoole	Hugh Henry	39 0 9	0 5 0	—	
,,	Barbersfort ..	H. B. Rutledge	393 3 12	164 0 0	—	
,,	Cahernagry ..	H. B. Rutledge	35 1 39	0 2 0	—	
,,	Clogherboy ..	H. B. Rutledge	11 0 3	0 2 0	—	
,,	,, ..	Thomas H. B. Rutledge ..	322 3 25	140 0 0	8 10 0	
,,	Killeighter ..	Hugh Henry	21 0 12	0 10 0	—	
,,	Pollbaun ..	Hugh Henry	9 2 0	0 1 0	—	
,,	Shantallow ..	Hugh Henry	70 0 23	0 10 0	—	
,,	Togher More ..	Hugh Henry	33 0 11	0 5 0	—	
,,	Kilmore ..	Hugh Henry	63 0 4	0 10 0	—	
,,	Ardawarry ..	Thomas H. B. Rutledge ..	80 2 19	31 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Cahergal ..	Thomas H. B. Rutledge ..	202 0 33	48 0 0	0 14 0	
,,	Garraun Beg	Thomas H. B. Rutledge ..	8 1 16	3 0 0	—	
,,	Graddoge ..	Thomas H. B. Rutledge ..	114 2 10	46 5 0	0 15 0	
Killower ..	Biggera Beg	Mary L. Bernard	48 0 8	8 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Mary L. Bernard	3 1 30	1 5 0	—	
,,	Biggera More	Charles D. O'Rourke	307 1 33	55 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Cluidrevagh ..	Mary L. Bernard	150 2 26	27 0 0	—	
,,	Caltragh (Belclare)	Captain Percy B. Bernard ..	73 1 6	11 10 0	—	
,,	Carheens ..	Mary L. Bernard	112 2 13	23 0 0	—	
,,	Tobermina ..	Mary L. Bernard	51 2 22	15 0 0	—	
,,	Glennaneny ..	Mary L. Bernard	146 0 15	26 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Kilcurriv (Eighter)	Mary L. Bernard	60 1 20	7 10 0	—	

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF TUAM—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
..er ..	Kilcurrivard ..	John Smith	610 2 3	209 15 0	1 10 0	
,,	Laurelavagh ..	Mary L. Bernard	413 1 9	42 0 0	—	
,,	Fearagha ..	Mary L. Bernard	252 2 14	62 0 0	—	
,,	Caltragh (Killower)	Captain Percy Bernard ..	6 0 20	2 15 0	—	
,,	Ballintleva ..	Mary L. Bernard	5 3 19	2 10 0	—	
,,	Castlehacket ..	Percy B. Bernard	314 2 0	173 15 0	47 5 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Percy B. Bernard	81 3 10	47 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Percy B. Bernard	13 2 10	6 15 0	—	
,, ..	Ballynacregga	Marcus S. Lynch Staunton ..	54 1 6	6 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Clydagh ..	Marcus S. L. Staunton ..	229 0 27	53 10 0	35 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Illauncarbry	Marcus S. L. Staunton ..	2 3 30	0 8 0	—	
,,	Luggawania ..	Marcus S. L. Staunton	0 2 30	0 5 0	—	
,,	Kilbeg ..	Marcus S. L. Staunton ..	24 2 21	6 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Marcus S. L. Staunton ..	51 2 9	13 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Ardfintan ..	Catherine Lynch	147 2 18	122 0 0	3 0 0	
,,	Annaghkeen ..	Willoughby H. Carter ..	370 0 19	170 4 0	1 0 0	
,,	Clerhaun ..	A. Dillon Browne	217 2 5	85 3 0	8 7 0	Mansion house.
,,	Coarsepark or Parkgarve	Robert T. Lattey	25 2 0	0 10 0	—	
,,	Ower ..	William F. Burke	50 3 35	21 3 0	12 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	William J. Burke	168 0 4	110 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	Slieveroe ..	Robert T. Lattey	233 1 13	2 5 0	—	
,,	Ulrith ..	Robert T. Lattey	8 0 21	—	—	
lan ..	Ballintober ..	Colonel John P. Nolan ..	2 2 17	0 5 0	—	
,,	Ballynacreg South	Christopher Browne	344 2 12	99 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	Annagh ..	Martin Bodkin	401 3 32	224 0 0	25 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Martin Bodkin	67 2 32	30 0 0	—	
vy ..	Ironpool ..	Ulick Jennings	141 1 26	3 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	Kilshanvy	Frederick T. Lewin ..	547 0 10	129 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Frederick T. Lewin ..	0 0 5	—	—	
,,	Toberroe ..	Henry Lynch	185 1 23	103 5 0	13 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Henry Lynch	2 2 12	1 10 0	—	
..	Ballaghalode	Rev. Thomas McHale, D.D. ..	34 1 10	0 5 0	—	
,,	Corralea ..	Gerald S. Handcock	46 1 5	0 5 0	—	
,,	Ginnaun ..	Andrew O'Connor	92 2 24	1 0 0	—	
,,	Kilgarriff North	James M'Donnell	60 0 5	0 10 0	—	
,,	Kilgarriff South	Mary Burke	59 0 1	15 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Levally West	Andrew O'Connor	107 1 33	1 10 0	—	
,,	Ahgloragh ..	Thomas McCormack	71 1 20	29 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Cartronroe ..	Patrick McCormack	18 1 37	6 10 0	—	
,,	Monacon ..	Dominick Browne	181 2 16	30 15 0	1 10 0	
n ..	Bellaconeen ..	Denis J. Kirwan	1 1 34	0 12 0	3 0 0	
,,	,,	Denis J. Kirwan	0 1 6	0 3 0	0 12 0	
,,	Carrownurlaur	George B. Lambert	365 1 23	81 17 0	—	
,,	Cloonrane ..	John Taaffe	85 3 37	0 15 0	—	
,,	Cooladooaun ..	Denis J. Kirwan	33 3 39	23 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Denis J. Kirwan	10 2 37	3 16 0	—	
,,	Cormeelick North	Bridget Garvey	97 3 18	37 12 0	3 3 0	
,,	Cormeelick South	Denis J. Kirwan	44 1 6	33 5 0	—	
,,	Dalgin ..	Denis J. Kirwan	103 0 24	78 15 0	17 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Denis J. Kirwan	6 2 15	1 15 0	—	
,,	Dawros Upper	Captain Dick	30 2 12	0 5 0	—	
,,	Knockaunkeel	Denis J. Kirwan	5 2 3	3 0 0	4 15 0	
,,	,,	Denis J. Kirwan	3 1 3	2 12 0	—	
,,	Russelstown ..	Francis O'Grady	71 2 14	—	—	
,,	Ballymary ..	Denis J. Kirwan	1 2 16	0 15 0	—	
,,	Drum ..	David Flannery	36 1 28	0 10 0	—	
,,	Illaun ..	David Flannery	38 3 5	0 10 0	—	
..	Carrownreveagh	Kathleen C. S. A. French ..	60 0 28	12 10 0	0 10 0	
..	Cartron ..	Kathleen C. S. A. French ..	3 2 0	0 5 0	—	
..	Costellospark	Kathleen C. S. A. French	65 0 36	17 7 0	0 3 0	
..	Glennaloghaun South	Kathleen C. S. A. French ..	105 3 8	32 0 0	—	
..	Glennaslat ..	Kathleen C. S. A. French ..	90 3 33	0 10 0	—	
..	Hundred Acres	Kathleen C. S. A. French ..	118 2 14	25 0 0	—	
..	Kilbeg ..	Kathleen C. S. A. French ..	27 2 28	8 0 0	—	
..	Knockcorrandoo	Kathleen C S. A. French ..	214 3 6	37 0 0	1 0 0	
.	MoniveaDemesne	Kathleen C. S. A. French ..	886 1 37	370 5 0	40 0 0	Mansion house.
.	Nursery Park or Corrabaun	Kathleen C. S. A. French ..	48 3 1	13 0 0	0 15 0	
..	Pollavullaun ..	Kathleen C. S. A. French ..	84 1 21	19 10 0	—	
.	Roundfield	Kathleen C. S. A. French ..	95 1 39	45 0 0	—	
.	Pollboy or Knockatober	Kathleen C. S. A. French ..	69 0 32	38 10 0	—	
.	Killaclogher	Thomas Golding and Others ..	142 1 30	0 15 0	—	
..	Derreen ..	Robert W. Waithman ..	54 0 3	0 3 0	—	
..	Feagh East ..	Robert W. Waithman ..	3 2 34	1 7 0	—	
.	Moher ..	Robert W. Waithman ..	211 2 0	36 7 0	—	

APPENDIX X

Z.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY GALWAY—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF TUAM—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Moyne ..	Moyne	Robert W. Waithman ..	531 3 19	236 18 0	55 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Sunhill ..	Robert W. Waithman ..	154 0 10	84 0 0	—	
,,	Tawnaghbaun	Robert W. Waithman ..	57 3 28	1 5 0	—	
Ryehill ..	Caherlissakill ..	Stephen R. Roche ..	40 0 37	5 1 0	—	
,,	Cashlaun-daragh	Stephen R. Roche	292 3 2	123 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Crumlin ..	Cecil R. Henry	432 3 34	103 10 0	15 8 0	Mansion house.
,,	Knockaun-carragh	Stephen R. Roche	265 3 14	87 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Parkacurry ..	Stephen R. Roche	203 2 36	33 5 0	3 5 0	
,,	Ryehill Demesne	Stephen R. Roche	315 2 27	129 0 0	45 15 0	Mansion house.
,,	Garraunard ..	Stephen R. Roche	135 1 2	39 5 0	—	
Tuam Rural	Barnacurragh	Hubert Dolphin	63 0 22	31 5 0	2 0 0	
,,	Bermingham Demesne	Charles D. O'Rourke ..	26 3 1	5 10 0	—	
,,	Blackacre ..	Jasper Strachan	35 2 29	34 0 0	—	
,,	Bracklagh (Tuam)	Peter A. Daly	5 2 27	2 5 0	—	
,,	Bracklagh (Dunmore)	Peter A. Daly	148 1 11	70 10 0	1 5 0	
,,	Carrowmacowan	Charles D. O'Rourke	136 3 12	1 0 0	—	
,,	Carrowpeter ..	Stephen J. McDonagh ..	42 0 28	27 17 0	0 13 0	
,,	Cloonascragh ..	James McDonnell	113 1 19	13 0 0	—	
,,	Garrauns ..	Charles D. O'Rourke	53 3 0	3 15 0	—	
,,	Halfstraddle	Jasper Strachan	53 1 29	24 5 0	—	
,,	Killaloonty ..	Jasper Strachan	170 0 18	88 9 0	0 10 0	
,,	Killellaun ..	Charles D. O'Rourke	173 3 33	0 4 0	—	
,,	Lambhill ..	Harriett Blake	25 1 24	9 16 0	0 14 0	
,,	Parkmore	Percy B. Bernard	77 0 26	75 0 0	—	
,,	Quaybaun ..	Harriett Blake	78 3 12	29 16 0	—	
,,	Rinkippeen	Elizabeth Jennings	53 1 9	31 18 0	—	
,,	Stripe ..	Charles D. O'Rourke	42 2 30	—	—	
,,	Tirboy ..	Captain Dick	7 0 20	0 1 0	—	
,,	Toberjarlath ..	Jasper Strachan	10 0 30	12 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Jasper Strachan	7 2 15	8 5 0	—	
,,	Townparks (5th Division)	Jasper Strachan	80 1 39	55 18 0	—	
,,	Vicarschoral Land	Martin Kelly	65 0 30	38 10 0	0 10 0	

APPENDIX XI.—STATISTICAL ABSTRACT—COUNTY ROSCOMMON.

A.—PREFATORY NOTE.

Special statistics relating to County Roscommon have been prepared for the Commission by the Commissioner of Valuation (see pp. 418–9), the Registrar-General (see pp. 421–32) and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction (see pp. 433–8), and certain returns have been furnished at the request of the Commission by the Local Government Board, the Congested Districts Board, and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction. Other information about County Roscommon is available in different publications, *e.g.*, the Census Returns, the Annual Agricultural Statistics, the Annual Reports of the Irish Land Commission, the Estates Commissioners, the Congested Districts Board, &c.

All this statistical information has been brought together in the following pages, added to, and collated, and explanatory notes have been added, where required (*e.g.*, pp. 418, 420, 443, 455, and 463), with the view of forming a compact Statistical Abstract of the chief points of interest in County Roscommon, which may prove of assistance to the Commissioners during their sittings in County Roscommon, and subsequently be helpful to readers of the evidence.

WALTER CALLAN,
Secretary.

6th September, 1907.

B.—GENERAL STATISTICAL INFORMATION TAKEN FROM THE CENSUS REPORT, 1901, COUNTY ROSCOMMON BOOK (pp. vii. and viii.).

The (Administrative) County of Roscommon covers an area of 629,633 statute acres, or 3·0 per cent. of the total area of the country.

The number of persons in the County of Roscommon according to the Census was—in 1881, 135,634; in 1891, 116,552; and according to the recent Census, 101,791 (51,233 Males and 50,558 Females), or 12·7 per cent. less than in 1891.

The number of distinct Families in the County at the time of the late enumeration was 21,030, the average number of persons in a family being thus 4·8; and the number of Inhabited Houses was 20,817, showing an average of 4·8 persons to each house. In calculating these averages, the Special Inmates of Public Institutions have been omitted.

The following statement shows, by County Districts, as constituted under the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, the population of the County in 1891 and 1901; and the decrease during the decade:—

County Districts.	Population.		Decrease between 1891 and 1901.	
	1891.	1901.	Number.	Rate per cent.
Athlone No. 2 Rural	12,069	1,0701	1,368	11·3
Ballinasloe No. 2 Rural	4,176	3,681	495	11·9
Boyle No. 1 Rural	19,317	16,868	2,449	12·7
Carrick-on-Shannon No. 2 Rural, ..	7,494	6,241	1,253	16·7
Castlereagh Rural, ...	37,473	33,576	3,897	10·4
Roscommon Rural, ...	17,562	15,164	2,398	13·7
Strokestown Rural, ...	18,461	15,560	2,901	15·7
Total, ...	116,552	101,791	14,761	12·7

From the foregoing statement it will be observed that the highest percentage of decrease in the County occurs each place in Carrick on Shannon No. 2 Rural and Strokestown Rural, viz., 16·7 and 15·7 respectively; and the lowest in Castlereagh Rural, Athlone No. 2 Rural, viz., 10·4 and 11·3 respectively.

Towns having, in 1901, a population of 2,000 and upwards are classified as civic areas.

The County contains one such area, viz., Boyle. In 1891 the population of this area amounted to 2,464; in 1901, it was 2,477, showing an increase of 13 persons; in the rural portions of the County the decrease was 12·9 per cent.

APPENDIX XI.

The following Statement shows the Educational status of the Inhabitants of the County of Roscommon in 1891 and 1901, in so far as relates to the degrees of elementary education relative to which inquiry was made on the Census Form.

Degrees of Elementary Education.	Rate per cent. of Total Population.	
	1891.	1901.
Read and Write, ...	63·2	72·2
Read only, ...	10·5	6·3
Illiterate, ...	26·3	21·5
Total, ...	100·0	100·0

From the above, it will be seen that, whereas, according to the returns of 1891, only 63·2 per cent. of the Inhabitants, at all ages, could "read and write," in 1901, 72·2 per cent. could do so; that the percentage of the population who could "read only" in 1891 was 10·5, and in 1901, 6·3; and that the percentage of the "illiterate" fell from 26·3 in 1891 to 21·5 in 1901.

In 1891 18·2 per cent. of the inhabitants aged 5 years and upwards were illiterate (17·6 per cent. of the males and 18·9 of the females); in 1901 the percentage was but 13·1 (13·2 of the males and 13·7 of the females).

The number of children attending school in the County of Roscommon, according to the Census of 1891 (week ending 30th May), was 17,951, or 41·6 per cent. of persons aged 5 years and under 20 in the County as then constituted; in 1901 the number returned (for week ending 11th May) was 15,207, or 44·3 per cent. of the persons aged 5 and under 20.

In 1891 the number of persons in the County of Roscommon (as then constituted) returned as Sick on the night of the Census, was 569, or one in every 201 of the population; in 1901 the number so returned was 540, or one in every 189 of the population; of the latter number 295 were at their own homes, and 245 were in hospital.

The number of persons returned in 1891 as receiving relief under the Poor Law System was 2,397, or one in every 48 of the population; of this number 746 were inmates of Workhouses, and 1,651 were in receipt of outdoor relief; in 1901 the number returned was 2,021, or one in every 50 of the population; 689 of these being in the Workhouses, and 1,332 on outdoor relief.

According to the Returns of the Registrar-General, the number of marriages registered in the County of Roscommon during the ten years ending 31st March, 1901, was 3,976, equal to an average annual rate of 3·6 per 1,000 of the population. The number registered in the whole of Ireland during the same period, affords an average annual rate of 4·8 per 1,000.

The number of Births registered in the County and City during the ten years was 21,195, affording an average annual rate of 19·4 per 1,000 of the population, the average yearly rate for the whole of Ireland during the same period being 23·0 per 1,000.

The Deaths registered during the decennium amounted to 15,452, being equal to an average annual rate of 14·2 per 1,000; the corresponding rate for the whole of Ireland was 18·2 per 1,000.

The number of Emigrants during the ten years ending 31st March, 1901, who stated that they were from the County of Roscommon amounted to 16,332 (7,106 males and 9,226 females); the number for the decade ending 31st March, 1891, was 23,128; for that ending 31st March, 1881, 13,790; for that ending with March, 1871, 21,393; and for that ending with March, 1861, 27,756, making a total of 102,399 for the fifty years.

C.—Return showing the Population, Area, Valuation, and Average Valuation per head of Population in each Poor Law Union in the County of Roscommon containing Congested Districts.

Supplied by the Congested Districts Board.

County.	Union.	Population.			Area.			Valuation.			Average Valuation per head of Population according to Census of 1901.		
		Congested portion of Union.	Non-congested portion of Union.	Total.	Congested portion of Union.	Non-congested portion of Union.	Total.	Congested portion of Union.	Non-congested portion of Union.	Total.	In entire Union.	In Congested Districts.	In Non-congested Districts.
					Acres.	Acres.	Acres	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Roscommon,	Ballinasloe, .	655	18,624	19,279	4,897	155,732	160,629	951	76,900	77,851	4 0 9	1 9 0	4 2
" .	Boyle, .	7,948	22,677	30,625	32,917	127,263	160,180	11,404	64,074	75,478	2 9 3	1 8 8	2 10
" .	Carrick - on - Shannon.	7,068	12,222	19,290	41,763	59,239	101,002	11,228	37,483	48,711	2 10 6	1 11 9	3 1
" .	Castlereagh, .	24,588	8,988	33,576	100,683	62,980	163,663	31,526	43,251	74,777	2 4 6	1 5 7	1 [illegible]
. .	Strokestown..	986	14,574	15,560	4,623	85,716	90,339	1,215	49,812	51,027	3 5 6	1 4 7	3 [illegible]

D.—List of Electoral Divisions Scheduled as "Congested" in the County of Roscommon, showing Ratio of Population to Valuation in respect of the years 1891 and 1901, also Poor Rates for the year ended 31st March, 1901.*

**** *Where the average valuation per head was, in* 1901, *not less than* 30*s., the name of the Electoral Division is printed in italics.*

Union and Electoral Division.	Population, 1891.	Valuation, 1891.	Amount of Valuation per head of Population, 1891.	Population, 1901.	Valuation, 1901.	Amount of Valuation per head of Population, 1901.	Poor Rates for year ended 31st March, 1901.	
							On Agricultural Land.	On Other Hereditaments.
UNION OF CARRICK-ON-SHANNON.		£	£ s. d.		£	£ s. d.	In the £ s. d.	In the £ s. d.
Tumna North, ...	963	1,192	1 4 9	744	1,196	1 12 1	2 0	3 8
Tumna South, ...	924	1,477	1 8 10	765	1,494	1 19 0		
Totals, ...	1,887	2,669	1 8 3	1,509	2,690	1 15 7		
UNION OF BOYLE.								
Altagowlan, ...	489	507	1 0 9	448	730	1 12 7	2 2	3 8
Ballyformoyle, ...	818	701	0 17 2	672	700	1 0 10		
Crossna, ...	1,090	1,522	1 7 11	908	1,533	1 13 9		
Kilcolagh ...	678	952	1 8 1	550	963	1 15 0		
Lough Allen, ...	876	870	0 19 10	769	867	1 2 6		
Totals, ...	3,951	4,552	1 3 0	3,347	4,793	1 8 7		
UNION OF CASTLEREAGH.								
Artagh North, ...	2,990	3,292	1 2 0	2,664	3,376	1 5 4	2 2	3 6
Artagh South, ...	2,046	1,610	0 15 9	1,860	1,681	0 18 0		
Ballaghaderreen, ...	4,616	4,562	0 19 9	4,367	5,127	1 3 5		
Ballinlough, ...	3,146	3,278	1 0 10	2,877	3,455	1 4 0		
Buckill, ...	1,721	2,147	1 5 0	1,552	2,161	1 7 10		
Cloonfower, ...	1,679	1,659	0 19 9	1,446	1,692	1 3 4		
Coolougher, ...	1,876	2,403	1 5 8	1,693	2,396	1 8 3		
Edmondstown, ...	1,712	1,753	1 0 5	1,639	1,826	1 2 3		
Fairymount, ...	2,024	2,530	1 5 0	1,668	2,538	1 10 5		
Kiltullagh, ...	3,042	3,537	1 3 3	2,841	3,558	1 5 0		
Loughglinn,† ...	2,223	3,005	1 12 5	1,981	3,716	1 17 6		
Totals, ...	27,075	30,376	1 2 5	24,588	31,526	1 5 7		
UNION OF STROKESTOWN.								
Rooskey, ...	1,167	1,203	1 0 7	986	1,215	1 4 7	2 0	3 4
Totals, ...	1,167	1,203	1 0 7	986	1,215	1 4 7		
UNION OF BALLINASLOE.								
Moore, ...	655	958	1 9 3	655	951	1 9 0	1 8	3 2
Totals, ...	655	958	1 9 3	655	951	1 9 0		
Total in respect of the Congested Districts in Co. Roscommon.	34,735	39,758	1 2 10	31,085	41,175	1 6 5		

* This Return is taken from a similar Return for all counties containing Congested Districts, which was prepared by Congested Districts Board, and published in the Appendices to the First Report of the Commission, pp. 289 *et seq.*

† Included by Order of the Lord Lieutenant.

APPENDIX XI

E.—RETURN SHOWING THE RATIO OF POPULATION TO VALUATION IN CERTAIN ELECTORAL DIVISIONS IN CO. ROSCOMMON, AND OTHER PARTICULARS.†

Specially prepared for the Commission.

EXPLANATORY NOTE.

This return (prepared by the Commissioner of Valuation) shows the total rateable valuation (1906), the population (1901), and the average valuation per head of population in each Electoral Division in Co. Roscommon :—

(1.) Where that average is under 30*s.*

(2.) Where that average is between 30*s.* and 50*s.*, but is brought below 30*s.* by the exclusion from the dividend (*i.e.*, the total rateable valuation of the electoral division) of all ratings valued at over £50. In these cases the acreage and valuation of each excluded area is given.

(3.) Where the electoral division though scheduled as congested does not come within either of the above classes.

The total number of electoral divisions in Roscommon is 112, all rural. The total number of electoral divisions comprised in this return is 21, all rural. Of these, one electoral division (Grannagh) is now scheduled as congested, and is indicated by an asterisk.

The total number of divisions in Co. Roscommon scheduled in 1891 as congested was 20, of which 1 was then not below 30*s.* in point of average valuation per head of population. Between 1891 and 1901 the average valuation rose about 16 per cent. (owing mainly to the decrease in population), and of the 20 divisions, 7 are not now below 30*s.* Of these 7 divisions, 2 are not below 30*s.* normally, but are when the total valuation of all ratings above £50 is excluded, and 5 are above 30*s.* even after these exclusions. The names of these divisions are printed in italics.

RURAL DISTRICT OF ATHLONE No. 2.

ELECTORAL DIVISION.	Total Rateable Valuation, 1906.	Population (Census, 1901).	Average Valuation per head of Population.	Average Valuation per head of Population in cases normally between 30*s.* and 50*s.* when all Valuations over £50 are excluded.	AREA AND VALUATION OF EXCLUDED HOLDINGS.		REMARKS.
					Area.	Valuation.	
	£ *s.* *d.*		£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d*	A. R. P.	£ *s.* *d*	
*Crannagh,	2,018 13 0	1,109	1 16 5	1 8 1	88 3 28 150 0 30 5 1 30 252 3 2 137 1 3	52 10 0 106 10 0 61 0 0 149 10 0 90 0 0	Railway.
Total of all other Electoral Divisions.	30,971 19 0	9,592	3 4 7				
Total of Rural District,	32,990 12 0	1,0701	3 1 8				

RURAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE No. 2.

Moore,	952 3 0	655	1 9 1	—	—	—	
Total of all other Electoral Divisions.	9,445 10 0	3,026	3 2 5				
Total of Rural District,	10,3.7 13 0	3,681	2 16 6				

RURAL DISTRICT OF BOYLE No. 1.

Ballyformoyle,	700 6 0	672	1 0 10	—	—	—	
Lough Allen,	869 19 0	769	1 2 8	—	—	—	
Altagowlan,	729 17 0	448	1 12 7	1 2 9	25 0 0	220 0 0	Colliery & mountain.
Crossna,	*1,530 18 0*	*908*	*1 13 9*	—	—	—	
Kilcolagh,	*969 16 0*	*550*	*1 15 3*	—	—	—	
Total of all other Electoral Divisions.	39,941 19 0	13,521	2 19 1				
Total of Rural District,	44.742 15 0	16,868	2 13 1				

† This Return is taken from a similar Return for the whole of Ireland, which was published in the Appendices to the First Report of the Commission, pp. 356 *et seq.*

RURAL DISTRICT OF CARRICK-ON-SHANNON No. 2.

Electoral Division.	Total Rateable Valuation, 1906.	Population, (Census, 1901).	Average Valuation per head of Population.	Average Valuation per head of Population in cases normally between 30s. and 50s. when all Valuations over £50 are excluded.	Area and Valuation of Excluded Holdings.		Remarks.
					Area.	Valuation.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	
Tumna North,	*1,198 0 0*	*744*	*1 12 2*	—	—	—	
Tumna South,	*1,498 10 0*	*765*	*1 19 2*	—	—	—	
Total of all other Electoral Divisions.	19,608 10 0	4,732	4 2 11				
Total of Rural District,	22,305 0 0	6,241	3 11 6				

RURAL DISTRICT OF CASTLEREA.

rtagh North,	3,377 12 0	2,664	1 5 4	—	—	—	
rtagh South,	1,699 18 0	1,860	0 18 3	—	—	—	
allaghaderreen,	5,249 7 0	4,367	1 4 0	—	—	—	
allinlough,	3,664 2 0	2,877	1 5 6	—	—	—	
uckill,	2,187 1 0	1,552	1 8 2	—	—	—	
loonfower,	1,694 10 0	1,446	1 3 5	—	—	—	
oolougher,	2,395 5 0	1,693	1 8 4	—	—	—	
dmondstown,	1,823 17 0	1,639	1 2 4	—	—	—	
iltullagh,	3,570 5 0	2,841	1 5 2	—	—	—	
airymount,	2,541 0 0	1,668	1 10 6	1 9 3	95 1 25 214 2 34	50 15 0 53 10 0	
oughlinn,	*3,643 1 0*	*1,981*	*1 15 9*	—	—	—	
Total of all other Electoral Divisions.	43,292 7 0	8,938	4 16 4				
Total of Rural District,	75,043 5 0	33,576	2 4 8				

RURAL DISTRICT OF ROSCOMMON.

Total of Rural District,	64,835 5 0	15,164	4 5 6				

RURAL DISTRICT OF STROKESTOWN.

loo-ky,	1,225 3 0	986	1 4 10	—	—	—	
Total of all other Electoral Divisions.	49,920 4 0	14,574	3 8 6				
Total of Rural District,	51,145 7 0	15,560	3 5 9				
Total of Rural Districts in County.	301,459 17 0	101,791	2 19 3				

APPENDIX XI.

F.—STATISTICS RELATING TO THE NUMBER, ACREAGE, VALUATION AND POPULATION OF VARIOUS CLASSES OF HOLDINGS, AND TO THE CHIEF DIVISIONS OF THE LAND IN THE COUNTY OF ROSCOMMON.

Specially prepared for the Commission.

EXPLANATORY NOTE.

The information contained in the Tables I.-IV. has been specially prepared for the Commission by the Registrar-General from the office summaries of the Census of 1901. The importance of the figures and their interpretation were touched upon in a memorandum submitted by the Secretary to the Commission, and printed in the Appendices to the first Report of the Commission, pp. 351 *et seq.* It will suffice to remark here that, though nominallly these tables are returns of "holdings," they are really returns of landholders, for, if one man has half-a-dozen farms in the same county, he is returned as having a single holding of their combined valuation. It is obvious that, so far as counties are concerned, these returns, being actually though not nominally returns of landholders, show more clearly the size of the problem requiring treatment than a return of holdings would—*e.g.*, a man has in County Roscommon six holdings valued at £2, £4, £6, £10, £20 and £40. A return of holdings would in this case apparently suggest that there were at least three holdings needing enlargement; whilst the present returns more clearly indicate the situation by showing only one holding of £82 valuation. As regards the size of the remedial material that might be made available for relieving congestion, these returns might, however, mislead—*e.g.*, in the case taken above the returns would suggest that there was in County Roscommon one holding of £82 valuation that possibly might be secured for the enlargement of small holdings; whilst in point of fact there are six holdings of varying size scattered over the county.

The interpretation of the figures becomes more complicated when they are examined not for the whole of a county, but for the comparatively small area of an electoral division—the present unit of congestion. In these returns where one man has several holdings in County Roscommon, but in different electoral divisions, or has one holding which runs into two electoral divisions, the entire is allocated to the division containing the holding or the part of the holding of highest valuation; hence the figures in these returns do not represent the actual state of things in each electoral division, as they may include in such division land situate in other electoral divisions (of County Roscommon), and may exclude land geographically belonging to the division itself. Thus the area, population, or valuation shown for an electoral division might be larger or smaller than the actual area, population, or valuation of that division. Adjustments could have been made rectifying this, but they would have immensely complicated matters. Moreover, the returns would then have been based in part on holdings rather than on landholders, and this would, for the reason shown above, have exaggerated the size of the problem. Consequently the Commission having considered the relative advantages of adjusted and unadjusted returns of holdings and landholders, decided that as regards most areas the unadjusted returns of landholders by electoral divisions would be the most useful.

The information contained in Tables V. and VI has been specially prepared for the Commission by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland from the office summaries of the Agricultural Statistics of 1906. Their importance and interpretation were touched upon in the memorandum to which reference has been already made, and it will suffice to remark here that the difference between the number of holdings given in Table V. and the number given in Table I. is accounted for by the following causes:—

(1) Table V. is a return of holdings, and Table I. a return of landholders;

(2) Table I. refers to agricultural holdings only, and Table V. includes labourers' cottage holdings and gardens; and

(3) Differences of classification and adjustment.

—TABLE showing Total Number of Holdings and Number of each of Eleven Classes, arranged according to Valuation, in the County of Roscommon. APPEN XI.

...IONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Number of Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS AND NUMBER IN EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
ATHLONE.												
...ne, West, Rural, ...	226	65	88	32	15	12	5	4	4	1	—	—
...ynamona, ...	142	29	50	30	13	10	7	—	2	1	—	—
...ragh, ...	71	7	22	13	10	7	6	1	4	1	—	—
...iagh, ...	150	33	52	25	13	14	2	3	4	4	—	—
...lessampson, ...	130	44	53	6	3	9	3	4	4	4	—	—
...nown, ...	89	7	40	26	9	3	2	1	1	—	—	—
...anagh, ...	190	42	107	21	6	5	1	3	3	2	—	—
...nlosh, ...	76	8	52	8	3	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
...art, ...	151	46	66	16	9	7	—	1	4	2	—	—
...ar, ...	87	11	44	18	1	4	2	—	3	2	2	—
...oom, ...	192	59	97	21	3	4	3	—	1	1	2	1
...arrow, ...	116	29	54	14	6	4	1	—	3	2	2	1
...khill, ...	80	16	29	9	5	8	1	2	5	3	1	1
...liboy, ...	145	20	74	27	9	8	2	—	3	2	—	—
...lumaconnell, ...	70	8	17	16	6	10	5	3	3	2	—	—
...omastown, ...	157	21	74	27	12	8	6	2	5	1	—	1
...rock, ...	102	13	33	11	16	12	6	3	5	3	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	2,174	458	952	320	139	129	52	27	54	32	7	4
Total of Electoral Divisions	2,174	458	952	320	139	129	52	27	54	32	7	4
BALLINASLOE.												
...lydangan, ...	160	23	90	18	9	6	5	3	4	—	1	1
...rowreagh, ...	142	41	64	16	8	5	2	2	4	—	—	—
...onburren, ...	63	13	31	6	5	4	1	—	1	1	—	1
...agh, ...	148	33	74	14	9	4	3	2	3	4	1	1
...liagh, ...	40	11	14	3	5	2	—	3	1	—	—	1
...ore, ...	106	7	70	21	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	106	7	70	21	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	553	121	273	57	36	21	11	10	13	5	2	4
Total of Electoral Divisions,	659	128	343	78	42	23	11	10	13	5	2	4
BOYLE.												
...hafin, ...	168	54	77	23	6	3	1	2	1	1	—	—
...tagowlan, ...	85	36	37	8	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
...llyfarnan, ...	77	34	20	12	2	8	—	—	—	1	—	—
...llyformoyle, ...	153	78	66	5	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
...yle Rural, ...	252	63	111	19	17	21	1	8	11	—	—	1
...yle Urban, ...	60	24	16	7	3	6	1	1	2	—	—	—
...eedoge, ...	194	27	103	35	15	7	4	1	2	—	—	—
...ghan, ...	181	57	57	20	12	16	6	2	4	6	—	1
...sana, ...	207	76	102	16	5	4	2	—	2	—	—	—
...tersnow, ...	91	29	26	22	6	3	—	2	2	1	—	—
...eadew, ...	185	67	71	22	9	6	3	1	3	2	—	1
...lleryan, ...	228	52	138	28	4	2	—	2	—	2	—	—
...lerlagh, ...	122	41	62	8	6	2	—	1	1	1	—	—
...lmacumsy, ...	181	34	67	41	15	13	3	4	2	2	—	—
...garve, ...	136	10	48	35	14	12	7	2	6	2	—	—

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX XI.

I.—TABLE showing Total Number of Holdings and Number of each of Eleven Classes, arranged according t Valuation, in the County of Roscommon—*continued.*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Number of Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS AND NUMBER IN EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in Valu
BOYLE—*continued.*												
*Lough Allen, ...	167	59	101	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mantua, ...	138	58	50	16	6	4	2	—	1	—	—	
Oakport, ...	71	6	26	16	7	5	2	1	5	2	1	—
Rockingham, ...	83	14	19	9	3	7	3	2	12	6	6	
Rushfield, ...	113	15	32	32	11	4	—	1	12	2	4	—
Tivannagh, ...	180	65	74	27	5	3	1	1	3	1	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	734	290	368	44	15	10	2	1	3	1	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	2,338	609	935	364	135	120	34	30	66	28	11	
Total of Electoral Divisions,	3,072	899	1,303	408	150	130	36	31	69	29	11	
CARRICK-ON-SHANNON.												
Aughrim, East, ...	141	27	62	25	8	6	3	—	5	2	1	
Aughrim, West, ...	147	10	62	38	10	15	1	—	7	3	1	—
Cloonteem, ...	123	34	42	16	12	7	4	—	6	1	—	
Creeve, ...	82	6	30	12	2	10	3	3	10	4	1	
Danesfort, ...	126	17	39	29	13	12	7	1	6	2	—	—
Killukin, ...	80	7	34	20	5	4	2	1	4	1	—	
Killummod, ...	82	10	27	17	9	10	2	—	5	2	—	—
Kilmore, ...	139	27	51	17	8	13	3	6	8	6	—	—
*Tumna, North	159	44	83	16	9	3	4	—	—	—	—	—
*Tumna, South, ...	146	23	79	28	3	7	4	1	1	—	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	305	67	162	44	12	10	8	1	1	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	920	138	347	174	67	77	25	11	51	21	3	6
Total of Electoral Divisions,	1,225	205	509	218	79	87	33	12	52	21	3	6
CASTLEREAGH.												
*Artagh, North, ...	518	216	263	21	7	2	5	3	1	—	—	—
*Artagh, South, ...	389	278	97	8	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
*Ballaghaderreen, ...	619	426	147	25	8	5	3	—	2	2	1	—
*Ballinlough, ...	507	262	194	23	9	10	4	1	3	—	1	—
Ballintober, ...	259	95	76	30	12	13	8	2	7	14	2	—
Baslick, ...	130	26	71	16	8	5	2	—	2	—	—	—
Bellanagare, ...	335	130	114	35	18	9	5	—	6	9	4	5
*Buckhill, ...	324	119	160	31	8	5	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carrowduff, ...	85	17	17	3	7	11	7	3	11	7	2	—
Castleplunket, ...	112	26	23	19	2	5	3	3	8	11	4	8
Castlereagh, ...	311	101	114	25	19	14	9	2	15	6	2	4
Castletcheen, ...	50	5	12	6	1	3	4	2	7	3	5	2
*Cloonfower, ...	292	163	115	9	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
*Coolougher, ...	342	144	171	14	5	1	1	1	2	2	—	1
*Edmondstown, ...	289	179	85	15	1	5	1	—	1	1	1	—
*Fairymount, ...	366	129	174	38	12	5	4	2	1	1	—	
Frenchpark, ...	266	91	105	34	9	10	3	2	4	5	1	2
*Kiltullagh, ...	492	237	211	22	6	4	1	3	7	1	—	
*Loughglinn, ...	399	154	187	32	6	9	2	—	5	3	—	1
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions	4,537	2,307	1,804	238	67	49	22	10	24	10	3	3
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	1,548	491	532	168	76	70	41	14	60	35	20	21
Total of Electoral Divisions,	6,085	2,798	2,336	406	143	119	63	24	84	45	23	24

* Scheduled as Congested.

I.—TABLE showing Total Number of Holdings and Number of each of Eleven Classes, arranged according to Valuation, in the County of Roscommon—*continued*.

...S AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Number of Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS AND NUMBER IN EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value
ROSCOMMON.												
...league East, ...	112	17	36	14	6	10	8	4	8	7	2	—
...league West, ...	185	47	69	24	11	9	4	5	9	6	1	—
...s, ...	108	13	40	17	9	8	3	—	6	8	4	—
...natuskert, ...	222	62	97	27	15	12	3	—	5	1	—	—
...nygormican, ...	66	6	19	10	4	3	—	1	7	10	3	3
...ndaff, ...	219	46	93	35	19	18	2	2	3	1	—	—
...amon, ...	101	22	32	13	10	10	2	3	2	2	4	1
...ty, ...	185	44	73	24	9	10	3	3	14	2	1	2
...ride North	98	7	35	21	9	4	5	4	4	6	3	—
...ride South, ...	123	14	44	26	9	8	5	1	10	5	1	—
...eth, ...	207	49	101	29	13	10	2	1	2	—	—	—
...eevan, ...	183	55	72	29	9	10	3	—	1	3	—	1
...kan, ...	89	10	31	11	1	15	2	4	8	5	2	—
...naha, ...	145	23	61	26	12	11	2	2	4	3	—	1
...e, ...	192	50	59	25	22	17	4	1	9	3	1	1
...common Rural, ...	222	29	64	34	20	30	7	6	11	12	5	4
...common Urban, ...	31	17	10	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
...moylan, ...	98	25	39	17	5	3	2	1	2	2	—	2
...gg, ...	112	19	38	16	3	13	7	6	8	2	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	2,698	655	1,013	398	187	202	65	44	114	78	27	15
Total of Electoral Divisions,	2,698	555	1,013	398	187	202	65	44	114	78	27	15
STROKESTOWN.												
...aghmore, ...	233	39	134	35	13	7	2	1	2	—	—	—
...ygarden, ...	162	37	78	17	14	6	1	1	5	2	—	
...lin, ...	181	39	79	37	11	4	2	4	—	5	—	—
...nfinlough, ...	177	27	90	34	9	5	3	2	3	3	1	—
...nyquin, ...	184	36	83	28	12	8	4	2	2	4	2	3
...ve	105	25	49	9	9	6	1	2	1	2	1	—
...gga, ...	100	7	55	21	6	4	1	—	4	2	—	—
... .	57	6	22	14	5	4	3	—	3	—	—	—
...lin, ...	133	28	41	20	17	8	6	3	6	2	—	2
...glass North	233	49	135	17	13	6	4	4	4	—	1	—
...glass South, ...	195	50	77	30	10	14	5	5	3	1	—	—
...avackan, ...	143	30	54	35	10	10	1	2	1	—	—	—
...akin, ...	118	13	46	19	10	15	4	4	2	5	—	—
...onuffy, ...	141	31	79	17	5	4	2	1	2	—	—	—
...lla, ...	60	5	12	5	4	7	6	3	8	5	2	3
...sky, ...	208	116	61	19	7	3	—	1	1	—	—	—
...smore, ...	87	16	25	17	5	8	3	2	3	4	1	3
...stown, ...	122	33	22	26	7	16	4	3	3	4	1	3
...nabarry, ...	180	19	100	39	13	7	1	—	1	—	—	—
...s, ...	174	38	64	32	15	6	5	2	7	4	1	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	208	116	61	19	7	3	—	1	1	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	2,785	528	1,245	452	188	145	58	41	60	43	10	15
Total of Electoral Divisions,	2,993	644	1,306	471	195	148	58	42	61	43	10	15
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	5,890	2,787	2,465	366	107	74	32	13	29	11	3	3
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	13,016	2,900	5,297	1,933	828	764	286	177	418	262	80	71
Total in County,	18,906	5,687	7,762	2,299	935	838	318	190	447	273	83	74

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX XI.

II.—TABLE showing Total Area occupied by each Class of Holdings in the county of Roscommon.

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Acreage occupied by Agricultural Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS ACCORDING TO RATEABLE VALUATION, WITH THE AREA UNDER EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 and not exceeding £500.
ATHLONE.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Athlone, West, Rural,	4,333	373	1,145	726	434	638	223	289	465	40	—	—
Ballynamona,	4,138	174	837	874	57	593	537	—	251	296	—	—
Caltragh,	2,997	46	357	368	351	389	493	76	599	318	—	—
Carnagh,	5,119	183	926	888	604	839	144	323	480	732	—	—
Castlesampson,	6,343	360	1,242	181	95	746	300	548	707	2,164	—	—
Cloonown,	2,613	66	503	621	267	155	127	70	804	—	—	—
Crannagh,	4,010	355	1,755	565	210	208	45	205	291	376	—	—
Drumlosh,	2,289	84	1,314	313	109	159	—	—	—	310	—	—
Dysart,	3,996	355	1,121	509	393	403	—	168	543	504	—	—
Kilcar,	3,828	75	725	457	39	215	182	—	575	653	907	—
Kiltoom,	5 415	406	1,693	617	106	238	180	—	130	331	919	79
Lecarrow,	3,938	95	828	383	201	175	29	—	387	378	710	71
Rockhill,	4,619	99	391	300	254	499	68	272	784	795	592	56
Taghboy,	3,278	110	951	665	222	413	86	—	491	340	—	—
Taghmaconnell,	4,154	136	386	633	308	658	448	289	570	726	—	—
Thomastown,	5,364	146	1,087	819	499	418	536	187	596	488	—	64
Turrock,	4,835	80	501	313	627	679	495	283	789	1,068	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	71,269	3,143	15,762	9,232	5,295	7,425	3,893	2,710	8,462	9,464	3,128	2,75
Total of Electoral Divisions	71,269	3,143	15,762	9,232	5,295	7,425	3,893	2,710	8 462	9,464	3,128	2,75
BALLINASLOE.												
Ballydangan,	6,396	334	1,946	573	363	380	470	506	695	—	432	69
Carrowreagh,	4,962	514	1,569	814	372	310	173	305	905	—	—	—
Cloonburren,	2,086	98	591	161	239	112	60	—	161	108	—	55
Creagh	6,905	329	1,172	444	422	230	397	171	449	1,712	840	73
Culliagh,	4,143	93	214	70	185	145	—	309	220	—	—	2,90
*Moore.	2,955	87	1,571	833	327	137	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	2,955	87	1,571	833	327	137	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	24,492	1,368	5,492	2,062	1,581	1,177	1,100	1,291	2,430	1,820	1,272	4,89
Total of Electoral Divisions,	27,447	1,455	7,063	2,895	1,908	1,314	1,100	1,291	2,430	1,820	1,272	4,89
BOYLE.												
Aghafin	3,123	350	1,091	614	224	185	67	314	114	164	—	—
*Altagowlan,	1,376	334	565	254	68	155	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ballyfarnan,	1,421	236	288	358	81	320	—	—	—	138	—	—
*Ballyformoyle,	2,904	853	1,548	176	167	160	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boyle Rural,	6,301	896	2,010	422	450	692	48	420	978	—	—	38
Boyle Urban,	638	48	106	68	65	138	22	50	141	—	—	—
Breedoge,	4,010	155	1,508	895	542	265	278	63	304	—	—	—
Croghan,	5,410	269	873	463	406	581	363	113	388	1,277	—	67
*Crossna,	3,805	708	1,697	509	179	250	179	—	283	—	—	—
Easternow,	2,546	241	474	779	187	157	—	186	182	340	—	—
Keadew,	4,786	553	1,263	514	280	371	208	80	323	513	—	68
Kilbryan,	4,894	625	2,616	843	172	72	—	196	—	370	—	—
*Kilcolagh,	2,333	458	1,075	200	205	56	—	40	170	129	—	—
Kilmacumsy,	4,293	193	897	949	495	559	144	332	308	416	—	—
Lisgarve,	3,609	36	662	719	387	442	343	121	560	339	—	—
*Lough Allen,	2,137	472	1,434	201	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mantua,	3,268	353	1,074	438	271	249	117	—	76	—	—	6
Oakport,	2,197	14	378	326	200	191	80	90	437	186	2	—

* Scheduled as Congested.

—TABLE showing Total Area occupied by each Class of Holdings in the County of Roscommon—*continued*

...NS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Acreage occupied by Agricultural Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS ACCORDING TO RATEABLE VALUATION, WITH THE AREA UNDER EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
BOYLE—*continued.*	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
...gham, ...	6,383	37	202	125	75	237	112	73	1,208	910	1,596	1,808
...ld, ...	4,616	101	550	662	340	138	—	63	1,232	440	1,090	—
...agh, ...	4,793	915	2,027	962	195	128	66	72	320	108	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	12,555	2,825	6,349	1,340	619	621	179	40	453	129	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	62,288	5,022	16,014	9,137	4,370	4,725	1,848	2,173	6,621	5,201	2,936	4,241
Total of Electoral Divisions,	74,843	7,847	22,363	10,477	4,989	5,346	2,027	2,213	7,074	5,330	2,936	4,241
CARRICK-ON-SHANNON.												
...n, East, ...	4,912	141	766	600	254	208	160	—	495	544	308	1,441
...n. West, ...	4,481	47	860	804	293	653	52	—	843	618	306	—
...em, ...	3,133	172	499	285	368	243	248	—	646	123	—	549
.. .. ..	3,978	17	365	257	42	316	130	239	843	681	243	845
...rt, ...	3,150	63	464	548	370	365	340	62	547	391	—	—
...n, ...	3,225	62	477	347	137	123	91	67	426	111	—	1,384
...mod, ...	2,718	12	506	367	266	502	127	—	564	374	—	—
...e, ...	4,843	143	711	359	229	609	153	431	911	1,297	—	—
...North, ...	3,118	397	1,495	494	298	148	286	—	—	—	—	—
..., South, ...	3,051	245	1,321	676	77	316	255	86	75	—	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	6,169	642	2,816	1,170	375	464	541	86	75	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	30,440	657	4,648	3,567	1,959	3,014	1,301	799	5,280	4,139	857	4,219
Total of Electoral Divisions,	36,609	1,299	7,464	4,737	2,334	3,478	1,842	885	5,355	4,139	857	4,219
CASTLEREAGH.												
North, ...	7,705	1,540	4,113	675	254	120	358	399	246	—	—	—
South, ...	7,024	2,985	2,839	544	130	181	—	—	345	—	—	—
...derreen.	10,734	4,990	3,033	737	392	336	245	—	221	419	361	—
...gh.	10,348	3,193	3,947	805	445	518	344	58	522	—	516	—
...er, ...	8,214	598	931	603	322	479	451	106	601	3,248	875	—
.. .. ..	2,379	199	1,021	375	214	205	108	—	257	—	—	—
...gare.	11,152	908	1,696	766	517	326	232	—	658	2,377	1,197	2,475
... .	4,682	1,018	2,302	746	244	313	60	—	—	—	—	—
...ull.	4,610	75	190	84	199	432	362	163	1,082	1,405	618	—
...nket.	8,770	86	218	374	43	183	164	234	867	2,050	959	3,572
...gh.	10,091	594	1,440	405	534	414	545	130	1,405	1,290	812	2,522
...een.	4,448	26	158	173	47	91	202	175	696	533	1,442	905
...er.	6,579	2,329	2,719	520	162	161	—	—	—	—	—	688
...er.	8,259	1,794	3,751	568	254	60	408	80	163	531	—	650
...stown.	6,949	3,194	2,055	576	98	300	79	—	179	238	230	—
...nt.	6,110	1,092	2,393	967	386	428	266	209	184	185	—	—
...en.	6,445	640	1,238	581	186	328	106	106	588	672	258	1,742
...l	8,917	2,425	3,633	651	256	236	47	310	1,091	268	—	—
... .	7,624	1,078	2,629	766	179	442	191	—	535	699	—	1,105
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	84,931	25,638	33,414	7,554	2,800	3,095	1,998	1,056	3,486	2,340	1,107	2,443
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	56,109	3,126	6,892	3,361	2,062	2,458	2,170	914	6,174	11,575	6,161	11,216
Total of Electoral Divisions,	141,040	28,764	40,306	10,915	4,862	5,553	4,168,	1970	9,660	[illegible]	[illegible]	13,659

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX XI

II.—TABLE showing Total Area occupied by each Class of Holdings in the County of Roscommon—*continued*.

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Acreage occupied by Agricultural Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS ACCORDING TO RATEABLE VALUATION, WITH THE AREA UNDER EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £500.	Above £500.
ROSCOMMON.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Athleague East,	6,617	80	459	395	263	521	605	348	1,189	1,936	821	—
Athleague West	5,853	212	907	545	344	444	180	324	1,166	1,333	398	—
Cams,	5,864	49	451	392	254	278	180	—	787	1,632	1,841	—
Cloontuskert,	4,112	291	1,271	628	408	471	160	—	590	293	—	—
Cloonygormican,	5,314	14	172	141	96	114	—	60	780	1,797	836	1,30
Drumdaff,	4,324	221	1,200	732	583	747	93	133	346	269	—	—
Dunamon,	4,676	108	327	276	245	384	127	177	271	479	1,584	69
Fuerty,	9,498	283	1,005	607	319	355	198	247	2,137	512	497	3,33
Kilbride North,	4,659	26	549	460	254	125	293	266	460	1,172	1,054	—
Kilbride South,	5,491	64	616	695	340	314	292	90	1,453	1,155	472	—
Kilgefin,	4,032	300	1,418	722	463	582	143	102	302	—	—	—
Kiltoom,	5,176	340	1,002	661	300	574	204	—	73	1,167	—	95
Lackan,	5,408	46	505	281	33	826	141	363	1,052	1,111	1,045	—
Llamaha,	5,141	148	871	663	363	593	167	192	476	694	—	97
Mote,	6,671	203	784	549	644	744	274	71	1,146	596	298	1,36
Roscommon Rural,	11,100	80	600	677	509	935	352	428	1,062	2,475	1,727	2,23
Roscommon Urban,	163	21	44	—	11	13	24	—	50	—	—	—
Rosmoylan,	4,112	130	555	369	128	105	113	103	207	721	—	1,68
Scregg,	4,030	80	505	408	122	570	450	468	932	495	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	102,241	2,696	13,241	9,201	5,679	8,695	3,996	3,377	14,479	17,837	10,573	12,4
Total of Electoral Divisions	102,241	2,696	13,241	9,201	5,679	8,695	3,996	3,377	14,479	17,837	10,573	12,4
STROKESTOWN.												
Annaghmore	4,178	272	1,819	793	447	315	142	120	270	—	—	—
Ballygarden,	4,240	253	1,049	436	393	227	41	102	662	479	—	59
Bumlin,	4,303	258	1,025	870	333	162	169	323	—	1,163	—	—
Cloonfinlough,	4,141	151	1,152	707	269	208	161	157	500	598	238	—
Cloonyquin,	5,670	202	1,010	505	347	331	166	137	207	785	631	1,34
Creeve,	3,093	130	757	204	348	213	58	213	160	374	636	—
Cregga,	3,125	37	762	614	206	193	80	—	716	517	—	—
Elia,	1,665	21	363	319	150	206	199	—	407	—	—	—
Elphin,	3,753	136	439	349	428	287	255	184	459	305	—	91
Kilglass North,	5,180	416	1,932	403	453	313	297	353	591	—	422	—
Kilglass South,	4,868	448	1,229	788	355	713	401	409	378	147	—	—
Killavackan,	3,008	121	762	745	347	521	40	391	81	—	—	—
Killukin,	3,467	53	632	339	241	523	173	297	164	1,045	—	—
Lissonuffy,	2,815	243	1,191	450	163	135	108	185	340	—	—	—
Ogulla,	4,665	14	128	100	110	233	271	174	692	856	463	1,62
*Roosky,	2,754	895	958	467	222	54	—	38	120	—	—	—
Rossmore,	4,287	67	303	427	140	283	188	89	319	586	286	1,59
Strokestown,	5,480	120	173	397	69	233	114	77	237	78	60	3,92
Termonbarry,	3,074	99	1,315	825	425	250	55	—	105	—	—	—
Tulsk,	4,390	224	881	733	431	228	306	122	631	588	246	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	2,754	895	958	467	222	54	—	38	120	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	75,402	3,265	16,922	10,004	5,655	5,574	3,224	3,333	6,919	7,521	2,982	10
Total of Electoral Divisions,	78,156	4,160	17,880	10,471	5,877	5,628	3,224	3,371	7,039	7,521	2,982	10
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	109,364	30,087	45,108	11,364	4,343	4,371	2,718	1,220	4,134	2,469	1,197	2,94
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	422,241	19,277	78,971	46,564	26,601	33,068	17,532	14,597	50,365	57,557	27,069	42,8
Total of County.	531,605	49,364	124,079	57,928	30,944	37,439	20,250	15,817	54,499	60,026	28,016	54,7

* Scheduled as Congested.

III.—Table showing Total Valuation of each Class of Holdings in the County of Roscommon.

...ns and Electoral Divisions.	Total Valuation.	Classification of Holdings, and Total Rateable Valuation of those in each Class.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £500.	Above £500 in Value.
Athlone.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
e, West, Rural.	2,493	168	578	383	266	289	172	172	296	169	—	—
amona.	1,769	80	346	373	220	250	236	—	117	147	—	—
th.	1,364	20	159	161	177	172	219	49	248	159	—	—
h.	2,307	75	340	307	237	330	66	141	258	553	—	—
mpson, ...	2,021	103	351	77	50	212	106	189	278	655	—	—
wn.	1,010	23	261	318	162	72	67	45	62	—	—	—
gh, ...	1,866	101	697	266	112	113	31	131	194	221	—	—
sh, ...	749	21	344	90	56	92	—	—	—	146	—	—
.. .. ..	1,587	111	424	208	152	168	—	44	255	225	—	—
.. .. ..	1,704	28	301	230	17	107	68	—	185	305	463	—
.. .. ..	2,386	129	645	259	51	107	97	—	51	134	474	439
w, ...	2,081	45	394	172	107	92	36	—	202	238	417	378
, ...	2,107	47	184	106	89	218	37	96	313	436	265	316
, ...	1,779	61	524	333	145	200	65	—	212	239	—	—
sconnell, ...	1,481	22	122	199	100	247	171	141	232	247	—	—
own, ...	2,374	59	475	349	216	208	212	91	325	114	—	325
.. .. ..	2,121	36	235	139	270	302	220	134	390	395	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	31,199	1,129	6,380	3,970	2,427	3,179	1,803	1,233	3,618	4,383	1,619	1,458
Total of Electoral Divisions	31,199	1,129	6,380	3,970	2,427	3,179	1,803	1,233	3,618	4,383	1,619	1,458
Ballinasloe.												
am, ...	2,392	66	634	225	153	146	176	141	260	—	238	353
gh, ...	1,426	105	426	205	137	112	67	86	288	—	—	—
en, ...	1,102	32	210	76	88	99	33	—	70	137	—	357
.. .. ..	2,661	78	503	168	153	98	103	97	219	631	220	391
.. .. ..	1,495	30	88	39	91	45	—	130	82	—	—	990
.. .. ..	913	27	475	256	106	49	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	913	27	475	256	106	49	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	9,076	311	1,861	713	622	500	379	454	919	768	458	2,091
Total of Electoral Divisions.	9,989	338	2,336	969	728	549	379	454	919	768	458	2,091
Boyle.												
.. .. ..	1,395	123	493	282	106	67	37	91	82	114	—	—
, ...	502	108	223	94	34	43	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	684	59	148	146	36	183	—	—	—	112	—	—
le, ...	719	157	420	59	33	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
d.	3,380	188	699	217	297	530	32	368	748	—	—	301
n, ...	683	48	103	85	54	157	31	45	160	—	—	—
.. .. ..	1,968	56	694	434	262	166	144	46	166	—	—	—
.. .. ..	3,351	101	416	239	218	365	206	95	269	865	—	577
.. .. ..	1,428	221	614	198	90	99	68	—	138	—	—	—
.. .. ..	1,072	64	175	262	100	77	—	92	111	191	—	—
.. .. ..	2,272	168	492	266	158	149	103	46	203	271	—	416
.. .. ..	1,839	167	884	332	72	46	—	85	—	253	—	—
.. .. ..	948	70	430	95	101	50	....	45	53	104	—	—
.. .. ..	2,386	41	471	503	268	309	99	183	193	319	—	—
.. .. ..	2,422	17	355	458	245	282	258	98	420	289	—	—
.. .. ..	863	175	607	81	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	1,293	76	338	203	105	107	69	—	58	—	—	337

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX XI.

III.—TABLE showing Total Valuation of each Class of Holdings in the County of Roscommon—*continued*.

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Valuation.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS, AND TOTAL RATEABLE VALUATION OF THOSE IN EACH CLASS.									
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.
BOYLE—*continued.*	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Oakport, ...	1,484	9	167	203	126	129	68	50	334	221	177
Rockingham, ...	5,157	15	132	108	50	181	101	86	863	802	1,424
Rushfield, ...	3,185	43	254	379	194	101	—	42	902	330	940
Tivannagh, ...	1,556	156	477	333	90	78	35	42	231	114	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	4,460	731	2,294	527	258	242	68	45	191	104	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	34,127	1,331	6,298	4,450	2,381	2,927	1,183	1,369	4,740	3,881	2,541
Total of Electoral Divisions,	38,587	2,062	8,592	4,977	2,639	3,169	1,251	1,414	4,931	3,985	2,541
CARRICK-ON-SHANNON.											
Aughrim, East, ...	3,001	51	447	302	138	149	100	—	341	327	202
Aughrim, West, ...	2,676	25	454	487	173	368	34	—	513	382	240
Clounteem, ...	2,000	63	292	210	214	162	142	—	395	101	—
Creeve, ...	2,856	6	209	144	37	244	98	141	723	481	217
Danesfort, ...	2,142	38	299	361	223	299	229	45	384	264	—
Killukin, ...	2,333	18	265	237	92	93	76	45	310	105	—
Killummod, ...	1,560	6	201	205	161	246	69	—	430	242	—
Kilmore, ...	2,804	44	370	208	140	335	95	270	580	762	—
*Tumna, North, ...	1,208	113	542	200	152	71	130	—	—	—	—
*Tumna, South, ...	1,451	74	571	345	53	165	136	47	60	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	2,659	187	1,113	545	205	236	266	47	60	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	19,372	251	2,537	2,154	1,178	1,896	843	501	3,676	2,664	659
Total of Electoral Divisions,	22,031	438	3,650	2,699	1,383	2,132	1,109	548	3,736	2,664	659
CASTLEREAGH.											
*Artagh, North, ...	3,047	563	1,638	260	116	55	178	140	97	—	—
*Artagh, South, ...	1,561	724	539	97	34	52	—	—	115	—	—
*Ballaghaderreen, ...	3,399	1,086	863	405	139	116	100	—	143	322	225
*Ballinlough, ...	3,113	688	1,122	260	145	247	133	41	223	—	234
Ballintober, ...	5,119	211	509	394	208	325	283	86	473	2,153	477
Baslick, ...	1,169	63	464	188	134	115	66	—	139	—	—
Bellanagare, ...	6,789	278	707	438	404	227	166	—	479	1,290	880
*Buckhill, ...	1,955	278	1,014	376	138	111	38	—	—	—	—
Carrowduff, ...	3,231	24	121	40	125	281	235	140	747	1,006	512
Castleplunket, ...	7,750	57	159	242	32	126	109	143	647	1,739	931
Castlereagh, ...	6,843	240	755	291	335	343	342	83	1,049	799	507
Castleteheen, ...	3,345	12	82	76	20	74	141	83	496	403	1,175
*Cloonfower, ...	1,791	427	676	105	50	22	—	—	—	—	—
*Coolougher, ...	2,505	381	1,015	164	84	29	33	47	111	290	—
*Edmondstown, ...	1,721	452	510	176	18	112	34	—	96	109	214
*Fairymount, ...	2,557	274	1,095	465	202	119	137	97	54	114	—
Frenchpark, ...	4,424	167	698	429	160	232	103	95	272	690	245
*Kiltullagh, ...	3,982	679	1,149	273	107	92	34	129	491	128	—
*Loughglinn, ...	3,570	371	1,204	378	102	209	76	—	287	386	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	28,201	5,922	10,825	2,979	1,195	1,164	703	454	1,617	1,349	670
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	38,670	1,052	3,495	2,100	1,418	1,723	1,445	630	4,302	8,080	4,725
Total of Electoral Divisions,	66,971	6,975	14,320	5,079	2,553	2,887	2,208	1,084	5,919	9,429	5,395

* Scheduled as Congested

III.—TABLE showing Total Valuation of each Class of Holdings in the County of Roscommon *continued.*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Valuation.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS, AND TOTAL RATEABLE VALUATION OF THOSE IN EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
ROSCOMMON.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ardleague East,	3,408	42	248	180	109	249	278	176	615	1,053	458	—
Ardleague West,	3,249	120	437	280	194	194	139	222	683	745	235	—
Cams,	3,437	26	267	207	157	187	101	—	504	1,002	986	—
Cloontuskert,	2,343	148	645	344	260	289	97	—	368	192	—	—
Cloongormican,	4,401	10	120	122	70	88	—	50	537	1,536	743	1,125
Drumdaff,	2,452	107	653	427	338	435	70	88	204	130	—	—
Dunamon,	2,839	46	208	164	174	241	66	127	108	281	938	486
Fuerty,	5,381	113	519	300	154	242	111	131	1,070	249	249	2,243
Kilbride North,	3,180	15	271	269	158	91	179	173	351	912	761	—
Kilbride South,	2,863	33	304	319	154	197	162	45	663	741	245	—
Kilgefin,	1,964	173	744	371	221	229	69	46	151	—	—	—
Kilteevan,	2,392	113	468	373	152	258	112	—	58	487	—	371
Lackan,	2,795	21	223	139	16	378	64	179	575	640	560	—
Lismalin,	2,611	63	394	317	200	263	67	84	277	372	—	574
Mote,	3,794	127	423	304	378	416	140	44	564	357	218	823
Roscommon Rural,	7,754	65	448	437	357	718	247	256	825	1,639	1,222	1,540
Roscommon Urban,	256	40	65	—	20	23	31	—	77	—	—	—
Rosmoylan,	2,089	59	254	210	84	68	74	48	133	254	—	905
Scregg,	2,153	50	256	189	54	304	229	261	534	276	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	59,361	1,331	6,947	4,952	3,250	4,870	2,236	1,930	8,297	10,866	6,615	8,067
Total of Electoral Divisions,	59,361	1,331	6,947	4,952	3,250	4,870	2,236	1,930	8,297	10,866	6,615	8,067
STROKESTOWN												
Annaghmore,	2,114	113	906	427	226	168	66	41	165	—	—	—
Ballygarden,	2,279	104	508	211	234	140	31	47	341	270	—	393
Bumlin,	2,254	95	516	453	182	93	74	175	—	666	—	—
Cloonfinlough,	2,434	70	610	404	163	122	107	89	273	374	222	—
Cloonyquin,	4,147	92	589	353	213	192	140	91	109	598	579	1,191
Creeve,	1,534	56	339	111	146	128	31	92	90	245	296	—
Creggs,	1,479	20	422	238	98	92	38	—	318	253	—	—
Cria,	843	15	175	170	84	98	107	—	194	—	—	—
Ogulin,	2,935	76	285	245	301	187	220	139	409	300	—	773
Kilglass North,	2,503	130	807	210	214	157	143	188	295	—	269	—
Kilglass South,	2,290	122	556	367	175	333	181	217	211	128	—	—
Killavackan,	1,514	79	381	441	178	241	32	96	66	—	—	—
Killukin,	2,345	84	330	240	175	366	141	184	127	748	—	—
Lisonuffy,	1,221	73	556	194	87	90	68	44	109	—	—	—
Togulla,	4,196	12	93	63	74	180	201	126	538	678	508	1,723
Tossky,	1,144	244	381	228	121	69	—	45	56	—	—	—
Tossmore,	3,422	35	176	212	84	198	104	96	205	507	290	1,515
Strokestown,	5,019	52	151	316	131	402	132	128	209	603	227	2,668
Tarmonbarry,	1,720	51	690	477	229	172	84	—	67	—	—	—
Tibohine,	2,815	105	463	401	260	151	173	89	502	475	206	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	1,144	244	381	228	121	69	—	45	56	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	47,064	1,334	8,633	5,533	3,254	3,510	2,025	1,842	4,228	5,845	2,597	8,263
Total of Electoral Divisions.	48,208	1,578	9,014	5,761	3,375	3,579	2,025	1,887	4,284	5,845	2,597	8,263
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	37,477	7,112	15,088	4,535	1,825	1,760	1,097	591	1,924	1,456	673	1,119
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	238,869	6,739	36,151	24,872	14,530	18,605	9,914	7,959	29,780	38,487	19,214	35,618
Total of County,	276,346	13,851	51,239	25,407	16,355	20,365	11,011	8,550	31,704	37,940	19,887	37,037

* Scheduled as Congested.

IV.—Table showing the Population on each Class of Holdings in the County of Roscommon.

Unions and Electoral Divisions.	Total Population on Agricultural Holdings.	Classification of Holdings according to Rateable Valuation, and Population in each Class.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
Athlone.												
Athlone, West, Rural,	925	171	337	168	87	56	40	28	25	13	—	—
Ballynamona,	810	136	203	191	82	75	36	—	17	10	—	—
Caltragh,	410	21	107	82	57	35	60	11	29	8	—	—
Carnagh,	664	108	207	148	61	76	11	22	8	23	—	—
Castlesampson,	605	172	252	21	10	55	18	16	27	34	—	—
Cloonown,	480	27	166	188	54	21	14	10	—	—	—	—
Crannagh,	1,101	142	541	109	28	35	7	10	214	15	—	—
Drumlosh,	383	36	251	44	19	24	—	—	—	9	—	—
Dysart,	698	175	299	84	60	34	—	6	25	15	—	—
Kilcar,	432	58	185	101	8	33	14	—	14	13	6	—
Kiltoom,	885	180	474	97	12	29	9	—	6	14	31	36
Lecarrow,	506	96	217	80	24	25	6	—	31	7	18	2
Rockhill,	398	43	117	46	14	25	—	20	43	43	21	26
Taghboy,	697	77	340	148	59	39	15	—	9	10	—	—
Taghmaconnell,	306	22	96	58	29	56	17	2	18	8	—	—
Thomastown,	747	71	332	151	39	54	36	13	34	3	—	14
Turrock,	519	54	149	59	97	75	26	12	37	10	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	10,569	1,589	4,333	1,775	740	747	309	150	537	235	76	78
Total of Electoral Divisions,	10,569	1,589	4,333	1,775	740	747	309	150	537	235	76	78
Ballinasloe.												
Ballydangan,	917	77	492	116	51	27	42	9	70	—	21	12
Carrowreagh,	739	169	354	102	42	24	7	1	40	—	—	—
Cloonburren,	298	39	170	43	11	18	—	—	3	—	—	14
Creagh,	787	127	387	84	51	20	16	26	11	51	4	10
Culliagh,	297	51	81	12	37	7	—	29	—	—	—	80
*Moore,	657	38	414	133	56	16	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	657	38	414	133	56	16	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	3,038	463	1,484	357	192	96	65	65	124	51	25	114
Total of Electoral Divisions,	3,695	501	1,898	490	248	112	65	65	124	51	25	116
Boyle.												
Aghafin,	634	153	329	91	29	14	14	4	—	—	—	—
*Altagowlan,	448	155	198	54	20	21	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ballyfarnan,	316	142	79	46	8	35	—	—	—	6	—	—
*Ballyformoyle,	671	505	308	29	15	14	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boyle Rural,	1,162	236	490	91	132	102	—	45	50	—	—	16
Boyle Urban,	46	4	22	6	5	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Breedoge,	891	99	463	183	94	33	5	—	14	—	—	—
Croghan,	969	196	261	91	66	68	51	31	25	70	—	10
*Crossna,	908	272	163	88	29	29	19	—	8	—	—	—
Estersnow,	478	110	158	117	32	15	—	16	11	10	—	—
Keadew,	709	169	302	107	53	19	15	3	5	—	—	36
Kilbryan,	1,042	206	623	148	15	13	—	5	—	32	—	—
*Kilcolagh,	533	125	308	34	33	20	—	6	7	—	—	—
Kilmacumsy,	910	125	322	229	85	85	17	16	17	21	—	—
Lisgarve,	579	36	165	170	67	61	38	7	29	6	—	—
*Lough Allen,	766	234	494	38	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mantua,	702	224	270	95	34	22	12	—	9	—	—	—

* Scheduled as Congested.

IV. TABLE showing the Population on each Class of Holdings in the County of Roscommon—*continued.*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Population on Agricultural Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS ACCORDING TO RATEABLE VALUATION, AND POPULATION IN EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
BOYLE—*continued.*												
akport	351	15	139	71	26	31	13	—	43	—	13	—
ckingham.	518	55	101	29	21	40	3	5	78	38	55	93
shfield.	529	52	112	151	70	13	—	5	73	16	37	—
vanagh	809	229	385	106	25	24	2	9	14	15	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	3,326	1,091	1,771	243	97	84	19	6	15	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	10,645	2,060	4,221	1,724	762	584	170	146	368	214	105	291
Total of Electoral Divisions,	13,971	3,151	5,992	1,967	859	668	189	152	383	214	105	291
CARRICK-ON-SHANNON.												
rrick, East, ...	811	100	361	134	53	38	20	—	33	20	6	46
ghrim West.	652	38	233	169	49	78	2	—	22	49	12	—
ntreem.	571	93	200	93	44	51	35	—	26	3	—	26
eve.	405	11	90	54	9	49	15	21	57	23	14	62
nesfort.	635	60	164	162	73	52	48	21	41	14	—	—
llukin.	457	18	153	92	26	28	15	8	33	10	—	74
llummod.	428	21	162	70	41	59	10	—	35	30	—	—
lmore, ...	698	83	250	64	35	70	28	37	66	65	—	—
ma, North	736	137	419	80	58	21	21	—	—	—	—	—
ma South, ...	721	90	354	150	26	55	23	17	6	—	—	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	1,457	227	773	230	84	76	44	17	6	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	4,657	424	1,613	838	330	425	173	87	313	214	32	208
Total of Electoral Divisions,	6,114	651	2,386	1,068	414	501	217	104	319	214	32	208
CASTLEREAGH.												
tagh. North, ...	2,701	995	1,479	130	49	12	23	9	4	—	—	—
tagh. South.	1,856	1,237	541	48	19	6	—	—	3	—	—	—
llaghaderreen.	2,918	1,826	795	154	29	30	11	—	17	56	—	—
llinlough.	2,641	1,230	1,036	146	47	74	40	26	30	—	12	—
llintober.	1,285	408	328	137	71	76	52	1	24	141	47	—
slick.	593	81	330	76	49	38	17	—	7	—	—	—
llanagare.	1,402	413	541	146	58	49	24	—	23	55	37	51
ckhill.	1,546	487	797	173	56	29	4	—	—	—	—	—
rrowduff.	406	71	69	20	34	53	20	6	67	48	18	—
stlejordan.	612	109	86	92	6	24	19	14	40	80	17	125
stlereagh.	1,784	343	491	129	122	70	53	5	319	56	87	109
stletoheen.	241	14	47	29	—	9	31	9	24	26	25	27
rrower.	1,487	721	611	58	20	2	—	—	—	—	—	75
loughter.	1,697	590	893	75	38	10	18	2	14	31	—	26
mondstown.	1,647	988	485	90	6	27	1	—	13	12	15	—
rymount	1,629	492	811	177	63	23	20	17	5	21	—	—
tchark.	1,094	260	452	174	24	51	14	6	8	39	7	59
ullagh.	2,554	1,200	1,089	134	45	18	10	14	36	8	—	—
oghanure	1,972	687	946	169	38	35	3	—	43	11	—	40
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	22,648	10,453	9,483	1,354	410	278	130	68	165	139	27	141
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	7,417	1,699	2,344	803	364	365	230	41	547	445	238	371
Total of Electoral Divisions,	30,065	12,152	11,827	2,157	774	643	360	109	682	584	265	512

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX XI.

IV.—TABLE showing the Population on each Class of Holdings in the County of Roscommon—*continued.*

UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Population on Agricultural Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS ACCORDING TO RATEABLE VALUATION, AND POPULATION IN EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
ROSCOMMON.												
Athleague East, ...	401	32	103	52	6	55	50	16	24	31	22	—
Athleague West, ...	813	149	287	114	72	54	16	32	45	29	15	—
Cams, ...	529	43	146	83	49	48	13	—	22	49	76	—
Cloontuskert, ...	1,006	193	458	122	82	79	13	—	24	35	—	—
Cloonygormican, ...	456	23	110	45	17	17	—	12	54	82	22	74
Drumdaff, ...	1,053	170	458	192	109	87	11	5	14	7	—	—
Dunamon, ...	527	96	135	70	44	63	15	13	5	17	50	19
Fuerty, ...	938	162	320	93	37	56	19	7	126	15	13	90
Kilbride North, ...	530	25	155	112	51	12	19	37	23	38	58	—
Kilbride South, ...	652	55	193	171	34	38	33	7	68	45	8	—
Kilgefin, ...	906	166	471	125	74	49	12	—	9	—	—	—
Kilteevan, ...	870	169	378	140	53	53	24	—	11	20	—	22
Lackan, ...	468	29	171	59	8	75	13	19	32	31	31	—
Lismaha, ...	762	86	287	161	63	50	15	7	31	31	—	31
Mote, ...	825	167	245	126	97	93	23	2	50	8	7	7
Roscommon Rural, ...	1,035	92	239	138	103	96	22	31	100	99	56	59
Roscommon Urban, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rosmoylan, ...	478	95	190	92	12	17	11	4	3	16	—	38
Scregg, ...	465	54	147	61	12	72	28	23	62	6	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	12,714	1,806	4,493	1,956	933	1,014	337	215	703	559	358	340
Total of Electoral Divisions,	12,714	1,806	4,493	1,956	933	1,014	337	215	703	559	358	340
STROKESTOWN.												
Annaghmore, ...	1,094	136	591	215	68	57	11	6	10	—	—	—
Ballygarden, ...	768	152	325	98	75	35	3	5	23	23	—	29
Bumlin, ...	853	181	343	168	72	19	4	22	—	44	—	—
Cloonfinlough, ...	757	87	353	176	52	27	10	7	18	21	6	—
Cloonyquin, ...	872	140	358	180	73	33	22	13	9	22	44	28
Creeve, ...	583	101	234	63	73	26	4	4	7	17	54	—
Cregga, ...	409	18	215	116	22	18	3	—	5	12	—	—
Elia, ...	281	15	106	94	31	15	6	—	14	—	—	—
Elphin	488	63	118	82	57	43	37	15	36	14	—	23
Kilglass North, ...	1,153	177	647	78	75	43	23	39	25	—	46	—
Kilglass South, ...	944	196	380	153	52	82	23	34	21	3	—	—
Killavackan, ...	564	111	215	149	41	40	2	—	6	—	—	—
Killukin, ...	521	40	179	90	48	60	26	29	15	34	—	—
Lissonuffy, ...	675	116	339	82	39	30	7	8	4	—	—	—
Ogulla, ...	332	19	51	40	15	21	34	23	43	25	17	44
*Roosky, ...	971	503	292	107	39	22	—	4	4	—	—	—
Rossmore, ...	390	52	104	78	18	32	23	13	8	12	8	42
Strokestown, ...	512	173	46	123	2	10	14	—	10	4	—	130
Termonbarry, ...	828	75	442	170	73	60	5	—	3	—	—	—
Tulsk.	892	139	282	189	79	36	17	11	82	39	18	—
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	971	503	292	107	39	22	—	4	4	—	—	—
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	12,916	1,991	5,378	2,294	965	687	274	229	339	270	193	296
Total of Electoral Divisions,	13,887	2,494	5,670	2,401	1,004	709	274	233	343	270	193	296
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions in County,	29,659	12,312	12,733	2,067	686	476	193	95	100	139	27	141
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions in County,	61,956	10,032	23,866	9,747	4,286	3,918	1,558	933	2,901	1,988	1,027	1,799
Total of County,	91,015	22,344	36,599	11,814	4,972	4,394	1,751	1,028	3,001	2,127	1,054	1,941

* Scheduled as Congested.

V.—Return showing the Total Number of Holdings and the Number of various sized Holdings in the County of Roscommon in the year 1906.

Compiled from the Agricultural Statistics, 1906.

Electoral Divisions and Poor Law Unions in which situated.	Number of Holdings in each Electoral Division.									
	Not exceeding 1 Acre.	Above 1 and not exceeding 5 Acres.	Above 5 and not exceeding 15 Acres.	Above 15 and not exceeding 30 Acres.	Above 30 and not exceeding 50 Acres.	Above 50 and not exceeding 100 Acres.	Above 100 and not exceeding 200 Acres.	Above 200 and not exceeding 500 Acres.	Above 500 Acres.	Total Number of Holdings.
Athlone Union.										
ne	2	28	109	59	16	9	2	—	—	225
narona, ...	5	9	42	64	23	13	3	—	—	159
gh, ...	1	5	15	33	14	7	4	2	—	81
gh, ...	5	12	33	52	31	20	5	3	—	161
sampson, ...	1	17	50	30	14	16	10	4	1	143
owre, ...	—	15	22	46	8	4	—	—	—	95
agh, ...	2	13	95	74	13	4	3	1	—	205
losh, ...	—	—	32	30	10	2	—	1	—	75
t, ...	1	24	65	51	15	10	5	1	—	172
r, ...	—	2	35	33	9	6	3	3	1	92
m, ...	4	23	79	61	19	7	2	3	—	198
row, ...	11	14	45	35	10	4	3	3	—	125
ll, ...	2	7	36	20	11	16	6	5	—	103
oy, ...	1	15	79	43	2	7	4	2	—	153
naconnell, ...	—	4	12	28	16	12	8	3	—	83
astown, ...	1	11	70	50	25	13	3	1	1	175
k, ...	1	9	44	35	12	16	6	4	—	127
Total of Union (all Non-Congested).	37	208	863	744	248	166	67	36	3	2,372
Ballinasloe Union.										
langan, ...	8	8	37	74	29	11	3	4	1	175
reagh, ...	—	10	52	48	29	16	5	1	—	161
urreen, ...	1	38	26	29	8	2	1	1	1	107
, ...	6	9	56	43	22	11	6	4	2	159
gh, ...	1	5	16	9	2	7	1	5*	—	46
.. .. ..	1	6	34	64	25	4	—	—	—	134
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	1	6	34	64	25	4	—	—	—	134
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	16	70	187	203	90	47	16	15	4	648
Total of Union, ...	17	76	221	267	115	51	16	15	4	782
Boyle Union.										
, ...	—	17	83	47	11	3	2	—	—	163
olan, ...	2	5	53	25	4	2	—	—	—	91
rnan, ...	12	9	32	13	13	2	1	—	—	82
rmoyle, ...	—	7	87	57	15	2	—	—	—	168
.. .. ..	135	37	123	101	34	15	5	—	—	450
ee, ...	7	17	96	65	23	7	2	—	—	217
s, ...	13	13	58	54	24	10	10	3	—	215
, ...	4	12	103	82	18	5	1	—	—	225
on, ...	4	13	35	37	9	6	2	1	—	107
. .. .. .	10	20	66	65	10	6	3	—	2	182
an, ...	1	8	89	116	26	2	—	1	—	243
gh, ...	1	34	49	29	12	—	3	1	—	129
rmuck	2	26	67	62	25	9	3	—	—	194

* Scheduled as Congested.

V.—Return showing the Total Number of Holdings and the Number of various sized Holdings in the County of Roscommon in the year 1906—*continued.*

Electoral Divisions and Poor Law Unions in which situated.	Number of Holdings in each Electoral Division.									
	Not exceeding 1 Acre.	Above 1 and not exceeding 5 Acres.	Above 5 and not exceeding 15 Acres.	Above 15 and not exceeding 30 Acres.	Above 30 and not exceeding 50 Acres.	Above 50 and not exceeding 100 Acres.	Above 100 and not exceeding 200 Acres.	Above 200 and not exceeding 500 Acres.	Above 500 Acres.	T... Nu... Hol...
Boyle Union—*continued.*										
Lisgarve,	4	14	53	47	29	9	3	1	—	
*Loughallen,	4	12	111	40	5	—	—	—	—	
Mantua,	1	25	43	45	15	8	4	—	—	
Oakport,	1	6	20	30	10	3	3	1	1	
Rockingham,	5	1	21	13	10	11	15	5	1	
Rushfield,	7	4	25	58	9	9	7	1	—	
Twannagh,	5	10	30	86	42	11	2	—	—	
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	11	70	403	233	54	9	4	1	—	
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	207	250	841	839	290	111	67	16	4	2
Total of Union, ...	218	320	1,244	1,072	344	120	71	17	4	
Carrick-on-Shannon Union.										
Aughrim, East,	4	11	60	39	16	9	4	5	—	
Aughrim, West,	4	6	52	63	22	10	3	2	—	
Cloonteem,	12	20	52	29	16	10	6	2	—	
Creeve,	6	2	32	23	10	10	7	1	—	
Danesfort,	25	7	48	51	15	7	2	1	—	
Killukin,	3	4	43	28	4	6	4	1	—	
Killumad,	10	3	16	32	11	7	4	1	—	
Kilmore,	11	6	44	41	9	14	8	1	—	
*Tumna, North,	6	10	72	60	21	2	1	—	—	
*Tumna, South,	1	8	71	70	10	5	—	—	—	
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	7	18	143	130	31	7	1	—	—	
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	75	59	349	306	103	73	38	14	—	
Total of Union, ...	82	77	492	436	134	80	39	14	—	
Castlereagh Union.										
*Artagh, North,	3	72	262	182	37	10	2	2	—	
*Artagh, South,	4	57	193	106	18	9	7	1	—	
*Ballaghaderreen,	112	79	314	205	35	10	3	—	—	
*Ballinlough,	26	44	272	160	45	13	7	—	—	
Ballintober,	14	45	110	54	24	12	12	10	—	
Baslick,	—	12	56	50	9	11	—	—	—	
Bellanagare,	6	58	197	80	19	8	9	12	1	
*Buckhill,	—	56	191	52	10	4	1	—	—	
Carrowduff,	—	13	19	16	19	10	6	3	—	
Castleplunket,	10	14	30	17	17	8	24	9	1	
Castleteheen,	2	5	10	12	6	11	9	6	—	
Castlereagh,	171	56	134	89	24	21	13	3	1	
*Cloonfower,	2	18	175	68	16	4	2	1	—	
*Cloonlougher,	4	29	175	127	15	5	3	2	—	
*Edmondstown,	—	10	151	125	29	13	4	—	—	
*Fairymount,	3	27	221	92	17	7	1	—	—	
Frenchpark,	27	47	164	53	12	6	8	1	1	
*Kiltullagh,	5	50	315	140	26	6	9	3	—	
*Loughglinn,	6	109	228	132	28	4	2	—	—	
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	168	551	2,497	1,369	276	85	44	9		
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	130	250	720	411	130	85	81	44	4	
Total of Union, ...	398	801	3,217	1,780	406	170	125	53	4	

* Scheduled as Congested.

V.—Return showing the Total Number of Holdings and the Number of various sized Holdings in the County of Roscommon in the year 1906—*continued.*

Electoral Divisions and Poor Law Unions in which situated.	Number of Holdings in each Electoral Division.									
	Not exceeding 1 Acre.	Above 1 and not exceeding 5 Acres.	Above 5 and not exceeding 15 Acres.	Above 15 and not exceeding 30 Acres.	Above 30 and not exceeding 50 Acres.	Above 50 and not exceeding 100 Acres.	Above 100 and not exceeding 200 Acres.	Above 200 and not exceeding 500 Acres.	Above 500 Acres.	Total Number of Holdings.
Roscommon Union.										
gue, East, ...	3	10	36	27	12	20	13	6	—	127
gue, West, ...	21	15	76	36	22	11	9	4	—	194
.. .. ..	—	12	47	30	9	7	9	8	—	122
uskert, ...	11	38	95	62	21	8	4	—	—	239
germican, ...	2	10	27	11	4	9	19	7	—	89
daff, ...	3	21	102	77	20	5	4	—	—	232
non, ...	1	17	39	22	11	6	3	6	1	106
y, ...	7	23	74	48	23	15	8	10	—	208
de, North, ...	1	8	37	31	10	11	5	6	—	109
de, South, ...	1	11	27	51	15	16	11	4	—	136
in, ...	2	20	114	77	19	8	3	1	—	244
ran, ...	8	38	78	46	19	8	3	5	—	205
n, ...	1	6	23	34	18	17	9	6	—	114
ha	2	11	61	50	26	11	6	2	1	170
.. .. ..	2	27	63	67	33	13	6	2	1	214
mmon, ...	180	72	99	64	23	25	12	10	2	487
ylan, ...	1	38	59	30	7	8	1	5	—	149
.. .. ..	4	7	41	34	18	13	6	3	—	126
Total of Union (all Non-Congested).	250	384	1,098	797	310	211	131	85	5	3,271
Strokestown Union.										
more, ...	1	6	145	71	14	5	2	—	—	244
arden, ...	4	13	93	44	11	3	5	1	—	174
.. .. ..	9	31	91	72	15	10	7	1	—	236
dough, ...	3	22	90	59	9	7	3	2	—	195
uin, ...	—	24	92	48	12	9	5	4	—	194
r, ...	9	3	57	34	8	6	4	2	—	123
.. .. ..	2	3	46	39	11	4	5	3	—	113
.. .. ..	2	3	16	23	9	4	3	1	—	61
.. .. ..	56	15	63	45	7	3	2	1	1	198
. North, ...	9	20	120	73	18	7	7	1	—	255
. South, ...	2	14	91	73	28	18	3	—	—	229
oskan, ...	5	13	77	50	11	3	3	1	—	163
n, ...	1	6	43	43	12	10	5	2	—	122
ilty, ...	9	24	57	57	10	1	3	1	—	162
.. .. ..	—	5	10	14	12	7	7	6	1	62
.. .. ..	24	43	109	38	9	—	1	—	—	224
re, ...	5	13	26	22	14	9	8	5	—	102
town, ...	51	35	41	30	6	6	4	7	—	180
sharry, ...	6	8	79	78	10	2	1	—	—	184
.. .. ..	2	9	63	70	16	9	6	2	—	177
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	24	43	109	38	9	—	1	—	—	224
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	176	267	1,300	945	233	128	83	40	2	3,174
Total of Union, ...	200	310	1,409	983	242	128	84	40	2	3,398
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	211	698	3,186	1,834	395	105	50	10	—	6,479
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	991	1,188	5,358	4,245	1,404	821	483	250	22	15,062
Total of County, ...	1,202	2,176	8,544	6,079	1,799	926	533	260	22	21,541

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX XI.

VI.—RETURN showing the Total Area and the Chief Divisions of Land in each Electoral Division of the County of Roscommon in the year 1906.

Compiled from the Agricultural Statistics, 1906.

ELECTORAL DIVISIONS AND POOR LAW UNIONS IN WHICH SITUATED.	EXTENT IN STATUTE ACRES UNDER:— Total Area of Electoral Division.	Crops, including Hay.	Grass.	Fruit.	Fallow.	Woods and Plantations.	Turf Bog.	Marsh.	Mountain Land. Grazed.	Mountain Land. Barren.	Wa Ro Fenc
ATHLONE UNION.											
Athlone, ...	4,707	1,353	2,448	—	—	5	598	23	—	—	
Ballynanona, ...	4,921	975	2,869	—	—	4	958	24	12	—	
Caltragh, ...	3,580	880	1,975	—	—	—	49	182	—	—	
Carnagh, ...	6,202	1,393	4,264	1	—	49	19	26	16	7	
Castlesampson, ..	7,063	751	4,930	—	—	—	1,063	36	20	6	
Cloonowre, ...	2,636	759	946	—	—	—	785	—	—	—	
Crannagh, ...	6,212	1,181	2,501	—	—	5	860	1,324	—	142	
Drumlosh, ...	3,114	557	1,121	—	—	50	785	495	—	—	
Dysart, ...	5,896	827	3,246	—	—	—	1,271	343	—	—	
Kilcar, ...	3,880	746	2,992	—	—	7	67	10	—	—	
Kiltoom, ...	5,385	1,381	3,096	5	—	125	522	—	—	—	
Lecarrow, ...	3,801	707	2,640	2	—	250	19	21	—	6	
Rockhill, ...	4,904	887	3,629	—	—	38	20	12	83	—	
Taghboy, ...	4,477	734	2,758	—	—	—	822	39	—	—	
Taghmaconnell, ..	4,729	504	3,884	—	—	—	166	39	—	7	
Thomastown, ...	5,957	1,109	3,588	—	—	112	324	468	—	—	
Tarrock, ...	5,247	998	3,930	—	1	—	119	128	6	—	
Total of Union (all Non-Congested).	82,711	15,742	50,817	8	1	645	8,447	3,170	137	168	
BALLINASLOE UNION.											
Ballydangan, ...	7,933	1,560	4,295	—	—	177	827	624	—	3	
Carrowreagh, ...	7,027	969	3,972	—	—	—	1,686	30	40	41	
Cloonburren, ...	4,305	813	1,353	—	—	44	1,968	10	—	—	
Creagh, ...	6,967	1,172	3,838	—	—	127	1,478	38	80	5	
Culliagh, ...	3,929	606	1,565	—	—	91	255	776	—	—	
*Moore, ...	4,898	699	2,095	—	—	—	196	1,674	—	—	
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	4,898	699	2,095	—	—	—	196	1,674	—	—	
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	30,161	5,120	15,073	—	—	439	6,214	1,478	120	49	
Total of Union, ..	35,059	5,819	17,168	—	—	439	6,410	3,152	120	49	
BOYLE UNION.											
Aghafin, ...	3,280	648	2,130	1	—	14	359	—	—	—	
*Altagowlan, ...	2,526	373	935	—	—	—	319	12	—	826	
Ballyfarnan, ...	1,871	342	1,023	2	—	6	60	3	3	297	
*Ballyformoyle, ...	3,017	780	1,886	—	—	14	128	82	4	—	
Boyle, ...	6,846	1,444	4,122	2	—	54	70	5	385	—	
Breedoge, ...	4,452	1,312	2,403	—	—	2	314	88	2	3	
Croghan, ...	5,922	1,251	3,931	—	—	123	192	6	—	4	
*Crossna, ...	4,427	1,144	2,568	—	—	7	389	3	—	—	
Esteranon, ...	2,969	683	1,408	—	—	7	594	132	—	5	
Keadue, ...	5,787	712	2,807	2	—	406	358	2	816	225	
Kilbryan, ...	5,293	1,164	3,470	1	—	142	47	2	14	6	
*Kilcolagh, ...	2,800	696	1,253	—	—	—	570	119	—	4	
Kilmacumsikey, ..	4,659	1,077	2,765	—	—	—	496	51	—	6	

* Scheduled as Congested.

VI.—RETURN showing the Total Area and the Chief Divisions of Land in each Electoral Division of the County of Roscommon in the year 1906—*continued.*

TORAL DIVISIONS AND POOR LAW UNIONS WHICH SITUATED.	EXTENT IN STATUTE ACRES UNDER.—										
	Total Area of Electoral Division.	Crops, including Hay.	Grass.	Fruit.	Fallow.	Woods and Plain-tations.	Turf Bog.	Marsh.	Mountain Land.		Water, Roads, Fences, &c.
									Grazed.	Barren.	
E UNION—*continued.*											
rne, ...	4,059	999	2,758	—	—	2	148	2	—	5	145
n Allen, ...	2,386	533	1,572	—	—	—	48	—	52	82	49
ua, ...	3,598	1,005	1,945	—	—	83	772	20	—	—	73
ort, ...	3,467	490	2,437	—	—	214	189	—	—	—	137
ugham, ...	6,841	1,266	4,111	15	—	1,125	206	—	—	—	118
rld, ...	5,038	999	3,507	1	—	10	301	—	—	12	208
nagh, ...	5,167	1,055	2,659	—	—	3	573	—	606	10	261
tal of Congested Electoral Divisions.	15,106	3,526	8,214	—	—	21	1,454	215	56	912	708
tal of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	69,549	14,397	41,476	24	—	2,191	4,688	311	1,826	573	4,063
tal of Union, ..	84,655	17,023	49,690	24	—	2,212	6,142	526	1,882	1,485	4,771
ICK-ON-SHANNON UNION.											
im East, ..	4,964	1,102	3,409	1	—	95	83	1	—	—	273
im West, ..	4,572	1,309	2,944	—	—	—	101	—	—	—	218
reem, ...	4,158	1,009	2,464	2	—	133	79	101	—	—	370
e, ...	3,509	738	2,472	—	—	20	144	—	—	—	135
ort, ...	3,137	1,045	1,843	6	—	8	15	—	—	—	220
in, ...	2,732	779	1,811	1	—	23	31	—	—	—	87
ad, ...	3,000	571	2,029	—	—	—	256	—	—	—	144
re, ...	4,273	1,057	2,616	—	—	41	39	158	—	—	362
North, ..	3,383	927	1,977	—	—	2	232	88	—	90	67
South, ..	3,790	669	2,135	—	—	—	797	10	—	—	179
al of Congested Electoral Divisions.	7,173	1,596	4,112	—	—	2	1,029	98	—	90	246
al of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	30,345	7,610	19,586	10	—	320	748	260	—	—	1,809
al of Union, ..	37,518	9,206	23,700	10	—	322	1,777	358	—	90	2,055
TLEREAGH UNION.											
North, ..	9,298	2,240	4,816	—	—	—	1,703	46	—	—	403
South, ..	8,931	1,447	2,827	—	—	49	3,497	138	—	—	973
naderreen, ..	11,026	2,241	7,143	—	—	10	688	110	220	27	587
ough, ...	12,162	2,445	6,007	—	—	114	1,763	170	770	45	848
ober, ...	9,675	1,522	6,767	—	—	328	615	23	—	—	420
.. .. ..	4,249	771	1,725	—	—	—	1,508	41	—	—	204
are, ...	12,406	2,178	7,968	3	—	170	1,566	75	—	—	446
l, ...	5,602	1,157	2,878	—	—	—	1,130	161	—	5	263
tuff, ...	4,559	586	3,662	—	—	8	105	—	—	—	198
unkett, ...	9,289	1,282	7,507	—	—	55	—	2	—	—	443
heen	5,028	719	4,063	—	—	55	—	1	—	—	190
agh, ...	9,912	2,629	5,764	6	—	215	730	101	86	—	381
wer, ...	8,455	1,547	2,105	1	—	42	3,954	42	412	44	308
ber	9,446	1,875	3,525	—	—	103	3,125	33	428	32	325	
stown, ...	8,146	1,427	3,503	1	—	7	2,788	—	112	—	308
ane, ...	8,262	1,809	3,233	—	—	—	2,313	174	349	85	299
ark, ...	7,863	1,652	3,853	—	—	224	1,666	78	—	—	390
gh, ...	11,053	2,359	6,252	—	—	14	784	106	510	50	969
ane, ...	8,301	1,844	4,083	—	—	342	1,380	43	—	—	609
of Congested Electoral Divisions.	100,682	20,391	46,372	2	—	681	23,215	1,023	2,810	291	5,897
of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	62,981	11,339	41,309	9	—	1,055	6,190	321	86	—	2,672
.. ..	163,663	31,730	87,681	11	—	1,736	29,405	1,344	2,896	291	8,569

* Scheduled as Congested.

APPENDIX XI

VI.—RETURN showing the Total Area and the Chief Divisions of Land in each Electoral Division of the County of Roscommon in the year 1906—*continued.*

ELECTORAL DIVISIONS AND POOR LAW UNIONS IN WHICH SITUATED.	EXTENT IN STATUTE ACRES UNDER :—									
	Total Area of Electoral Division.	Crops, including Hay.	Grass.	Fruit.	Fallow.	Woods and Plantations.	Turf Bog.	Marsh.	Mountain Land.		Water Roads Fences
									Grazed.	Barren.	
ROSCOMMON UNION.											
Athleague East, ..	6,865	912	5,740	—	—	2	15	53	32	—	
Athleague West, ..	5,782	1,437	3,879	—	—	47	69	118	118	—	
Cams, ...	6,024	838	4,639	—	—	—	266	—	—	15	
Cloontuskert	6,042	1,714	2,364	2	—	—	1,698	—	—	—	
Cloonygormican, ..	6,816	958	5,410	—	—	104	120	2	—	—	
Drumdaff, ...	5,142	1,499	2,753	3	—	3	593	—	—	—	
Dunamon, ...	5,172	637	3,858	—	—	38	469	9	—	39	
Fuerty	7,807	1,593	5,756	—	—	32	225	62	—	—	
Kilbride North, ..	5,046	709	3,837	—	—	—	263	—	—	—	
Kilbride South, ..	6,753	944	4,585	—	—	24	883	—	—	—	
Kilgiffin, ...	5,269	1,563	2,681	2	—	11	507	—	138	—	
Kilteeran, ...	7,077	1,142	3,817	4	3	140	1,539	101	—	10	
Lackan, ...	5,782	1,073	4,343	—	—	3	—	27	—	—	
Lismaha, ...	6,184	1,367	2,909	—	—	488	476	342	49	—	
Moate, ...	7,832	1,728	4,525	—	—	145	856	74	—	48	
Roscommon, ...	11,499	2,071	8,664	—	—	82	262	75	—	—	
Rosmoylan, ...	4,683	1,051	2,275	—	—	316	886	42	—	—	
Scregg, ...	4,570	1,053	3,314	—	—	2	—	58	—	—	
Total of Union (all Non-Congested).	114,345	22,289	75,349	11	3	1,437	9,127	963	337	112	4,
STROKESTOWN UNION.											
Annaghmore, ...	4,522	1,514	2,524	—	—	—	46	229	—	—	
Ballygarden, ...	3,944	1,220	2,240	7	—	7	191	83	—	—	
Bumlin, ...	5,996	1,039	3,560	—	—	98	951	3	11	—	
Clonfinlough, ...	4,441	916	2,876	1	—	2	438	34	—	—	
Cloonquin, ...	5,226	1,207	3,624	—	—	20	68	18	—	—	
Creeve, ...	3,333	689	2,126	1	—	10	210	119	—	—	
Cregga, ...	3,614	675	2,396	—	—	30	51	217	—	83	
Elia, ...	2,371	409	1,455	—	—	—	154	109	—	—	
Elphin, ...	3,743	977	2,576	4	—	27	7	—	—	—	
Kilglass North, ..	5,685	1,268	3,507	—	—	37	325	23	—	—	
Kilgass South ..	6,016	1,257	3,624	—	—	83	597	2	—	—	
Killavaskan, ...	3,412	682	1,982	1	—	—	23	—	489	—	
Killukin, ...	4,126	720	3,010	—	—	—	80	92	—	—	
Lissonaffy, ...	6,888	1,049	1,453	—	—	5	3,824	—	358	—	
Ogulla, ...	4,815	665	3,952	—	—	54	—	—	—	—	
*Rooskey, ...	4,623	1,016	1,300	—	—	4	1,555	393	—	—	
Rossmore, ...	4,466	730	3,398	—	—	17	79	71	—	10	
Strokestown, ...	4,481	836	3,226	5	—	84	145	30	—	—	
Termonbarry, ...	3,952	1,204	1,881	—	—	—	459	382	—	—	
Tulsk, ...	4,685	1,089	3,097	—	—	5	110	110	—	—	
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions.	4,623	1,016	1,300	—	—	4	1,555	393	—	—	
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions.	85,716	18,146	52,507	19	—	479	7,758	1,322	858	93	4
Total of Union, ..	90,339	19,162	53,807	19	—	483	9,313	1,715	858	93	4
Total of Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	132,482	27,228	62,093	2	—	708	27,449	3,403	2,866	1,293	7
Total of Non-Congested Electoral Divisions in County.	475,808	94,643	296,119	81	4	6,566	43,172	7,825	3,364	995	2
Total of Co. Roscommon,	608,290	121,871	358,212	8	4	7,274	70,621	11,228	6,230	2,288	3

* Scheduled as Congested.

G.—TABLES SHOWING THE WORKING OF THE LAND ACTS IN CO. ROSCOMMON.

1. TABLE showing the Number of Cases in County Roscommon in which Judicial Rents have been fixed by all the Methods provided by the Land Law Acts, for First and Secondary Terms, from the commencement of Proceedings to 31st March, 1906; and also a Summary of the Acreages, Rents of Holdings prior to the creation of First Statutory Term, Rents of Holdings for a First Statutory Term, and Rents of Holdings for a Second Statutory Term. (Arranged from the Report of the Irish Land Commissioners for the year ending 31st March, 1906, pp. 72 and 74.)

First or Second Statutory Term.	Number of Cases in which Judicial Rents have been fixed.	Acreage. Statute Measure.	Rents of Holdings prior to creation of First Statutory Term.	Judicial Rents fixed for a First Statutory Term.	Percentage of Reduction.	Judicial Rents fixed for a Second Statutory Term.	Percentage of Reduction of Rents fixed for a Second Statutory Term on Rents fixed for a First Statutory Term.
		A. R P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
First Term, ..	13,605	290,754 1 3½	176,236 11 0½	137,864 0 2	21·8	—	—
Second Term, ..	2,961	68,454 3 22½	47,215 13 4	37,371 11 10	17·4	30,852 3 2	17·4

2. TABLE showing the Number of Loans issued in County Roscommon under the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1885 (Advances in Cash), the Number of Estates, and the Total Acreage and Rental of the Holdings in respect of which the Loans have been issued; also the Total Purchase-money and the amount of Loans obtained from Land Commission, and the Number of Years' Purchase of Rent, during the period from 22nd August, 1885, to 31st March, 1902.

During the four years ended 31st March, 1906, there were no further proceedings towards purchase taken under this Act.

Taken from the Report of the Irish Land Commissioners for the year ended 31st March, 1906, p. 94.

Number of Loans.	Number of Estates.	Area in Statute Measure.	Net Rent (a).	Purchase-money agreed upon.	Amount of Loans.	Number of year's purchase of Rent.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£	£	
649	39	14,454 0 11	7,361 1 8	121,379	118,149	16·4

(a) The Rents stated in this Return are the Rents payable by the Tenants previous to the sale, except in a few cases where the Tenants agreed to purchase subject to a Head Rent, Crown Rent, Tithe Rent, or Drainage Charge or other outgoing, previously payable by the Landlord and in such cases the outgoing has been deducted from the Rent previously payable by the Tenant.

3. TABLE showing the Number of Loans issued in County Roscommon under the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Acts, 1891, 1896 (Advances in Guaranteed Land Stock), and the Total Acreage and Rental of the Holdings in respect of which the Loans have been issued; the Total Purchase-money and the Amount of Loans obtained from the Land Commission, and the Number of Years' Purchase of Rent, during the period ended 31st March, 1906.

Taken from the Report of the Irish Land Commissioners for the year ended 31st March, 1906, p. 116.

Number of Loans.	Area in Statute Measure.	Rent.	Purchase-money.	Amount of Loans.	Number of years' purchase of Rent.
	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£	£	
2,422	54,274 2 3	24,839 13 9	442,292	437,018	17·8

4. TABLE showing the Number of Loans issued in County Roscommon under the Irish Land Act, 1903 (exclusive of Estates Commissioners' transactions), the Total Acreage and Rental of Holdings in respect of which the Loans have been issued; also the Total Purchase-money, and the amount of Loans obtained from the Land Commission, and the Number of Years' Purchase of Rent, during the period ending 31st March, 1906.

Taken from the Report of the Irish Land Commissioners for the year ended 31st March, 1906, p. 139.

Number of Loans.	Area in Statute Measure.	Rent.	Purchase-money.	Amount of Loans.	Number of years' purchase of Rent.
	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£	£	
518	9,744 2 36	3,839 6 9	75,253	74,052	19·5

5. Summary of Advances made by Estates Commissioners during the Period from 1st November, 1903, to 31st March, 1906.

Taken from the Report of the Estates Commissioners for Year ended 31st March, 1906, pp. 82 and 83.

COUNTY.	Direct Sales.					Sections 6 & 8: Estates purchased by the Land Commission.					Section 7: Estates purchased by the Land Commission.					Sections 72 & 79.					Total.				
			Purchase Money.					Purchase Money.					Purchase Money.					Purchase Money.					Purchase Money.		
	Number of Estates.	Number of Purchasers.	Price.	Amount of Advances.	Amount of Payments in Cash.	Number of Estates.	Number of Proposed Purchasers.	Price.	Amount of Advances.	Amount of Proposed Payments in Cash.	Number of Estates.	Number of Proposed Purchasers.	Price	Amount of Advances.	Amount of Proposed Payments in Cash.	Number of Estates.	Number of Purchasers.	Price.	Amount of Advances.	Amount of Proposed Payments in Cash.	Number of Estates.	Number of Purchasers.	Price.	Amount of Advances.	Amount of Payments in Cash.
1.	2	3	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.
			£	£	£			£	£	£			£	£	£			£	£	£			£	£	£
Roscommon Non-Congested.	20	201	258,396	249,248	9,148	3	1,287	329,888	329,657	231	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	1,988	588,284	578,905	9,379
Do. Congested, ..	5	451	41,164	41,164	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	451	41,164	41,164	

The following detailed information as regards direct sales is taken from the Report of the Estates Commissioners for 1906 (pp. 28 to 35):—

In the County Roscommon (non-congested), 498 holdings, subject to judicial rents, fixed, or agreed to, before the 14th August, 1896 (commonly called first term rents), amounting to £5,473 1*s.* 2*d.*, were sold at a price which came within the zones, the number of years' purchase being 22·2, and the percentage of reduction in the purchase annuity, as compared with the rent, being 27·8. Twelve holdings were sold at prices which came outside the zones. Of these, four holdings, subject to a rental of £37 19*s.* 6*d.*, were sold for 16·4 years' purchase, the percentage of reduction being 46·7, *i.e.*, a reduction greater than the maximum zone reduction. Eight holdings, subject to a rental of £329 17*s.* 6*d.*, were sold for 25·1 years' purchase, the percentage of reduction being 18·4, which is less than the minimum zone reduction.

In the County Roscommon (congested), 341 holdings, subject to judicial rents fixed, or agreed to, before the 14th August, 1896 (commonly called first term rents), amounting to £1,537 16*s.* 6*d.*, were sold at prices which came within the zones; the average number of years' purchase being 20·4, and the average percentage of reduction in the purchase annuity, as compared with the rent, being 33·7. Three holdings were sold at prices outside the zones. Of these, two holdings, subject to a rental of £10 19*s.* 6*d.*, were sold for 16·4 years' purchase, the percentage of reduction being 46·7, which is greater than the maximum zone reduction. One holding, subject to a rental of 8*s.*, was sold for 25 years' purchase, the percentage of reduction being 18·7, which is less than the minimum zone reduction.

As regards holdings subject to rents fixed, or agreed to, since the 14th August, 1896 (commonly called second term rents), 49, subject to a rental of £1,146 4*s.*, were sold in Roscommon (non-congested), at an average of 25·2 years' purchase; the average percentage of reduction being 18·1. Sixteen holdings were sold at a price outside the zones; the rental being £124 19*s.* 10*d.*; the average number of years' purchase being 20·8, and the average percentage of reduction being 32·4, *i.e.*, a greater percentage than the maximum zone reduction.

In Roscommon (congested) 60 holdings, subject to second term rents of £260 8*s.*, were sold, within the zones, for an average of 23·2 years' purchase; the average percentage of reduction being 24·6. Two holdings, subject to a second term rent of £8 6*s.* 9*d.*, were sold, outside the zones, for an average of 19·2 years' purchase; the average percentage of reduction being 37·6, which is greater than the maximum zone reduction.

As regards non-judicial rent cases, 215 holdings in Roscommon (non-congested), subject to a rental of £2,725 14*s.* 10*d*, were sold for an average of 22·9 years' purchase: the average percentage of reduction being 25·5. In Roscommon (congested), 45 holdings, subject to a rental of £178 3*s.* 10*d.*, were sold for 18·9 years' purchase; the percentage of reduction being 18·5. Six holdings, subject to a rental of £338 3*s.* 3*d.*, were sold for £8,158, and of this sum £3,158 was paid in cash by the purchasers. Twelve

II.- STATEMENT SHOWING, BY UNIONS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS, THE ESTATES PURCHASED BY THE CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON (a).

Supplied by the Congested Districts Board.

Union.	Electoral Division.	Estate.	AREA.					Poor Law Valuation.	Rental.	Purchase Money.
			Congested.	Non-Congested.	Tenanted.	Untenanted.	Total.			
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	£	£	£
CASTLEREA.	Ballaghadereen, Buckill,	Waldron, ..	1,437	—	753	684	1,437	792	319	17,549
	Castleteheen, ..	Mrs. M. Glancy,	—	534	—	534	534	493	—	11,500
	Castlerea, Castleteheen,	W. J. M'Dermott,	—	322	3	319	322	326	2	8,250
	Belanagare. ..	R. Flynn, ..	—	190	—	190	190	123	—	3,100
	Ballinlough, Kiltullagh,	Crichton, ..	1,092	—	1,092	—	1,092	334	287	6,284
	Kiltullagh, ..	P. M. Leonard, ..	785	—	312	473	785	226	94	5,968
	Belanagare, Buckill, Artagh North,	J. C. Murphy, ..	3,638	1,778	3,746	1,670	5,416	1,859	1,427	35,362
	Belanagare, ..	P. C. Morris, ..	—	364	—	364	364	336	—	6,500
	Ballintober, ..	Glancy Wellsgrove.	—	282	—	282	282	190	—	5,714
	Baslick, ..	A. J. Kelly, ..	—	257	97	160	257	43	32	900
	Loughglynn, ..	Dr. Ellison, ..	286	—	286	—	286	50	43	960
	Frenchpark, Kiltullagh,	R. O. Longfield,*	714	3,014	1,429	2,299	3,728	1,721	493	40,100
	Buckill, Fairymount, Frenchpark, Artagh, North, Artagh, South, Belanagare,	De Freyne,† ..	24,744	7,119	24,747	7,116	31,863	12,189	9,671	195,040
	Castleteheen, ..	Capt. C. French,*	—	818	—	818	818	802	—	18,400
	Castlereagh, ..	J. Fitzgibbon's Farm.	—	49	—	49	49	32	—	1,210
		Totals, ..	32,696	14,727	32,465	14,958	47,423	19,516	12,368	356,837
STROKES-TOWN.	Cloonyquin, ..	Major French, ..	—	1,073	313	760	1,073	1,001	225	22,918
	Do., ..	Mr. Kelly (Kilnanoan).	—	172	—	172	172	197	—	4,600
		Totals, ..	—	1,245	313	932	1,245	1,198	225	27,518
ROSCOMMON.	Athleague, ..	R. O. Longfield,‡								
	Carrowduff, ..	De Freyne,‡ ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Cloonygormican,	Capt. French,‡ ..								

NOTE.—The portion of the Dillon Estate in the Castlerea Union has been included in the figures given for Swineford Union, Co. Mayo, the particulars for each section could not be accurately apportioned.

(a) See also Map facing p. 300.

* Including portion of estate in Roscommon Union.

† The particulars of the portion of this estate in Roscommon Union are included in these figures, as the figures for each Union cannot be apportioned.

‡ The particulars of the sections of these estates in Roscommon Union have been included in the figures given for the Castlerea Union figures.

APPENDIX XI.

I.—LIST OF PARISH COMMITTEE GRANTS AND EXPENDITURE IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON

Taken from the 16th Report of the Congested Districts Board, p. 96.

Parish.	Poor Law Union.	Net Amount of Grants made to 31st March, 1906.	Gross Grants sanctioned for 1906-7.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Gurteen, ...	Boyle, ...	159 7 8	—
Kilkeevan, ...	Castlerea, ...	249 18 3	100 0 0
Loughglynn and Lisacull, ...	Castlereagh, ...	587 6 9	—
Kilglass, ...	Strokestown, ...	303 5 6	50 0 0
Tibohine, ...	Castlerea, ...	88 5 0	—
	Totals, ...	1,388 3 2	150 0 0

N.B.—There are six Parish Committees at work in six of the ten congested parishes in County Roscommon.

J.—STATEMENT OF PARISH COMMITTEE SCHEME AND SANITARY EXPENDITURE IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON.

STATEMENT showing Total Amounts expended on Improvements (exclusive of Cost of Supervision) for the years 1900 to 1906; the Expenditure on the Erection and Improvement of Dwelling-houses and Out-offices in the years 1900 to 1906; and the average annual Salaries of Sanitary Officers in the Rural Districts containing Congested Districts, together with the aggregate sums paid in 1905 for Salaries to these Officers.

Supplied by the Congested Districts Board.

Rural District.	Total Expenditure on improvement works of all kinds undertaken under the scheme for the years 1900 to 1906.	Expenditure on the erection and improvement of Dwelling-houses and Out-offices in 1900 to 1906.	Medical Officer of Health.			Consulting Sanitary Officer.	Executive Sanitary Officer—one in each Rural District.	Sub-Sanitary Officer.			Total Amount paid for Salaries in Rural District.
			Number in Rural District.	Total paid for Salaries.	Average Rate of Salary.	Total paid for Salary.		Number in Rural District.	Total paid for Salaries.	Average Rate of Salary.	
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Carrick-on-Shannon (part of).	Nil	Nil	1	20 0 0	20 0 0	9 2 8	13 13 8	3	11 8 0	3 16 0	54 4 4
Boyle (part of).	Nil	Nil	4	36 0 4	9 0 1	2 19 0	11 15 8	3	13 0 0	4 6 8	63 15 0
Castlerea,	2,185	1,985	4	80 0 0	20 0 0	10 0 0	20 0 0	3	24 0 0	8 0 0	134 0 0
Strokestown.	267	249	3	60 0 0	20 0 0	10 0 0	30 0 0	2	12 0 0	6 0 0	112 0 0
Ballinasloe (part of).	Nil	Nil	1	14 0 0	14 0 0	—	2 8 0	1	5 0 0	5 0 0	21 8 0
Total,	2,452	2,234	13	210 0 4	16 3 1	32 1 8	77 17 4	12	65 8 0	5 9 0	385 7 4

K.—STATEMENT SHOWING ROADS, BRIDGES, AND OTHER INLAND WORKS UNDERTAKEN IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON BY THE BOARD UP TO THE 31st MARCH, 1907.

Taken from the 16th Report of the Congested Districts Board, p. 87.

No.	Name of Work.	Total Expenditure to 31st March, 1906.	Expenditure, 1906-1907.	Total Expenditure to 31st March, 1907.	Observations.
		£	£	£	
1	Ariana Road Repairs.	4	—	4	Completed.

L.—LOCAL TAXATION IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON.

The following STATEMENTS show (1) the Poor Rates in each Electoral Division in each Union for the financial years ending in 1881 and 1891; (2) County Cess in each Barony in the County in 1891—there is no official information available as to County Cess in 1881, and (3) fuller details about the new Poor Rate for 1901 and 1905. It must, however, be pointed out that the Rates in 1881 and 1891 cannot be compared with the Rates in 1901 and 1905. Prior to the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, Poor Rate was charged to Electoral Divisions and County Cess to Baronies. Now Union charges are levied over the whole Union, District charges on Rural Districts, County charges on the County, separate charges on special areas, and the whole is complicated by the charges made in the rates by the Local Government Act of 1898.

Before that Act the Poor Rate was paid by the tenant (except in the case of holdings valued at £4 and under, where the landlord paid), but the tenant was entitled to deduct part of the amount paid from his rent, usually half. County Cess was paid and borne by the occupier, except in the case of holdings let after the 1st August, 1870. In these cases, if the holding was valued at over £4, the tenant paid, but was entitled to deduct from his rent part of the amount paid, usually one-half. If the holding was valued at £4 or under, the County Cess was paid by the landlord.

Under the Act a Grant in Aid, called the Agricultural Grant, and amounting to £727,655, is made annually to the local authorities. This grant is equal to half the combined Poor Rate and County Cess which was certified to be taken to have been raised off agricultural land in what was known as the standard financial year. The balance of the money required for purposes formerly met out of the County Cess and the Poor Rate is now provided by means of the new Poor Rate, County Cess being no longer collected *eo nomine*.

The Act was intended to secure the benefit of the Agricultural Grant in respect of existing tenancies to the landlords as regards the old Poor Rate, and to the tenant as regards the County Cess. In order to effect this it was provided that in the case of tenancies existing at the 1st April, 1899, the tenant should, in general, pay the new Poor Rate, but that the rent should be adjusted in such a way as to secure to landlord and tenant their respective shares of the benefit of the Agricultural Grant. In the case of tenancies created after the 1st April, 1899, the tenant must, in general, pay the Poor Rate, and has no right to deduct anything from his rent. Where a fair rent is fixed after the 1st April, 1899, special provision is made by Section 55 to ensure permanently to the occupier and the landlord their respective benefits from the Agricultural Grant.

1. STATEMENT showing the Poor Rate in the Pound made in the Electoral Divisions of the Unions which are included wholly or partly in County Roscommon for the financial years 1881 and 1891.

Specially prepared by the Local Government Board.

UNION.	Electoral Divisions.	Poor Rate.		UNION.	Electoral Divisions	Poor Rate	
		1881.	1891.			1881	1891
		s. d.	*s. d.*			*s. d.*	*s. d.*
ATHLONE (part of), ..	Athlone West Rural, ..	2 6	2 0	BOYLE (part of), ..	Aghafin, ...	1 1	1 9
	Ballynamona, ..	1 7	1 5		Altagowlan, ...	2 0	1 10
	Caltragh, ...	1 4	1 4		Ballyfarnan, ...	3 4	2 5
	Carnagh, ...	0 9	1 3		Balyformoyle, ..	2 0	1 10
	Castlesampson, ..	1 4	1 4		Boyle, ...	2 6	2 4
	Cloonown, ...	1 2	1 2		Breedoge, ...	1 8	1 7
	Crannagh, ...	1 3	1 6		Croghan, ...	1 1	0 10
	Drumlosh, ...	0 9	0 11		Crossna, ...	2 2	2 1
	Dysart, ...	1 6	1 4		Easternew, ...	1 10	1 9
	Kilcar, ...	0 10	1 0		Keadew, ...	1 4	1 0
	Kiltoom, ...	1 10	1 6		Kilbryan, ...	1 10	1 3
	Lecarrow, ...	0 10	1 4		Kilcolagh, ...	2 4	1 9
	Rock Hill, ...	0 11	1 5		Kilmacumsy, ..	1 2	1 7
	Taghboy, ...	1 1	1 7		Lisgarve, ...	1 6	1 4
	Taghmaconnell, ..	0 11	1 0		Lough Allen, ..	1 2	2 6
	Thomastown, ..	1 3	1 5		Mantua, ...	0 10	1 3
	Turrock, ...	1 8	1 4		Oakport, ...	1 10	1 0
					Rockingham, ..	1 2	1 0
					Rushfield, ...	1 8	1 0
BALLINASLOE (part of),	Ballydangan, ..	1 9	1 10		Tivannagh, ...	2 6	1 9
	Carrowreagh, ..	1 10	2 2				
	Cloonbruren, ...	2 4	2 2	CARRICK-ON-SHANNON (part of).	Aughrim East, ..	1 8	0 10
	Creagh Urban, ..	1 9	2 0		Aughrim West, ..	2 2	1 2
	Creagh Rural, ..	1 9	2 1		Clounteem, ...	1 8	1 2
	Culliagh, ...	1 0	1 6		Creeve, ...	2 0	1 2
	Moore, ...	2 8	1 8		Danesfort, ...	1 6	2 0

APPENDIX XI.

1. STATEMENT showing the Poor Rate in the Pound made in the Electoral Divisions of the Unions which are included wholly or partly in County Roscommon for the financial years 1881 and 1901—*continued.*

Union.	Electoral Divisions.	Poor Rate. 1881.	Poor Rate. 1891.	Union.	Electoral Divisions.	Poor Rate. 1881.	Poor Rate. 1891.
		s. d.	s. d.			s. d.	s. d.
CARRICK-ON-SHANNON (part of)—*con.*	Killukin, ...	1 8	1 0	ROSCOMMON—*con.*,	Dunamon, ...	1 11	1 3
	Killumod, ...	3 2	1 2		Fuerty, ...	2 0	1 6
	Kilmore, ...	1 6	1 2		Kilbride North, ..	1 5	1 3
	Tumna North, ..	2 0	2 0		Kilbride South, ..	1 10	1 5
	Tumna South, ..	3 2	2 0		Kilgefin, ...	2 1	1 10
					Kilteevan, ...	2 4	1 10
CASTLEREAGH, ..	Artagh North, ..	2 1	1 6		Lackan, ...	1 4	0 11
	Artagh South, ..	3 2	1 8		Lismaha, ...	1 5	1 3
	Ballaghaderreen, ..	2 4	1 0		Mote, ...	1 10	1 10
	Ballinlough, ...	2 10	1 10		Roscommon, ..	3 0	2 0
	Ballintober, ...	1 10	1 0		Rosmoylan, ...	1 4	1 4
	Baslick, ...	2 9	0 8		Scregg, ...	2 6	1 6
	Bellanagare, ...	5 1	1 0	STROKESTOWN, ..	Annaghmore, ..	3 0	2 6
	Buckill, ...	1 4	1 6		Ballygarden, ...	3 0	2 1
	Carrowduff, ...	0 10	0 6		Bumlin, ...	2 2	1 8
	Castleplunkett ..	1 1	0 6		Cloonfinlough, ..	1 10	1 5
	Castlerea, ...	2 1	1 0		Cloonyquin, ...	1 10	1 5
	Castleteheen, ...	1 2	0 6		Creeve, ...	2 8	1 11
	Cloonfower, ...	2 7	0 8		Cregga, ...	1 6	1 8
	Coolougher, ...	2 4	1 4		Elia, ...	1 7	1 8
	Edmondstown, ..	1 11	0 8		Elphin, ...	2 9	1 10
	Fairymount, ...	2 8	2 0		Kilglass North, ..	3 0	2 2
	Frenchpark, ...	1 11	1 0		Kilglass South, ..	2 8	1 9
	Kiltullagh, ...	2 0	1 4		Killavackan, ...	3 0	1 7
	Loughglynn, ...	1 7	1 0		Killukin, ...	1 10	1 4
					Lissonuffy, ...	3 0	1 10
ROSCOMMON, ..	Athleague East, ..	1 11	1 4		Ogulla, ...	1 5	1 0
	Athleague West, ..	2 4	1 7		Roosky, ...	4 0	3 0
	Cams, ...	2 4	1 5		Rossmore, ...	1 5	1 2
	Cloontuskert, ..	2 1	1 6		Strokestown, ..	3 0	2 1
	Cloonygormican, ..	1 9	1 1		Termonbarry, ..	2 2	1 10
	Drumdaff, ...	1 8	1 6		Tulsk, ...	2 0	1 7

2. STATEMENT showing the County Cess on each Barony of the County of Roscommon for the financial year ended in 1891.

Supplied by the Local Government Board.

Name of Barony.	County Cess, 1891.
	s. d.
Athlone North, ...	1 4½
Athlone South, ...	1 6½
Ballintubber North, ...	1 11½
Ballintubber South, ...	2 0½
Ballymoe, ...	1 1½
Boyle, ...	1 10½
Castlerea, ...	1 7½
Frenchpark, ...	1 8½
Moycarnan, ...	1 11½
Roscommon, ...	1 6½

3.—STATEMENT showing the POOR RATES in RURAL DISTRICTS in COUNTY ROSCOMMON during the year ended the 31st of March, 1901, with the sums collected in respect thereof; also the latest valuation of each Rural District.

Taken from the Local Taxation Returns, 1900–1901, pp. 62 and 63.

RURAL DISTRICTS.	Poor Rate.									Amount of Poor Rate collected.			Valuation, 1902.
	On Agricultural Land.				On other Hereditaments.				Additional item for separate charges.	General Rate.	Rates for separate charges.	Total.	
	County charges.	Union charges	District charges.	Total.	County charges.	Union charges.	District charges.	Total.					
	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	£	£	£	£
Athlone No. 2, ..	1 3	0 9	0 4	2 4	1 6	1 6	0 10	3 10	—	5,360	142	5,502	33,046
Ballinasloe No. 2, ..	1 3	0 5	—	1 8	1 6	1 2	0 6	3 2	—	1,468	17	1,485	10,387
Boyle No. 1, ..	1 3	0 10	0 1	2 2	1 6	1 6	0 8	3 8	—	8,499	66	8,565	44,667
Carrick-on-Shannon No. 2.	1 3	0 8	0 1	2 0	1 6	1 6	0 8	3 8	—	3,012	39	3,051	22,253
Castlereagh, ..	1 2	0 8	0 4	2 2	1 6	1 4	0 8	3 6	—	12,551	667	13,218	75,023
Roscommon, ..	1 3	0 8	0 3	2 2	1 6	1 4	0 8	3 6	—	11,344	402	11,746	64,606
Strokestown, ..	1 2	0 5	0 5	2 0	1 6	1 0	0 10	3 4	—	8,842	289	9,131	51,046
										51,076	1,622	52,698	
												61	Arrears.
												52,759	

4.—STATEMENT showing the POOR RATES in RURAL DISTRICTS in COUNTY ROSCOMMON for the year ended the 31st of March, 1906, with the sums collected in respect thereof during the year; also the latest rateable valuation of each Rural District.

Taken from the Local Taxation Returns, 1905–6, pp. 60 and 61.

RURAL DISTRICTS.	Poor Rate.									Amount of Poor Rate collected.	Population in 1901.	Rateable Valuation (1907).	Area in Acres.
	On Agricultural Land.				On other Hereditaments.				Additional item for separate charges.				
	County charges.	Union charges.	District charges.	Total.	County Charges.	Union Charges.	District Charges.	Total.					
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	£		£	
Athlone No. 2, ..	0 9	0 11	0 4	2 0	1 0	1 8	0 9	3 5	—	3,569	10,701	32,982	90,091
Ballinasloe No. 2, ..	0 9	0 11	0 10	2 6	1 0	1 7	1 6	4 1	—	1,433	3,681	10,391	35,331
Boyle No. 1, ..	0 9	0 9	0 7	2 1	1 0	1 5	1 2	3 7	—	5,187	16,868	44,706	90,716
Carrick-on-Shannon No. 2.	0 9	0 8	0 3	1 8	1 0	1 5	0 11	3 4	—	2,076	6,241	22,315	39,359
Castlerea, ..	0 9	0 10	0 6	2 1	1 0	1 6	1 0	3 6	—	9,117	33,576	75,018	164,620
Roscommon, ..	0 9	0 8	0 5	1 10	1 0	1 4	0 11	3 3	—	7,075	15,164	64,848	117,882
Strokestown, ..	0 9	0 5	0	1 9	1 0	1 0	1 0	3 0	—	4,657	15,560	51,166	93,685
										33,114			

APPENDIX XI.

5.—STATEMENT showing the amount of Salaries paid under the Public Health Acts in each Rural District for the financial year ended 31st March, 1905.

Supplied by the Local Government Board.

RURAL DISTRICTS.	Total Amount.	Amount Recouped by Government Grant.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Athlone No. 2, ...	96 10 0	42 15 6
Ballinasloe No. 2, ...	25 8 0	10 14 0
Boyle No. 1, ...	63 15 0	31 17 6
Carrick-on-Shannon No. 2, ..	54 4 4	27 2 2
Castlereagh, ...	219 10 0	67 0 0
Roscommon, ...	121 10 0	56 15 0
Strokestown, ...	162 0 0	55 0 11
Total, ...	742 17 4	291 5 1

6.—STATEMENT as to Expenditure on Labourers' Cottages.

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 194 of 1906.

STATEMENT showing in respect of each Rural District (1) the Valuation. (2) Number of Labourers' Cottage (*a*) built; (*b*) in course of construction. (3) Amount of Loans (*a*) sanctioned; (*b*) received. (4) Amount require to be raised annually in repayment of Loans sanctioned. (5) Amount which would be raised by the maximu rate of one shilling in the pound allowed for purposes of Acts. (6) Rate per pound required to raise amou specified in Column 4. (7) Present poundage rate levied on Rural District for Labourers Acts purpose (8) Amount of Exchequer contribution for the year ended the 31st day of March, 1906. (9) Amount of re received from tenants of cottages and plots during year.

RURAL DISTRICT.	Valuation of Rural District.	Number of Labourers' Cottages.		Amount of Loan.		Amount required to be raised annually in repayment of Loans sanctioned.	Amount which would be raised by the maximum rate of one shilling in the pound allowed for purposes of Acts.	Rate per pound required to raise amount specified in column 4.	Present Poundage rate levied on Rural District for Labourers Acts purposes.	Amount of Exchequer Contribution for the year ended 31st March, 1906.	Amount of rent received from tenants of cottages and plots during year ended 31st March, 1906.
		Built.	In course of Construction.	Sanctioned.	Received.						
	1.	2 (*a*).	2 (*b*).	3 (*a*).	3 (*b*).	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
	£			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	d.	d.	£ s. d.	£ s.
Athlone No. 2, ..	32,991	—	—	—	—	—	1,649 11 0	—	—	—	—
Ballinasloe No. 2, ..	10,398	1	—	186 15 0	186 15 0	4 10 0	519 18 0	·1	·09	—	2 13
Boyle No. 1, ..	44,743	30	2	6,480 0 0	6,330 0 0	287 16 6	2,237 3 0	1·54	—	231 4 11	117 5
Carrick-on-Shannon No 2.	22,305	37	10	5,415 0 0	4,774 10 0	250 5 0	1,115 5 0	2·69	1	199 8 7	107 10
Castlereagh, ..	75,050	—	13	8,730 0 0	3,860 0 0	427 3 8	3,752 10 0	1·37	·26	—	—
Roscommon, ..	68,875	38	7	8,540 0 0	6,840 0 0	374 5 4	3,243 15 0	1·38	·5	244 8 6	103 16
Strokestown, ..	51,145	33	6	6,175 0 0	5,730 0 0	196 6 6	2,557 5 0	·92	—	113 10 5	84 6
	301,507	139	38	35,526 15 0	27,721 5 0	1,540 7 0	15,075 7 0	1·23	—	838 12 5	415 12

7.—STATEMENT showing the RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS of each Rural District Council in County Roscommon during the year ended the 31st of March, 1906, and the Balances of Loans due at the close of the year.

Taken from the Local Taxation Returns, 1905–6, pp. 24 *and* 25.

RURAL DISTRICTS.	RECEIPTS.						PAYMENTS.									Amount of total expenditure defrayed from Loans.	Poundage on valuation of the total expenditure, exclusive of expenditure defrayed from Loans.
	Money supplied by County Council on demand of District Council.	Rents of labourers' cottages.	Burial fees.	Other receipts.	Total receipts from revenue.	Loans.	Salaries.	Expenses for Burial Ground purposes.	Expenses under the Labourers Acts.	Expenses under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act.	Expenses for Sanitary purposes.	Superannuation allowances.	Repayment of Loans.	Other expenses.	Total expenditure.		
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	*s. d.*
Athlone No. 2, ...	371	—	—	6	377	—	148	19	—	—	103	2	22	138	432	—	0 3½
Ballinasloe No. 2, ...	273	3	—	—	276	—	61	3	—	—	7	—	7	121	199	—	0 4½
Boyle No. 1, ...	764	117	—	89	970	550	87	13	87	—	827	10	684	173	1,881	852	0 5½
Carrick-on-Shannon No. 2, ..	271	108	—	14	393	200	95	3	756	—	1	—	205	80	1,140	709	0 4½
Castlerea, ...	721	—	—	269	990	1,575	194	42	1,999	—	1,043	—	439	251	3,968	2,019	0 6½
Roscommon, ...	1,289	106	—	111	1,506	2,160	167	19	1,466	—	633	—	761	303	3,354	1,901	0 5½
Strokestown, ...	543	87	—	69	699	775	172	17	785	—	36	—	292	138	1,440	759	0 3¾

8.—STATEMENT showing Particulars of the Balances of Loans due by the Roscommon County Council at the close of the financial year ended the 31st of March, 1906, as disclosed by the Abstracts of their Accounts.

Taken from the Local Taxation Return, 1905–6, p. 39.

COUNTY.	For Expenditure on Roads, Bridges, Piers, &c.	Guaranteed under Relief of Distress (Ireland) Amendment Act, 1880. (Contingent Liabilities.	For Gratuities paid to Retired Officers. (Sec. 115 of Local Government Act).	For Industrial Schools.	For Navigation and Drainage.	Total Amount Due at close of Year.	Total Amount Due at commencement of Year.
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Roscommon, ...	—	—	—	—	4,619	6,619	4,728

9.—STATEMENT showing Particulars of the Receipts of the Roscommon County Council during the Financial Year ended the 31st of March, 1906.

Taken from the Local Taxation Returns, 1905–6, pp. 2–3.

REVENUE ACCOUNT—RECEIPTS.																LOANS ACCOUNT—RECEIPTS.				
Balance in Favour at Commencement of Year.	Poor Rate.	Moneys Received from the Local Taxation Account, &c.									From Urban Districts on Demand.	Rents Derived from County Property.	Other Receipts.	Total Receipt.	Balance Against at Close of Year.	Total.	Balance at Commencement of Year.	Amount Received.		Balance at Close of Year.	Total.
		Agricultural Grant.	Grant from Estate Duties, &c., Death Duty Grant.	Grant in aid of Medical and Educational Expenditure in Unions.	Grant in aid of Sanitary Salaries in Rural Districts.	Grant in aid of Maintenance, &c., of Lunatics.	Contributions towards Guarantees for Railways and Harbours.	Grant in aid of Local Guarantees for Railway and Harbour Charges (L.G. Act, 1898, sec. 58 (4)).	Exchequer Contribution (Purchase of Land Act, 1891).	Any other Grants.								For Roads.	Other Purposes.		
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
22,267	33,114	18,534	4,553	1,870	286	4,579	—	—	615	372	—	—	1,171	65,094	—	87,361	—	—	—	—	—

10.—STATEMENT showing the Particulars of the Expenditure of the Roscommon County Council during the Financial Year ended the 31st of March, 1906.

Taken from the Local Taxation Returns, 1905–6, pp. 4–5.

REVENUE ACCOUNT—EXPENDITURE.																	LOANS ACCOUNT—EXPENDITURE.				
Balance Against at Commencement of Year.	Money Supplied by County Councils for			Road Expenditure.	Salaries paid to County Officers.	Infirmaries and Fever Hospitals.	Reformatories and Industrial Schools.	Franchise and Jurors Acts.	Payments in Respect of		Repayment of Loan.	Guarantees for Railways, &c.	Payments to Agricultural and Technical Instruction Committees.	Other Expenses.	Total Expenditure.	Balance in Favour at Close of Year.	Total.	Balance at Commencement of Year.	Amount Expended.		Balance at Close of Year.	Total.
	Union Charges.	Rural District and Separate Charges.	Lunatic Asylum Charges.						Valuation.	Extra Constabulary.									On Roads.	Other Purposes.		
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
—	18,795	3,055	8,310	16,084	2,132	760	928	1,578	235	—	266	—	471	4,827	57,431	29,930	87,361	—	—	—	—	—

ABLE showing the Number of TENEMENTS of ONE ROOM, and the Number of OCCUPANTS of such TENEMENTS in each COUNTY DISTRICT and ELECTORAL DIVISION in the County of ROSCOMMON in 1901. APPENDIX XI

Taken from Roscommon County Census Book, pp. 59, 60, 61.

NTY DISTRICTS AND TORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Number.	TENEMENTS OF ONE ROOM. OCCUPIED BY											
		1 Person.	2 Persons.	3 Persons	4 Persons.	5 Persons.	6 Persons	7 Persons.	8 Persons.	9 Persons.	10 Persons.	11 Persons.	12 Persons and upwards.
Total of County, ..	1,344	456	380	196	108	66	62	33	19	13	8	3	—
. No. 2 RURAL DISTRICT.													
West Rural	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ons, ...	6	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	6	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
pson, ...	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	5	2	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	3	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	10	3	3	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	7	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	3	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
nnell, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
wn, ...	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	3	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, ...	56	22	17	5	5	3	1	1	1	1	—	—	—
ASLOE No. 2 RURAL DISTRICT.													
an, ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
gh, ...	8	3	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
en, ...	3	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, ...	17	6	5	3	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
). 3 RURAL DISTRICT.													
.. .. ..	4	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
, ...	7	—	2	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
n, ...	7	3	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
ple, ...	9	4	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
al, ...	9	1	2	4	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
on, ...	23	17	28	15	8	9	2	3	1	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	9	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. ..	7	2	1	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
.. ..	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	8	3	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	4	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. ..	7	—	4	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	11	6	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
, ...	10	3	2	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	10	6	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

APPENDIX XI.

M.—TABLE showing the Number of TENEMENTS of ONE ROOM, and the Number of OCCUPANTS of such TENEMENTS in each COUNTY DISTRICT and ELECTORAL DIVISION in the County of ROSCOMMON in 1901—*continued.*

COUNTY DISTRICTS AND ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.	Total Number.	TENEMENTS OF ONE ROOM OCCUPIED BY										
		1 Person.	2 Persons.	3 Persons.	4 Persons.	5 Persons.	6 Persons.	7 Persons.	8 Persons.	9 Persons.	10 Persons.	11 Persons.
BOYLE No. 1 RURAL DISTRICT—*continued.*												
Lough Allen, ...	4	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Mantua, ...	7	1	4	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Oakport, ...	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rockingham, ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rushfield, ...	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tivannagh, ...	10	3	2	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, ...	218	64	63	40	19	13	12	5	1	—	1	—
CARRICK-ON-SHANNON No. 2 RURAL DISTRICT.												
Aughrim East, ...	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Aughrim West, ...	4	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Cloonteem, ...	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Creeve, ...	5	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Danesfort, ...	8	2	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killukin, ...	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Killummod, ...	7	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kilmore, ...	5	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tumna North, ...	5	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tumna South, ...	6	3	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total, ...	51	27	13	6	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	—
CASTLEREAGH RURAL DISTRICT.												
Artagh, North, ...	78	24	17	8	9	5	7	5	2	1	—	—
Artagh, South, ...	31	11	8	4	3	—	2	1	2	—	—	—
Ballaghaderreen, ...	77	37	21	10	5	—	1	—	1	—	1	1
Ballinlough, ...	51	11	14	6	8	4	2	4	—	2	—	—
Ballintober, ...	55	7	15	10	9	5	2	3	3	—	1	—
Baslick, ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bellanagare, ...	27	9	10	1	1	1	3	1	—	1	—	—
Bucknill, ...	20	6	8	3	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Carrowduff, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Castleplunket, ...	6	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Castlereagh, ...	55	16	19	7	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	—
Castleteheen, ...	3	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cloonfower, ...	13	9	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coolougher, ...	17	6	6	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Edmondstown, ...	46	14	17	7	—	2	3	—	—	3	—	—
Fairymount, ...	32	13	10	5	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Frenchpark, ...	39	15	8	6	7	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kiltullagh, ...	28	10	9	6	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Loughglinn, ...	18	5	8	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, ...	597	197	174	81	52	28	23	19	10	8	4	1

TABLE showing the Number of TENEMENTS of ONE ROOM, and the Number of OCCUPANTS of such TENEMENTS in each COUNTY DISTRICT and ELECTORAL DIVISION in the County of ROSCOMMON in 1901—*continued.*

UNTY DISTRICTS AND ECTORAL DIVISIONS.	TENEMENTS OF ONE ROOM												
	Total Number.	OCCUPIED BY											
		1 Persons	2 Persons	3 Persons	4 Persons.	5 Persons.	6 Persons.	7 Persons.	8 Persons.	9 Persons.	10 Persons.	11 Persons.	12 Persons and upwards
MMON RURAL DISTRICT.													
ne, East, ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ne West, ...	4	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
kert, ...	33	7	12	8	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	2	—
rnlean, ...	6	1	2	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
ff, ...	3	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
n, ...	6	2	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
North, ...	4	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South, ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	9	5	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
, ...	10	3	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
.. .. ..	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. .	8	2	2	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	4	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
non Rural, ...	20	11	4	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
non Urban, ...	41	15	15	2	3	1	2	1	2	—	—	—	—
an, ...	5	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, ...	166	59	50	20	12	6	9	1	4	2	1	2	—
TOWN RURAL DISTRICT.													
ore, ...	13	9	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
den, ...	6	2	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	3	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ugh, ...	13	6	5	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
in, ...	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	10	2	3	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	3	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	7	1	3	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	45	13	7	7	3	4	4	3	2	1	1	—	—
North, ...	37	8	7	8	7	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
South, ...	10	4	2	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
an, ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
, ...	6	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	40	9	7	15	3	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
an, ...	10	5	5	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ary, ...	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. .. ..	10	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, ...	239	81	58	41	17	15	14	7	3	1	2	—	—

N.—TABLE SHOWING THE AGES OF THE PEOPLE IN EACH COUNTY DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF ROSCOMMON ON THE NIGHT OF THE 31ST OF MARCH, 1901.

County Districts.	Population.		Age Periods.																				
	Total Persons.	Sexes.	Under one year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 20	20 and under 25.	25 and under 30.	30 and under 35.	35 and under 40.	40 and under 45.	45 and under 50.	50 and under 55.	55 and under 60.	60 and under 65.	65 and under 70.	70 and under 75	75 and under 80.	80 and under 85.	85 and under 90.	90 and under 95.	95 and under 100.	100 and upwards.
1. Athlone No. 2 Rural,	10,701	M. 5,499	85	423	619	642	619	549	405	331	264	265	215	232	150	238	157	151	66	57	23	7	1	—
		F. 5,202	90	392	629	725	685	423	309	241	233	268	210	258	155	267	94	123	44	40	10	6	—	—
2. Ballinasloe No. 2 Rural,	3,681	M. 1,897	37	140	209	300	253	189	106	91	81	83	56	84	62	88	46	28	21	16	7	—	—	—
		F. 1,784	22	147	252	247	261	152	109	63	71	81	73	106	65	73	19	36	9	13	4	—	1	—
3. Boyle No. 1 Rural, ..	16,868	M. 8,446	153	665	866	898	965	747	606	548	430	390	307	426	321	445	228	222	111	86	21	10	—	1
		F. 8,422	140	653	835	903	1,012	750	661	500	399	414	331	499	304	406	206	202	92	89	17	4	5	—
4. Carrick-on-Shannon No. 2 Rural.	6,241	M. 3,193	38	219	305	362	343	323	216	196	165	140	144	174	107	164	84	98	54	40	14	5	2	—
		F. 3,048	47	205	298	306	339	282	264	200	147	162	132	154	118	172	91	59	33	27	9	2	1	—
5. Castlereagh Rural. ..	33,576	M. 16,647	319	1,422	1,883	1,976	1,955	1,415	1,133	1,003	731	713	630	708	520	877	493	425	207	176	42	15	4	—
		F. 16,929	326	1,407	1,828	2,027	1,948	1,368	1,123	946	776	826	662	906	601	947	424	428	180	153	23	19	8	3
6. Roscommon Rural. ..	15,164	M. 7,712	140	571	765	876	886	712	534	447	362	378	309	378	293	395	244	195	101	84	27	9	6	—
		F. 7,452	100	526	776	799	895	685	542	408	385	402	338	399	278	407	157	158	77	88	19	8	4	1
7. Strokestown Rural, ..	15,560	M. 7,839	112	471	740	844	900	756	583	462	377	399	324	387	276	447	270	249	118	76	32	13	3	—
		F. 7,721	125	499	690	823	866	689	557	456	376	447	346	441	302	477	198	196	94	106	17	9	4	3

O.—OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

There is a large amount of detailed information concerning the Occupations of the People given in the County Roscommon Census Book (pp. 71–77), from which the following particulars are extracted :—

MALES.							FEMALES.						
		Ages.							Ages.				
Occupations.	Total.	Under 15 years.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Occupations.	Total.	Under 15 years.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Persons engaged in Agriculture.								Persons engaged in Agriculture.							
1. *In Fields and Pastures.*								1. *In Fields and Pastures.*							
ner, Grazier, ...	13,344	3	133	352	3,718	5,971	3,167								
ner's, Grazier's—Son, ndson, Brother, Nephew.	9,328	–	2,683	2,626	3,650	331	38								
n Bailiff, ...	25	–	–	1	10	11	3	Farmer, Grazier, ...	3,148	–	11	25	504	1,671	937
cultural Labourer, Cottager.	2,358	28	415	418	798	467	232	Agricultural Labourer, Cottager.	75	–	5	6	12	29	23
herd, ...	533	3	42	45	193	178	72	Shepherdess, ...	30	–	–	–	6	15	9
n Servant (in-door). ..	1,499	60	379	344	470	175	71	Farm Servant (in-door), ..	139	5	33	21	44	16	29
rs engaged in, or connected with Agriculture.	32	–	2	2	9	14	5	Others engaged in, or connected with Agriculture.	12	–	–	–	2	8	2
2. *In Woods.*															
dman, ...	2	–	–	–	–	1	1								
3. *In Gardens.*															
seryman, Seedsman, Florist,	3	–	–	–	2	1	–								
dener (not Domestic), ..	35	–	7	2	9	13	4								
								Persons working and dealing in Textile Fabrics.							
ersons engaged about Animals.															
— Proprietor, Breeder, aler.	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	1. *Wool and Worsted.*							
n. Horse Keeper, Horse aker.	32	–	4	8	13	4	3								
nary Surgeon, Farrier,	9	–	–	2	4	3	–	Woollen Cloth Manufacture,	16	–	–	2	3	8	3
s, Sheep, Pig—Dealer, herman.	39	–	5	2	17	14	1								
ekeeper, ...	48	–	2	8	22	15	1								
ons working and dealing in Textile Fabrics.								2. *Mixed or Unspecified Materials.*							
1. *Wool and Worsted.*															
n Cloth Manufacture,	14	–	–	5	4	2	3	Weaver (undefined), ..	2	–	–	–	1	–	1
Cotton and Flax.								Draper, Linen Draper, Mercer,	60	1	22	19	16	2	–
Linen Manufacture (all processes).	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	Fancy Goods (Textile) Manufacturer, Worker, Dealer.	13	–	1	–	3	6	3
								Embroiderer, ...	1	–	1	–	–	–	–
Hemp and other Fibrous Materials.								Others, ...	21	–	–	2	9	6	4
Twine Cord—Maker, ler	1	–	–	–	1	–	–								
Mixed or Unspecified Materials.															
er (undefined), ..	2	–	–	–	1	–	1								
r, Linen Draper, Mercer,	114	2	35	22	48	6	1								
ERAL LABOURER, (a)	922	8	134	157	270	221	132	GENERAL LABOURER, (a)	9	–	1	1	4	3	–

(a) The majority of these "General Labourers" may be assumed to be *Agricultural* Labourers, although not having returned themselves as such.

APPENDIX XI

P.—Occupiers of Land engaged in other pursuits besides Farming in the County Roscommon (p. 89).

Trade, Profession, &c., besides Farming.	No. of Persons.	Trade, Profession, &c., besides Farming.	No. of Persons.	Trade, Profession, &c., besides Farming.	No. of Persons.	Trade, Profession, &c., besides Farming.	No. of Persons.
Total Number of Occupiers of Land who returned themselves as engaged in other Pursuits besides Farming,	310	Commercial Traveller, ..	1	Land Surveyor, ...	1	Railway Servant, ..	
		Contractor, ...	4	Law Clerk, ...	1	Rate Collector, ..	
		Cooper, ...	1	Magistrate, ...	11	Relieving Officer, ..	
		County Councillor, ..	1	Mason, ...	17	Schoolmaster, ...	
		Dealer, ...	1	Merchant, ...	4	Seamstress, ..	
Agent, ...	1	Draper, ...	1	Miller, ...	4	Shepherd, ..	
Bailiff, ...	2	Gamekeeper, ...	2	Pensioner (Army), ..	7	Shoemaker, ..	
Blacksmith, ...	20	Gardener, ...	1	Pensioner (Police), ..	3	Shopkeeper, ..	
Builder, ...	1	Grocer, ...	8	Pensioner (R.I.C.), ..	14	Surveyor, ..	
Butcher, ...	3	Herd, ...	1	Petty Sessions Clerk, ..	1	Tailor, ...	
Caretaker, ...	1	Hotel Keeper, ...	1	Plasterer, ...	1	Teacher, ..	
Carpenter, ...	27	Labourer, ...	11	Postman, ...	3	Trader, ...	
Cattle Dealer, ...	2	Land Agent, ...	1	Postmaster, ...	4	Weaver, ...	
Civil Bill Officer, ...	2	Land Proprietor, ...	2	Publican, ...	38	Weaver (Wool), ..	
Coal Miner, ...	4	Land Steward, ...	2	Railway Labourer, ..	2		

Q.—Emigration from the County of Roscommon during each year, from the 1st of May, 1851, to the 31st December, 1906.

Compiled from the Returns of the Registrar-General.

Years.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Years.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Years.	Males.	Females.	Perso
1851 (from 1st May), (a)	1,986	2,129	4,115	1871 (from 1st April).	735	608	1,343	1891 (from 1st April)	917	1,015	1,9
1852, ...	3,231	3,093	6,324	1872, ...	966	841	1,807	1892, ...	907	996	1,9
1853, ...	2,034	2,117	4,151	1873, ...	1,270	1,195	2,465	1893, ...	766	1,015	1,7
1854, ...	1,904	1,712	3,616	1874, ...	625	758	1,383	1894, ...	502	694	1,1
1855, ...	813	812	1,625	1875, ...	348	419	767	1895, ...	589	737	1,
1856, ...	912	834	1,746	1876, ...	159	221	380	1896, ...	581	739	1,
1857, ...	869	681	1,550	1877, ...	200	362	562	1897, ...	482	767	1,2
1858, ...	482	503	985	1878, ...	384	513	897	1898, ...	464	719	1,1
1859, ...	764	793	1,557	1879, ...	397	561	958	1899, ...	789	1,169	1,9
1860, ...	786	868	1,654	1880, ...	1,493	1,519	3,012	1900, ...	1,042	1,316	2,3
1861 (to 31st March),	215	218	433	1881 (to 31st March)	138	78	216	1901 (to 31st March)	67	59	1
Total, ..	13,996	13,760	27,756	Total, ..	6,715	7,075	13,790	Total, ..	7,106	9,226	16,
1861 (from 1st April),	387	402	789	1881 (from 1st April)	972	1,084	2,056	1901 (from 1st April)	628	1,088	1,7
1862	618	742	1,360	1882, ...	1,263	1,199	2,462	1902, ...	832	1,252	2,0
1863, ...	1,964	1,854	3,818	1883, ...	1,567	1,657	3,224	1903, ...	607	833	1,4
1864, ...	1,687	1,683	3,370	1884, ...	1,166	1,328	2,494	1904, ...	389	658	1,0
1865, ...	1,072	1,019	2,091	1885, ...	945	1,035	1,980	1905, ...	425	460	
1866, ...	1,371	1,057	2,428	1886, ...	927	1,024	1,951	1906 (to 31st Dec.),	382	408	
1867, ...	912	836	1,748	1887, ...	1,235	1,234	2,469				
1868, ...	877	629	1,506	1888, ...	1,066	1,172	2,238	Total, ..	3,263	4,699	7,9
1869, ...	1,242	908	2,150	1889, ...	1,017	1,042	2,059				
1870, ...	1,069	837	1,906	1890, ...	1,000	1,103	2,103	General Total, ..	53,658	56,703	110
1871 (to 1st March),	154	73	227	1891 (to 31st March),	67	25	92				
Total, ..	11,353	10,040	21,393	Total,	11,225	11,903	23,128				

(a) The enumeration of emigrants from Irish Ports did not commence till the 1st of May, 1851.

R.—STATE-AIDED EMIGRATION.

It may be as well to explain that under 12 and 13 Vic., c. 104, sec. 26, Boards of Guardians were empowered to apply part of the rates and to borrow money "for the purpose of defraying or assisting to defray the expenses of the emigration of poor persons."

Under the Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Act, 1882 (45 and 46 Vic., c. 47), power was given to borrow from Public Funds on easier terms for the above purposes, and the Treasury might authorise the Commissioners of Public Works to make grants to Boards of Guardians for the same purposes, the total grants not to exceed £100,000, and the sums granted not to exceed £5 for each person. These grants were confined to the nine counties, part of which are at present scheduled as congested, the Unions of Belmullet, Newport, Swinford, Clifden, and Oughterard being specially mentioned.

Under the Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Act, 1883 (46 and 47 Vic., c. 43), the limit of the grant was increased to £200,000, of which one-quarter might be applied for the purpose of migrating "persons or families," and the limit of individual grants was increased to £8.

The total grants made under these sections amounted to £133,172 10*s.* 2*d.* up to 1891, when they were repealed by section 35 of the Land Act of 1891, which established the Congested District Board.

The following table shows the total number of State-aided emigrants from the County of Roscommon in 1883 and in 1884, and the amount of grant to each Union :—

Taken from the Thirteenth Report of the Local Government Board, p. 12.

Union.	Emigration Season, 1883.			Emigration Season, 1884.			Total.	Total Grant.
	Canada.	Australia.	United States.	Canada.	Australia.	United States.		
								£ *s.* *d.*
Ballinasloe.	78	—	46	—	—	—	124	520 10 0
Boyle	95	6	239	—	—	—	340	1,645 10 0
Carrick-on-Shannon, ..	118	10	184	—	—	—	312	1,409 10 0
Castlereagh, ...	193	—	196	8	—	134	531	2,437 10 0
Roscommon.	49	—	37	—	—	—	86	345 0 0
Strokestown. . ..	19	1	79	—	—	30	129	578 0 0
	472	17	781	8	—	164	1,522	

The following return shows the number of consents of the Local Government Board to the expenditure of sums out of the rates to assist in defraying the expenses of the emigration of poor persons from the County of Roscommon during the year ended 31st March, 1884 :—

Supplied by the Local Government Board.

Union.	Sums authorized to be Expended.	Number of Persons Assisted
	£ *s.* *d.*	
Ballinasloe (part of), ...	27 5 0	24
Boyle (part of), ...	331 1 0	234
Carrick-on-Shannon (part of), ..	182 10 0	111
Castlerea, ...	567 15 0	307
Total, ...	7,093 11 2½	5,388

S.—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.

These Statistics (Tables I.–II.) were specially supplied by the Department of Agriculture in advance, as the Agricultural Statistics for 1906 were not issued at the time of publication.

1. TABLE showing, by POOR LAW UNIONS, for County ROSCOMMON the Extent of LAND under CROPS in the Year 1906, the VALUATION in 1906, and the POPULATION in 1901.

POOR LAW UNIONS.	EXTENT OF CROPS IN STATUTE ACRES.																						VALUATION IN 1906.			
	CORN CROPS.								GREEN CROPS.												Flax	HAY.			TOTAL EXTENT UNDER CROPS.	Houses and other Hereditaments	Lands.	Population in 1901.	POOR LAW UNIONS.
	Wheat	Oats.	Barley.	Bere.	Rye.	Beans	Pease	TOTAL	Potatoes	Turnips	Mangel Wurzel.	Beet Root	Carrots	Parsnips.	Cabbage.	Vetches.	Rape.	Other Green Crops.	TOTAL.		1st Year's.	2nd and 3rd Year's.	Permanent Meadow					
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres	£	£		
Athlone,* ..	122	4,587	82		230	—	—	5,021	4,209	1,510	603		17	27	294	3	241	201	7,175		1,474	1,263	16,174	31,107	25,556	65,096	27,264	Athlone.*
Ballinasloe.* ..	50	4,306	497		87		—	4,940	3,136	1,502	492	1	1	2	359	1	286	112	5,892		1,430	982	14,401	27,645	14,403	65,066	19,279	Ballinasloe.*
Boyle,* ..	—	3,802	—		74	—	—	3,876	5,436	536	268	—	—	1	426	—	21	82	6,767		1,400	730	20,085	32,858	12,092	63,731	30,625	Boyle.*
Carrick-on-Shannon,* ..	5	1,802	—	1	194			2,002	3,474	247	110	—	—	4	247	—	—	221	4,303	—	215	146	18,456	25,122	8,004	40,958	19,280	Carrick-on-Shannon.*
Castlereagh, ..	57	5,606	—		86	—		5,749	5,770	701	197		—	—	445	6	1	192	7,312		1,403	1,119	16,147	31,730	11,529	63,515	33,576	Castlereagh.
Roscommon. ..	251	2,550	1	1	173	1	1	2,978	2,807	787	301	—		—	205	—	138	128	4,366	—	1,007	456	13,482	22,289	7,536	57,299	15,164	Roscommon.
Strokestown ..	76	1,701	—		224			2,001	2,934	466	217	—	—	—	194	1	2	167	3,981		111	240	12,529	19,162	5,242	45,903	15,560	Strokestown.
Total for County Roscommon.	488	15,838	379	2	774	1	1	17,483	18,779	3,637	1,282	1	—	14	1,293	7	400	703	26,116		4,225	3,174	70,873	121,871	41,251	260,208	101,791	Total for Co. Roscommon.

2. TABLE showing, by POOR LAW UNIONS, for COUNTY ROSCOMMON the PRODUCE of the CROPS in the Year 1906.

POOR LAW UNIONS.	PRODUCE OF THE CROPS.																			POOR LAW UNIONS.
	CORN CROPS.							GREEN CROPS.										Flax	HAY.			
	Wheat	Oats.	Barley.	Bere.	Rye.	Beans.	Pease.	Potatoes.	Turnips.	Mangel Wurzel.	Beet Root.	Carrots.	Parsnips.	Cabbage.	Vetches.	Rape.		1st Year's.	2nd and 3rd Year's.	Permanent Meadow.	
	Cwts. of 112 lbs.	Cwts. of 112 lbs.	Cwts. of 112 lbs.	Cwts. of 112 lbs.	Cwts. of 112 lbs.	Cwts. of 112 lbs.	Cwts. of 112 lbs.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Stones	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	
Athlone,*	1,524	76,551	1,225		3,089		—	14,301	25,917	11,483	—	226	302	3,690	37	1,956		2,988	2,167	36,299	Athlone.*
Ballinasloe.*	866	74,165	8,228		1,356	—	—	9,888	24,799	8,488	14	10	30	3,732	10	2,875		3,049	1,556	31,107	Ballinasloe.*
Boyle,*	—	53,574	—	—	1,103	—	—	19,390	10,742	5,724	—	—	9	6,373	—	168	—	3,140	1,662	48,688	Boyle.*
Carrick-on-Shannon,* ..	66	24,829	—	15	2,621	—	—	11,514	4,180	1,891	—	—	38	3,290	—	—	—	388	216	40,823	Carrick-on-Shannon.*
Castlereagh, ...	988	86,809	—	—	1,271	—	—	16,291	11,104	3,555			—	6,000	60	10	—	2,925	2,246	37,972	Castlereagh.
Roscommon. ..	3,933	38,508	11	12	2,129	16	12	7,036	11,690	4,306	—		—	2,309	—	1,055	—	1,963	723	29,686	Roscommon.
Strokestown,... ..	1,383	30,899	—	—	3,288	—	—	9,718	8,972	3,975	—	—	—	2,621	8	16	—	941	424	31,755	Strokestown.
Total for Co Roscommon	7,472	243,453	5,478	27	10,151	16	12	54,459	61,102	23,076	14		140	16,383	68	3,217		8,873	6,031	170,095	Total for Co. Roscommon.

* These unions are partly in Co. Roscommon and partly in adjoining counties, and hence the totals for the seven unions are greater than the totals for Co. Roscommon.

3. TABLE showing the NUMBER of STOCKHOLDERS and the QUANTITY of LIVE STOCK in each POOR LAW UNION in COUNTY ROSCOMMON in 1906.

POOR LAW UNIONS.	No. of Stockholders in each Union.	HORSES (including Ponies).						No. of Brood Mares (included also in the foregoing Cols.).	MULES, JENNETS & ASSES.		CATTLE.					SHEEP.					PIGS.					Number of Goats.	POULTRY.					POOR LAW UNIONS.
		Two years old and upwards used for			Unbroken Horses.		Total Number of Horses.		Number of Mules and Jennets.	Number of Asses.	Milch Cows, including Heifers in Calf.	Other Cattle.			Total Number of Cattle.	Tups.	Ewes kept for breeding purposes.	Other Sheep one year old and upwards.	Under one year.	Total Number of Sheep	Pigs kept for breeding purposes.		Other Pigs.		Total Number of Pigs		Turkeys	Geese.	Ducks	Ordinary Fowl.	Total	
		Agricultural purposes.	Traffic and Manufactures	Amusement or Recreation.	One year old and upwards.	Under one year.						Two years old and upwards.	One year old and under two years.	Under one year.						Sows.	Boars	Six m'ths old and upwards	Under six m'ths.								
Athlone.*	4,993	2,341	204	195	749	462	3,951	573	481	2,757	6,699	9,999	6,885	5,485	28,968	3,825	24,081	14,836	22,763	65,505	541	10	675	7,782	9,008	1,839	4,281	13,945	21,574	87,643	127,446	Athlone.
Ballinasloe,* ..	3,411	2,101	151	243	690	469	3,654	652	281	2,305	5,101	10,396	4,986	4,100	24,583	3,994	29,270	17,695	30,859	81,818	475	11	522	5,403	6,411	1,070	6,417	16,117	19,472	63,708	105,714	Ballinasloe.*
Boyle.*	6,302	1,243	106	84	313	217	1,963	250	402	3,967	13,894	7,531	8,926	10,338	40,689	884	3,797	497	4,845	10,023	1,280	13	675	11,507	13,475	1,631	5,127	18,784	28,278	107,367	159,556	Boyle.*
Carrick-on-Shannon.*	4,160	957	110	32	362	198	1,659	289	128	2,486	8,998	6,399	6,055	6,698	28,150	291	2,937	641	3,623	7,492	821	10	1,170	5,906	7,907	3,846	4,505	13,622	19,953	72,060	110,140	Carrick-on-Shannon.*
Castlereagh, ..	7,028	1,139	125	68	537	271	2,140	305	579	3,729	10,399	9,013	9,040	7,476	35,928	359	7,165	4,540	8,573	20,637	921	13	433	9,292	10,659	2,572	2,693	18,259	35,421	134,038	190,411	Castlereagh.
Roscommon, ..	3,303	1,286	89	99	794	484	2,752	599	100	1,734	4,486	7,961	5,607	3,873	21,927	2,521	20,687	12,637	21,942	57,790	315	3	410	4,407	5,135	1,411	3,259	13,194	17,867	66,334	100,654	Roscommon.
Strokestown, ..	3,339	1,056	46	48	537	360	2,047	410	78	1,743	5,568	6,607	5,567	4,923	22,665	1,875	6,388	2,962	7,914	19,139	396	4	488	1,692	5,580	2,424	3,255	9,307	15,985	72,155	100,702	Strokestown.
Total for Co. Roscommon.	21,688	6,401	384	348	2,741	1,699	11,576	2,056	1,486	11,739	35,218	35,491	32,421	27,522	130,652	7,091	61,951	30,733	65,358	165,133	3,175	39	2,498	32,849	38,561	11,719	16,207	67,989	109,869	421,421	615,486	Total for Co. Roscommon.

* These unions are situated partly in Co. Roscommon and partly in other counties, and hence the totals for the seven unions are greater than the total for Co. Roscommon.

APPENDIX XI.

4. TABLE showing the QUANTITY of LIVE STOCK for the COUNTY of ROSCOMMON in each Year from 1897–1906.

—	Years	Number of Horses.			Mules and Asses.		Number of Cattle.			Number of Sheep.		Number of Pigs.		Number of Goats.
		Two years old and upwards.	One year old and under two.	Under one year.	No of Mules.	No. of Asses.	Two years old and upwards.	One year old and under two.	Under one year.	One year old and upwards.	Under one year.	One year old and upwards.	Under one year.	
ROSCOMMON:	1897	7,093	2,292	1,898	1,705	10,758	66,274	30,711	26,203	115,690	72,343	3,549	35,560	14,556
	1898	7,200	1,966	1,688	1,669	10,870	65,953	31,930	26,078	116,450	74,733	3,254	32,982	14,896
Area,	1899	7,422	1,900	1,738	1,709	11,774	67,231	33,435	26,985	119,658	75,303	3,773	39,286	15,289
Years 1897–98—	1900	7,190	1,741	1,580	1,736	11,844	70,735	34,447	29,346	118,804	73,655	4,152	38,622	14,358
585,407 Acres.	1901	6,468	2,199	1,786	1,572	11,724	73,841	35,696	31,126	125,012	80,832	4,220	35,530	14,173
Years 1899–1901—	1902	6,596	2,443	1,860	1,513	12,008	73,144	35,529	30,158	115,408	72,802	4,149	39,233	14,101
607,002 Acres.	1903	7,079	2,389	1,970	1,599	12,225	68,076	37,873	30,213	111,265	68,078	4,296	42,289	14,035
	1904	7,002	2,440	1,990	1,588	12,060	69,396	33,978	31,729	104,198	65,368	3,971	37,972	13,033
Years 1902–1906—	1905	7,301	2,632	1,922	1,582	11,980	67,487	37,205	29,357	102,850	69,377	3,474	32,686	12,612
608,290 Acres.	1906	7,133	2,744	1,699	1,486	11,739	70,709	32,421	27,522	99,775	65,358	5,712*	32,849*	11,719

* The classification now is: "Pigs, six months old and upwards," and "Pigs under six months old."

5. TABLE showing the NUMBER of HOLDINGS EXCEEDING ONE ACRE, and EXTENT of LAND under CROPS, in the COUNTY of ROSCOMMON each YEAR from 1897–1906.

—	Years.	Number of Holdings exceeding 1 Acre.	Extent under Crops, in Statute Acres, in each Year from 1896 to 1905.													
			Corn, Beans, and Pease.							Other Crops.						
			Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Bere.	Rye.	Beans and Pease.	Total.	Potatoes.	Turnips.	Mangel Wurzel and Beet Root.	Other Green Crops.	Total Green Crops.	Flax.	Meadow and Clover.
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
ROSCOMMON:	1897	19,220	273	18,344	416	3	1,067	–	20,103	20,416	4,107	953	2,366	27,842	–	70,758
Area,	1898	19,229	324	17,832	369	9	1,039	4	19,577	20,071	4,023	1,199	2,485	27,778	–	70,217
Years 1897-98—	1899	20,329	413	18,448	449	11	1,025	1	20,347	21,146	4,019	1,278	2,497	28,940	–	73,518
585,407 Acres.	1900	20,286	409	17,603	472	6	947	8	19,445	20,764	3,939	1,377	2,456	28,536		72,425
	1901	20,165	359	17,761	322	9	943	2	19,396	19,710	4,041	1,709	2,186	27,646	1	76,039
Years 1899-1901,	1902	20,156	351	16,279	338	9	880	–	17,857	19,670	3,948	1,561	2,485	27,664	–	73,231
607,002 Acres.	1903	20,216	344	17,110	304		890	–	18,648	19,553	3,943	1,601	2,387	27,484	1	77,052
	1904	20,288	324	17,239	286		783	1	18,633	19,617	4,159	1,666	2,152	27,594	–	78,394
Years 1902-1906,	1905	20,217	353	15,951	333	4	779	5	17,425	19,019	3,863	1,502	2,131	26,515	–	77,226
608,290 Acres.	1906	20,339	488	15,838	379	2	774	2	17,483	18,770	3,637	1,283	2,417	26,116	–	78,272

6. TABLE showing the AVERAGE RATES of PRODUCE of CROPS to the Statute Acre in the COUNTY of ROSCOMMON in each Year from 1897–1906.

—	Years.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Bere.	Rye.	Beans.	Pease.	Potatoes.	Turnips.	Mangel Wurzel.	Beet Root.	Cabbage.	Flax.
		Cwts., 112 lbs.	Cwts., 112 lbs.	Cwts., 112 lbs.	Cwts., 112 lbs.	Cwts., 112 lbs.	Cwts., 112 lbs.	Cwts., 112 lbs.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Stones, 14 lbs.
	1897	16·4	12·4	12·6	13·0	11·1	—	—	1·8	9·7	8·6		9·4	
	1898	16·6	14·3	21·3	13·0	14·2	16·0	12·0	4·8	14·1	15·0		15·7	
	1899	15·2	15·1	22·2	13·0	14·5	16·0	—	4·8	11·2	13·1		10·3	
	1900	17·4	15·0	17·3	13·0	13·9	16·0	—	2·3	14·3	15·3		14·5	
	1901	16·4	14·8	17·3	14·0	14·2	16·0	—	5·7	14·5	14·9		12·1	9·9
Roscommon, ..	1902	16·2	15·7	18·4	15·0	14·2	—	—	3·8	13·5	14·0	13·4	12·4	—
	1903	14·0	14·6	18·5	—	13·1	—	—	2·8	10·1	10·6	9·0	12·5	9·0
	1904	14·8	13·6	10·4	—	13·1	16·0	—	3·1	13·6	13·2	12·4	13·3	—
	1905	17·2	15·4	16·8	8·0	14·9	16·0	—	6·2	15·0	15·6		14·1	
	1906	15·3	15·4	14·5	13·5	13·1	16·0	12·0	2·9	16·8	18·0	14·0	12·7	—

ABLE showing, by POOR LAW UNIONS, the proportion per cent. under CORN and GREEN CROPS (including Flax), Fruit, Hay, Grass, Mountain Land (Grazed and Barren), Woods and Plantations, Turf Bog, Marsh and Water, Roads and Fences, &c., in 1906.

POOR LAW UNIONS.	PROPORTION PER CENT. UNDER								
	Corn and Green Crops, including Flax.	Fruit.	Hay.	Grass.	Mountain Land.		Woods and Plantations.	Turf Bog.	Marsh.	Water, Roads, Fences, &c.
					Grazed.	Barren.				
.. .. ..	8·1	—	12·5	60·4	0 1	0·1	1·3	10·1	2·6	4·8
loe, ...	6·7	—	10·5	58·0	0 2	0·4	1·7	15·0	3·2	4·3
.. .. ..	6 6	—	13·9	58·7	4·9	2·4	1·7	6·2	0 7	4·9
on-Shannon, ..	6·3	—	13·6	57·7	3·4	1·6	0·6	3·9	1·3	6·6
agh, ...	8·0	—	11·4	53·6	1·8	0·2	1·0	18·0	0·8	5·2
mon, ...	6·4	—	13 1	65·9	0 3	0·1	1·3	8·0	0·8	4·1
own, ...	6·6	—	14·6	59·6	1·0	0·1	0·5	10·3	1 9	5·4
for Co. Roscommon, ..	7·2	--	12 9	58·9	1·0	0·4	1·2	11·6	1·8	5·0
for Ireland, ..	11·8	0·1	11·4	49·4	11·0	2·9	1·5	5·0	1·8	5·1

8. STATEMENT as to SIRES, BULLS, and BOARS.

number of sires in County Roscommon serving in 1906 was as follows :—

rough-bred,	12
kney,	1
lesdale,	7
e,	1
er Distinct Breeds,	1
f-bred, Sire or Dam Thoroughbred,	8
f-bred, Other Half-breds,	23
mon Bred,	5
Total,	58

number of bulls of the principal breeds, &c., in Roscommon in 1906 was as follows :—

thorn,	212
eford,	23
deen Angus,	25
olk and Suffolk Red Polled,	1
Kerry,	1
Dexter,	—
Ayrshire,	—
Guernsey, Jersey, and Alderney,	1
Cross-bred, or not included in foregoing columns,	26
Total,	289

The number of boars kept for breeding purposes in County Roscommon in 1906 was as follows :—

White pigs,	32
Black pigs,	1
Tawny or brown pigs,	—
Cross-bred,	5
Boars not coming under any of the foregoing heads,	1
Total,	39

STATEMENT showing the total area under each of the principal varieties of Potatoes grown in County Roscommon in 1906.

Variety.	Acreage.	Variety.	Acreage.
Champion, ...	14,135	American Roses, ...	94
Up-to-Date, ...	1,245	Ardcairns and Ardcairn Beauties, ..	—
Beauty of Bute, ...	285	Gawkies, ...	—
Flounders, ...	1,583	Early Roses, ...	63
Sutton or Sutton's Abundance, ..	121	Elephants or White Elephants, ..	66
Black Skerries and Skerry Blues, ..	18	Bruces, ...	—
Irish Whites, ...	678	Main Crop, ...	—
British Queens, ...	217	All others, ...	274

APPENDIX XI.

10. BEE-KEEPING STATISTICS.

TABLE showing, for the COUNTY ROSCOMMON, the Number of STOCKS on the 1st April, 1905; the Number of SWARMS during 1905; the Number of STOCKS at the beginning of Winter, 1905, and the Number of STOCKS on 1st April, 1906; with the Quantity of HONEY produced and of WAX manufactured in 1905.

Number of Stocks on the 1st April, 1905.		Number of Swarms during 1905.		Number of Stocks at beginning of Winter, 1905.		Run Honey produced in 1905, in lbs.		Section Honey produced in 1905, in lbs.		Wax Manufactured in 1905, in lbs. (Quantity of Wax refined or converted into the Bees-wax of Commerce for Household use.)		Number of Stocks on 1st April, 1906.	
In Hives having Movable Combs.	In other Hives.	In Hives having Movable Combs.	In other Hives.	In Hives having Movable Combs.	In other Hives.	In Hives having Movable Combs.	In other Hives.	In Hives having Movable Combs.	In other Hives.	Wax from Hives having Movable Combs.	Wax from other Hives.	In Hives having Movable Combs.	In other Hives.
256	274	162	256	276	291	1,129	3,041	5,281	812	46	23	169	259

11. TABLE showing, for the COUNTY ROSCOMMON, the AREA PLANTED with TREES and the AREA CLEARED during the Year ended 30th June, 1906, and the Number of each description of TREE PLANTED or FELLED.

	Area Planted or Cleared.	Total Number of Trees.	Number and Description of Trees Planted or Felled.										
			Larch.	Fir.	Spruce.	Pine.	Oak.	Ash.	Beech.	Sycamore.	Elm.	Other Trees.	Mixed Trees. Number of each kind unspecified.
	Acres.												
Planted, ..	23	42,800	15,500	5,700	11,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	10,600	—
Felled, ..	2	6,235	345	—	546	—	2	745	506	74	17	—	4,000

T.—WAGES OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON IN 1906.

Inquiries were made as to the Wages paid per day to Agricultural Labourers in 1906, and the information received from the District Inspectors of the Royal Irish Constabulary with reference to their respective districts is shown in the following Table and the Notes appended thereto.

Specially supplied by the Department of Agriculture.

CONSTABULARY DISTRICTS.	SUMMER.								WINTER.							
	Men.		Boys.		Women.		Girls.		Men.		Boys.		Women.		Girls.	
	From	To	From	To	From	To	From	To	From	To	From	To	From	To	From	To
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ballaghaderreen, (a) ..	1 9	2 8	1 3	1 6	1 0	1 6	0 8	1 0	1 3	1 6	0 11	1 2	—	—		
Boyle, ...	1 8	1 11	1 1	1 4	1 1	1 5	0 10	1 1	1 3	1 6	0 9	1 1	0 11	1 2	0 8	0
Castlereagh. (b)	1 6	2 0	1 0	1 6	0 8	0 10	0 6	0 7	0 11	1 4	0 9	0 11	0 6	0 8	0 5	0
Roscommon. (c)	1 6	1 11	0 10	1 4	1 0	1 4	0 11	1 3	1 1	1 6	0 9	1 0	0 10	1 0	0 8	0
Strokestown, (d)	1 0	2 0	0 10	1 3	0 6	0 6	0 4	0 4	1 0	1 0	0 8	0 10	0 6	0 6	0 4	0

(a) Without diet. Women or girls are seldom employed.
(b) Very few women or girls employed.
(c) Very few women or girls employed.
(d) With diet in case of men and boys, and lodging in addition in case of women and girls.

U.—AGRICULTURAL SCHEMES OF THE DEPARTMENT IN OPERATION DURING YEAR 1906-7.

Specially supplied by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Scheme.	Estimated Cost to Joint Fund administered by County Committee of Agriculture.
	£ s. d.
Itinerant Instruction in Agriculture, ...	350 0 0
Poultry Keeping, ...	180 0 0
Buttermaking, ...	120 0 0
Horticulture and Bee-keeping, ...	190 0 0
Cottage and Farm Prizes, ...	187 10 0
Live Stock, ...	620 0 0
Subsidies to Shows, ...	200 0 0

Itinerant Instruction.

Four Itinerant Instructors are employed in the county under the County Scheme, viz., one in Agriculture, one in Horticulture, one in Buttermaking, and one in Poultry Keeping.

Horse Breeding.

The following Registered Stallions are located in the county:—

Baslick	(Thoroughbred)	with	John A. Coen, M.D., Frenchpark.
Belvoir	,,	,,	P. J. Fitzmaurice, Elphin.
Knightly	,,	,,	D. Owens, Strokestown.
Repine	,,	,,	Michael Killian, Mehambee, Athlone.
Good Luck	(Clydesdale)	,,	Michael Killian, Mehambee, Athlone.
Minor Canon	(Thoroughbred)		Francis Daly, Dromod; also travels to Hillstreet, in County Roscommon.

Repine was supplied by the Department under their Loan Scheme.

The Half-bred Stallion Cannon Ball, which is on the Department's selected list of Irish Draught and Half-bred Sires, is located with D. Owens, Strokestown.

The County Committee are issuing 93 free nominations of mares under the 1907 scheme, the animals having been selected at the following centres:—

Centre.	Nominations provided.
Brideswell, ...	18
Roscommon, ...	18
Strokestown, ...	13
Elphin, ...	12
Castlerea, ...	10
Ballaghadereen, ...	8
Boyle, ...	14

Ass Breeding.

Stallion Asses have been placed by the Department with—

Name of Owner.	*Address.*
William Murray,	Curly Hall, Roscommon.
Bryan Finerty,	Coolderry, Athleague.
Thomas Hanly,	Mountcashel, Kilrooskey
Mark Larkin,	Lisdoon, Elphin.
Patrick Murray,	Loughlacka, Ballydangan.
John M'Dermott,	Drimlasson, Ballaghadereen.
Patrick Byrne,	Farrankelly, Fuerty.

APPENDIX XI.

CATTLE BREEDING.

Premium Bulls are located under the County Scheme with the following persons:—

Name.	*Address.*
Patrick M'Loughlin,	Loughpark, Rooskey.
Thomas Martin,	Cartron, Kiltoom, Athlone.
Patrick Coyle,	Cullawinnia, Four Roads, Roscommon.
Patrick Murray,	Loughlacka, Ballydangan, Ballinaslos.
Michael Conway,	Moigh, Cootehall, Boyle.
Edward Hayden,	Highlake, Ballymacurley, Roscommon.
Martin Peyton,	Castleard, Ballaghaderreen
Andrew Dolan,	Carrigeenagappul, Elphin.
Timothy C. Rorke,	Borough View, Clooneyquin, Elphin.
Michael Kelly,	Ballinagare, Castlerea
Matthew Carley,	Clonslanor, Strokestown.
Charles White,	Emlaghmore, Donamon.
Thomas Rogerson,	Bornacurra, Athleague, Roscommon.
Michael Fallon,	Fairymount, Kilrooskey, Roscommon.
Bernard Naughton,	Cartronkelly, Dysart, Ballinasloe.
Thomas J. O'Brien,	Milltown Pass, Athlone.
Michael Shannon,	Edenkinclare, Mantua, Castlerea.
James Murphy,	Tully, Kilmore, Drumsna.
Patrick Sheerin,	Bridge Cartron, Ballyfarnon, Carrick-on Shan.

SWINE BREEDING.

Premium Boars are located with the following:—

Name.	*Address.*
Peter Davis,	Lisanaria, Lanesborough, Longford.
Patrick Cooney,	Cartron, Ballintubber, Castlerea.
Michael Neary,	Runnabey, Callow, Frenchpark,
Colman M'Guire,	Carrophadeen, Kiltoom, Athlone.
Patrick Law,	Garryglass, Scramogue, Strokestown.
Francis Lyous,	Carraclogher, Strokestown.
Thomas J. O'Brien,	Milltownpass, Athlone.
John O'Reilly,	St. Helena, Roscommon.
Francis Connolly,	Cloontrask, Castlerea.
John Ballintine,	Derrynane, Kilmactranny, Ballyfarnon.
James Naughton,	Centre Cross Farm, Taughmaconnell, Ballinasloe.
Thomes Feeny,	Milltown, Dysart, Ballinasloe.
Edward Kelly,	Liswilliam, Dysart, Ballinasloe.
Peter M'Partland,	Strananoran, Arigna, Carrick-on-Shannon.
Michael Beirne,	Eden and Kinclare, Mantua.
Hugh Duffy,	Tullaboy, Croghan, Boyle.
Patrick Lynn,	Castleplunkett, Castlerea.
William Phillips,	Granlahan, Ballinlough.
Edward Cunnane,	Cloonmurla, Kilteevan, Roscommon.
Joseph Maguire,	Fairbanks, Strokestown.
William Glennon,	Esker, Taughmaconnell, Ballinasloe.
Malachy Donnelly,	Rahara, Athleague, Roscommon.
Patrick Murray,	Loughlacka, Ballydangan, Ballinasloe.

Premium Boars are located with the following, the premiums being payable entirely out of the Department's funds:—

Name.	*Address.*
John Keaveney,	Fairymount, Frenchpark.
John Merriman,	Lisacul, Ballaghadereen.
Thomas Kilkenny,	Tully, Carrowbehy, Castlerea.
Edward Moran,	Ballyoughter, Ballaghadereen.

List showing the names and addresses of persons holding Egg Distribution Stations (Hens and Ducks) under the 1906–7 scheme.

Name.	*Address.*
Mrs. Barrett,	Meelick, Drumsna.
Mrs. Coleman,	Knockarush, Boyle.
Mrs Connaughton,	Ballybrogan, Kiltoom.
The Convent of Mercy,	Roscommon.
Mrs. Doyle,	Millbrook, Athlone.
Miss Duffy,	Kidlawn, Ballinasloe.
The Franciscan Monastery,	Granalaheen.
Mrs. Gordon,	Turpane, Fairymount.
Miss Naughton,	Dysart, Ballinasloe.
Mrs. Kelly,	Tullyloid, Elphin.
Mr. M'Dermott,	Drimnalasson, Ballaghadereen.
Miss M'Garry,	Ogulla, Tulsk.
Miss Martin,	Mountain, Lecarrow.
Miss Mullany,	Hollymount, Boyle.
Miss O'Brien,	Milltown, Athlone.
Miss Scally,	Culleen, Knockcroghery.
Miss Stoddart,	Donamon.
Mrs. Tobin,	Kilmactranny, Boyle.
Mrs. Young,	Harristown, Castlerea.

POULTRY.

List showing the names and addresses of persons holding Egg Distribution Stations (Geese) under the 1906–7 scheme :—

Name.	*Address.*
P. Naughton,	Turpane, Ballyforan.
Mrs. Connaughton,	Ballybrogan, Kiltoom.

List of the names and addresses of persons holding Turkey Stations under the 1906–7 scheme :—

Name.	*Address.*
Mrs. Barrett,	Meelick, Drumsna.
Patrick Carty,	Esker, Taughmaconnell.
Miss Drury,	Ardsallagh, Boyle.
Mrs. Egan,	Coowboy, Athlone.
Thomas Hanley,	Mountcashel, Kilroosky.
Mr. M'Dermott,	Drimnalasson, Ballaghadereen.
Miss M'Garry,	Tulsk, Strokestown.
Mrs. M'Govern,	Willsgrove, Ballintubber.
Miss M'Loughlin,	Lough Park, Rooskey.
Miss M'Partland,	Strananoran, Arigna.
Miss Mullaney,	Hollymount, Boyle.
Miss B. Naughton,	Feevagh, Dysart, Ballinasloe.
Mrs. Gordon,	Turpane, Fairymount, Castlerea.
Mrs. Martin,	Mountain, Lecarrow.
Mrs. Connaughton,	Ballybrogan, Kiltoom, Athlone.
Mr. P. Gill,	Derrycarbery, Beechwood, Roscommon.
Mrs. P. Farrell,	Roxborough, Roscommon.
Mrs. Gallagher,	Ballindrionly, Castlerea.
Mrs. Doyle,	Millbrook, Athlone.
Mrs. Wallace,	Ballybane, Ballinlough.

V.—NOTE ON MIGRATORY LABOURERS.

The special characteristics of the temporary migration of agricultural labourers from the congested districts, which distinguish it from apparently similar movements of labour in other counties and from the ordinary examples of the mobility of labour in other trades, have been briefly discussed in the Donegal Statistical Abstract (see Appendix to Second Report of Commission, Cd. 3319, 1907, pp. 314–5). The total number of persons (including females) who had temporarily migrated from Ireland, or who at the time of the collection of the Agricultural Statistics in 1906 had expressed their intention of subsequently migrating, was 15,286. Of these only 1,432 were resident in County Roscommon. Of this number only 305 were landholders, but of the landless labourers 836 were the sons, and 2 were the daughters of landholders who worked on their parents' farms when at home. The following Table, taken from the Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture on Irish Migratory Labourers for 1906 (pp. 38–9), gives further information on the subject :—

POOR LAW UNION.	Number of Migratory Agricultural Labourers not Landholders.	NUMBER OF MIGRATORY AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS HAVING LAND, AND AREA OF THEIR HOLDINGS.												Total Number of Migratory Agricultural Labourers	WHERE EMPLOYED.			Number of Migratory Agricultural Labourers who had not left their homes at the time of the Inquiry, included in foregoing Columns.
		Not exceeding 1 acre.	Above 1 and not exceeding 2 acres.	Above 2 and not exceeding 3 acres.	Above 3 and not exceeding 4 acres.	Above 4 and not exceeding 5 acres.	Above 5 and not exceeding 10 acres.	Above 10 and not exceeding 15 acres.	Above 15 and not exceeding 20 acres	Above 20 and not exceeding 25 acres.	Above 25 and not exceeding 30 acres.	Above 30 and not exceeding 40 acres.	Above 40 acres.		In England.	In Scotland.	Elsewhere in Ireland.	
nlone, part of, ..	23	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	24	24	–	–	5
llinasloe, part of,	2	–	–	–	–	–		–	–	–	–	–	–	2	2	–	–	2
yle, part of, ..	13	–	1	–	–		2	1	1		–	–	–	24	22	1	1	
rrick-on-Shannon, part of,	19	3	–	–		–		2	–	1	–		–	25	18	1	6	–
stlerea gh, ..	1,047	1	2	2	4	6	113	94	46	11	5	4	3	1,338	1,337	1		107
-common, ..	8		–	–		–	–	–		–	–	–	–	8	8	–	–	6
okestown, ..	9	–	–		–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	11	10	1		8
Total. ..	1,127	4	3	2	4	6	116	99	47	12	5	4	*3	1,432	1,421	4	7	127

* Comprising one each of 48, 60 and 92 acres.

APPENDIX XL

W.—STATISTICS OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

1. STATEMENT showing Statistics of Co-operative Creameries in Co. Roscommon in 1905.

Taken from the Report of the Irish Agricultural Organization Society for the year ended 30th June, 1906.

No.	NAME.	Date of Establishment.	Membership.	Paid-up Share Capital.	Loan Capital.	Turnover.	Observations.
				£	£	£	
1	Boyle, ...	1898	700	1,104	590	6,593	
2	Croghan, ...	1898	350	978	1,365	2,638	
3	Fairymount and Tibohine, ...	1898	286	573	435	1,567	
4	Kilmactranny, ...	1898	599	966	—	5,953	
5	Knockvicar, ...	1898	548	1,005	363	5,576	

2. STATEMENT showing Statistics of Agricultural Credit Societies in Co. Roscommon in 1905.

Taken from the Report of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society for the year ended 30th June, 1906.

No.	NAME.	Date of Establishment.	Membership.	Loan Capital.	Deposits.	Total Capital.	Total Amount of Loans.	No. of Loans Granted.	Expenses.	Net Profit.	Reserve Fund.
				£ s. d.	s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		d.	£ s.	£ s. d.
1	Boyle, ..	1899	43	13 18 2	140 0 0	153 18 2	109 0 0	15	1 15 8	3 4 7	12 9 10
2	Cloonfad, ..	1901	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	Dysart, ..	1903	—	125 0 0	—	125 0 0	18 0 0	—	—	—	—

3. STATEMENT showing the Statistics of the Home Industries Societies in Co. Roscommon in 1905.

Taken from the Report of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society for the year ended 30th June, 1906.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	Date of Establishment.	Membership.	Paid-up Share Capital.	Loan Capital.	Turnover.	Observations.
			£	£	£	
Boyle, ...	1902	—	—	—	—	Not working in 1905.
Tissara, ...	1900	82	5	—	8	

X.—STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS OF LOAN FUNDS WORKING IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON IN 1905, AS RENDERED BY THE LOAN FUND BOARD.

Taken from the Sixty-eighth Annual Report of the Loan Fund Board of Ireland, 1905, pp. 12 and 13.

NAMES OF LOAN FUNDS.	1	Amount of Capital to be accounted for on 31st December, 1905.	Of which is held free of Interest (being Original Subscription or unappropriated Profits).	Amount of Capital working on 31st December, 1905.	Total Amount circulated in 1905.	Amount issued in Monthly Loans.	Number of Loans issued in 1905.	Average Amount of each Loan.	Average Cost of the Issue of each Loan to the Society, exclusive of Interest on the Capital.	Sum in Borrowers' hands on 31st December, 1905, exclusive of Bad Debts (if any).	Sum in Treasurer's hands on 31st December, 1905.	Amount of Discount or Interest received in 1905.	Amount of Fines received in 1905.	Received from other sources.	Total Amount received for Discount or Interest, Fines, and Cards, or Application Papers in 1905.	Total paid as Salaries during 1905.	Number of Paid Officials employed.	Total Expenses of Management, including Salaries, Rent, &c., in 1905.	Amount of Interest paid or due by Societies for Capital secured by Debentures, &c. An Asterisk (*) indicates the Societies whose Accounts for 1905 show that Interest, either in whole or in part, was unpaid on 31st December.	Number of Depositors owning said Capital.	Net Profit of 1905 after paying or providing for Interest and all Expenses, and deducting Debts ascertained to be irrecoverable.	Amount of Bad Debts charged to Stock in 1905.	Amount Expended for Local useful Purposes in 1905.	NAME OF TREASURER OR RECEIVER.
		£	£	£	£	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£	
Athlone, ..		4,300	3,895	4,297	10,738	10,013	1,561	6 17 3	0 2 8	4,121 15 0	176 19 5	262 8 2	123 14 0	6 0 10	399 2 10	175 0 0	3	207 7 5	18 3 10	9	172 2 2	—	40	George Allen.

APPENDIX XI.

Y,—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON,

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF ATHLONE No. 2.

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Athlone West Rural	Barrybeg ..	William Lloyd	33 2 5	0 3 0	—	
,,	,,	Edward H. Burke	86 2 16	0 6 0	—	
,,	Cloongowna ..	William Lloyd	110 3 14	0 10 0	—	
,,	Monksland ..	Henry Percy	70 2 5	49 19 0	15 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Mrs. Mawhinny	67 1 13	62 4 0	2 10 0	
,,	,,	Viscount Kilmaine	94 1 1	2 0 0	—	
Ballynamona ..	Brideswell ..	R. P. Worthington	6 1 37	1 5 0	—	
,,	Pollaher ..	Rev. Edmond Byron	307 0 36	2 0 0	—	
,,	Ballycreggan ..	James Goff	11 0 16	—	—	
,,	Derrynasee ..	R. P. Worthington	90 0 22	0 15 0	—	
,,	Knocknanool ..	Reps. Matthew Cassidy ..	97 1 32	0 10 0	—	
,,	Ratawragh ..	Robert and George Allen ..	45 3 10	19 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Robert and George Allen ..	94 0 12	36 5 0	—	
,,	Rooskagh ..	Incorporated Society	453 3 16	5 15 0	—	
Caltragh ..	Grange ..	James Sproule	128 0 4	48 10 0	2 0 0	
,,	Kildurney ..	Walter Burton	112 2 1	47 15 0	1 15 0	
Carnagh ...	Carnagh East	Marcus A. Levinge	7 0 0	2 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Marcus A. Levinge	0 1 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Marcus A. Levinge	1 3 34	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Marcus A. Levinge	176 1 19	60 0 0	—	
	Islands in Lough Ree:					
,,	No. 23 ..	Marcus A. Levinge	0 1 20	—	—	
,,	Cribby Islands (Nos. 26 to 34)	Marcus A. Levinge	4 1 34	0 10 0	—	
,,	Nos. 13 to 22	Marcus A. Levinge	3 0 22	—	—	
Castlesampson	Carrowkeeran ..	Bernard Connaghton	25 3 32	0 5 0	—	
,,	Castlesampson	John O'Kelly	277 1 29	10 15 0	3 15 0	
,,	,,	John O'Kelly	29 2 0	6 15 0	—	
,,	,,	John J. O'Kelly	11 0 12	3 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Rev. Edmond Byron	83 3 18	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	John O'Kelly	192 1 5	82 15 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Crosbie Talbot	231 1 4	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	John O'Kelly	84 1 0	20 15 0	—	
,,	Corkip ..	Bernard Connaghton	39 2 28	0 5 0	—	
,,	Skeanamuck ..	Bernard Connaghton	63 1 8	0 9 0	—	
,,	Tawnagh ...	Reps. George Newcomen ..	27 2 24	1 10 0	—	
,,	Cuilfadda and Derrinshin	Sir Henry G. Burke, Bart. ..	133 1 3	2 5 0	—	
,,	Esker ..	Reps. George Newcomen ..	30 2 38	0 15 0	—	
,,	Esker Beg ..	Valentine J. O'Connor ..	30 0 35	1 0 0	—	
Cloonown ..	Cloonown ..	Edwin Hughes	1 0 28	1 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Edwin Hughes	835 2 17	75 14 0	—	
,,	,,	Edwin Hughes	10 0 10	—	—	
,,	Long Island ..	Ellen F. Pidgeon	3 3 14	3 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Ellen F. Pidgeon	1 2 30	1 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Ellen F. Pidgeon	10 1 0	12 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Ellen F. Pidgeon	0 3 29	0 3 0	—	
,,	,,	Ellen F. Pidgeon	4 2 38	3 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Ellen F. Pidgeon	5 0 6	3 15 0	—	
Crannagh ..	Cornafulla ..	Rev. D. C. O'Connor	493 0 12	2 0 0	—	
,,	Lisdillure ..	Walter H. Walsh	5 2 15	2 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Walter H. Walsh	81 2 17	—	—	
,,	Carrickynaghten and Garrynagowna Bog	Raphael O'Sullivan	438 0 5	2 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Raphael O'Sullivan	5 0 16	1 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Thomas Greene	42 0 0	0 10 0	—	
,,	Crannagh More	Andrew W. Bermingham ..	22 1 30	0 5 0	—	
,,	Garrynagawna	Thomas Greene	252 3 2	134 10 0	15 0 0	
,,	,,	Raphael O'Sullivan	2 3 22	1 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	Moynure ..	Walter H. Walsh	9 1 25	3 5 0	—	
,,	Taylorstown ..	William H. Walsh	50 2 34	0 10 0	—	
,,	Creggan ..	William T. Potts	518 0 35	46 15 0	—	
,,	Callowbeg ..	William T. Potts	167 1 25	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cregganabeaka	Reps. Sophia M. Naughton ..	104 2 27	0 15 0	—	
,,	Curraghnaboll	William H. Walsh	216 1 22	0 15 0	—	
Drumlosh ..	Cloonark ..	The Incorporated Society ..	10 0 15	5 0 0	—	
,,	,,	The Incorporated Society ..	74 2 13	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	The Incorporated Society ..	40 0 0	9 10 0	—	
,,	Johnstown Demesne	Catherine Jane Kelly	299 0 22	107 0 0	26 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Catherine Jane Kelly	12 0 20	4 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Catherine Jane Kelly	78 3 12	24 10 0	—	
Dysart ..	Ballyglass ..	Reps. Hon. and Very Rev. Henry Dean Packenham	30 0 35	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cuilleenirwan	Henry S. P. Mahon	30 3 4	—	—	
,,	Cuilleenvolagh	Reps. Hon. and Very Rev. Henry Dean Packenham	18 3 24	0 10 0	—	
,,	Milltown ..	Reps. Hon. and Very Rev Henry Dean Packenham	109 1 19	24 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Hon. and Very Rev. Henry Dean Packenham	232 0 18	60 0 0	2 0 0	

—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF ATHLONE No. 2—*continued.*

ectoral ivision.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
..	Porteen and Ballyrevagh West	Thomas Gannon	186 2 39	6 0 0	—	
..	Curry ..	John King	43 2 21	0 15 0	—	
..	Carrowmurragh	Marcus A. Levinge	178 0 17	79 0 0	35 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Marcus A. Levinge	228 0 32	90 15 0	—	
,,	Moyvannon ..	R. W. Waithman	50 0 33	5 0 0	—	
,,	Feamore ..	R. W. Waithman	41 0 33	9 15 0	—	
	Islands in Lough Ree :					
,,	Long Island ..	Luke Watson	0 0 27	—	—	
,,	Whin Island	Marcus A. Levinge	1 1 14	—	—	
,,	Yellow Island (Little)	Charles Hodson	1 0 23	—	—	
,,	Cappalisheen ..	Luke Watson	12 2 5	0 5 0	—	
W ..	Rinnagan ..	The Crown Insurance Company	264 3 3	52 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Alexander Gunning	68 1 33	50 0 0	8 10 0	
	Islands in Lough Ree :					
,,	Nos. 1 to 12 ..	The Crown Insurance Company	1 0 39	—	—	
,,	Galeybeg ..	Benjamin Greene	81 0 11	51 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Benjamin Greene	15 2 10	12 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Benjamin Greene	160 3 8	85 10 0	9 5 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Benjamin Greene	1 3 3	1 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Knockanyconor	John Connell	292 3 39	140 5 0	10 5 0	
,,	Carrownure Lower	John P. Hodson	187 3 11	100 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Warren ..	Alexander Gunning	134 1 20	60 0 0	0 10 0	
..	Ardmullan ..	Thomas Pim	319 0 12	147 0 0	23 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Carrownure ..	Thomas Pim	53 1 35	25 10 0	—	
,,	Srahauns ..	Thomas Pim	128 0 17	63 10 0	—	
,,	Carrick ..	Thomas Pim, Jun. ..	34 3 8	12 10 0	—	
..	Curraghadoon	Reps. Rev. John P. Rourke ..	112 1 26	50 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Jamestown ..	Rev. James McIvor	46 2 6	26 0 0	—	
,,	Taghboy ..	Reps. Rev. John P. O'Rourke	24 0 28	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Rev. John P. Rourke ..	245 1 20	52 0 0	9 5 0	
,,	Coolatober ..	Reps. John Talbot	176 2 6	69 5 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Reps. John Talbot	94 3 15	0 10 0	—	
,,	Lissaphuca ..	Reps. John Talbot	142 0 9	46 0 0	—	
onnell	Sraduff ..	Rev. C. H. Butson	14 3 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonacaltry ..	Lord Ashtown	307 3 7	107 5 0	1 5 0	
,,	Onagh ..	Lieut.-Col. Thomas M. Williams	1 1 30	0 15 0	—	
own ..	Ardkeenan ..	John F. Cruise	90 1 27	1 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonboley ..	Sophia M. Naughton	204 3 9	—	—	
,,	Cloonillan ..	Sophia M. Naughton	3 3 30	1 0 0	—	
,,	Dooghan ..	Sophia M. Naughton	36 3 13	10 5 0	—	
,,	Drum ..	William Naughton	19 1 37	9 15 0	—	
,,	Taduff East ..	Reps. Edward H. Burke ..	111 2 33	57 15 0	4 15 0	
,,	Thomastown Demesne	Sophia M. Naghten	589 0 0	279 10 0	35 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Kilmocolmock	Sophia M. Naughton	0 2 8	0 5 0	—	
,,	Ballina ..	John Duignan	205 1 7	83 10 0	6 0 0	
..	,,	John Duignan	1 0 0	0 10 0	—	
..	Bredagh ..	Dysart Farming Committee ..	274 2 0	115 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Carrowkeel ..	Dysart Farming Committee ..	266 0 3	116 5 0	1 5 0	
,,	Cronin ..	Edward Blake	62 0 0	20 0 0	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE No. 2.

gan ..	America ..	John Arris Mathers	282 1 7	74 15 0	—	
..	,,	John Arris Mathers	8 0 25	1 10 0	—	
.	Ardnaglug ..	John Dillon	297 1 6	2 5 0	—	
.	Cappantogher	John Arris Mathers	178 3 35	47 15 0	2 5 0	
..	Cloonfad ..	William T. Potts	281 0 15	75 15 0	14 5 0	
.	Cloonulty ..	Emanuel Churcher	4 1 20	0 3 0	—	
.	Curraghagower	William C. Kyle	40 0 33	0 5 0	—	
.	Faltia ..	John Arris Mathers	548 1 37	237 12 0	21 10 0	Mansion house.
..	Hillsend ..	John Arris Mathers	70 2 21	28 10 0	—	
.	Lowtown (Kileashel)	Reps. Rev. William J. Purdon..	9 0 30	0 2 0	—	
.	Rooty ..	John Arris Mathers	132 1 14	66 5 0	—	
.	Tonvey ..	Emanuel Churcher	14 0 11	0 5 0	—	
gh ..	Candagh ..	George Newcomen	49 2 13	2 0 0	—	
.	Carrowmure ..	George Allen	122 2 10	41 15 0	1 5 0	
.	Carrowreagh ..	Amelia Burke	329 3 29	1 0 0	—	
.	Cloonaddron ..	Reps. Col. F. French	369 1 24	2 0 0	—	
.	Cloonbugny ..	John Ward	86 1 28	0 10 0	—	

APPENDIX XI.

Y.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE No. 2—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observations.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Carrowreagh ..	Clooncoran ..	Reps. Col. F. French	210 2 21	1 15 0	—	
,,	Dundonnell ..	George Newcomen	32 1 37	0 5 0	—	
,,	Glenmore ..	Reps. Col. F. French	76 3 18	0 10 0	—	
,,	Gortanabla ..	Reps. Harry T. Potts ..	405 0 5	150 0 0	5 10 0	
,,	Killeglan ..	Trustees of General Thomas M. Williams	19 1 30	0 2 0	—	
,,	Knock ..	George Newcomen	312 3 31	3 5 0	—	
,,	Togher ..	Reps. Denis O'Brien	348 1 38	4 15 0	—	
Cloonburren ..	Cloonburren ..	John A. Mathers	868 1 11	353 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Creggan ..	William T. Potts	7 1 0	1 10 0	—	
,,	Devenish Island	John A. Mathers	22 0 24	26 0 0	—	
,,	Long Island ..	William T. Potts	30 0 1	35 0 0	—	
,,	Raghrabeg ..	William T. Potts	646 1 25	26 0 0	—	
Creagh ..	Ardcarn ..	James Lancaster	167 2 27	87 5 0	25 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Atticorra ..	William and John Hynes ..	351 3 6	29 0 0	—	
,,	Attirory ..	Reps. John Ward	385 2 28	72 13 0	8 10 0	
,,	Beaghbeg ..	Maria O'Brien	101 0 29	45 0 0	2 10 0	
,,	Beagh (Brabazon)	John J. O'Shaughnessy ..	218 0 9	84 15 0	3 10 0	
,,	,,	John J. O'Shaughnessy ..	96 0 32	57 15 0	26 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Bellagill ..	Algernon Persse	21 1 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Clarary ..	William and John Hynes ..	5 0 25	2 15 0	—	
,,	Cuilleen ..	William J. and J. W. Hynes ..	715 3 12	159 5 0	—	
,,	,,	William and J. Hynes ..	40 3 0	24 0 0	—	
,,	,,	William J. and J. W. Hynes ..	68 1 0	37 10 0	—	
,,	Culliagharny ..	Lady Adeliza Clancarty ..	256 2 31	3 10 0	—	
,,	Glentaun ..	William and John Hynes ..	42 2 33	9 10 0	—	
,,	Newtown ..	William and John Hynes ..	60 0 1	0 5 0	—	
,,	Parkmore ..	William and John Hynes ..	134 3 14	26 10 0	—	
,,	Rathpeak ..	John Arres Mathers	550 0 7	175 0 0	3 0 0	
,,	,,	John Arres Mathers	0 3 10	0 10 0	—	
,,	Sralea ..	Thomas Tully	183 2 28	88 10 0	3 0 0	
,,	Tonalig ..	William and John Hynes ..	455 3 2	102 15 0	16 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Suckfield ..	James Lancaster	73 2 29	60 0 0	17 0 0	Mansion house.
Culliagh ..	Coolderry (Creagh)	John A. Mathers	228 2 21	67 10 0	13 15 0	
,,	Coolderry (Moore)	John A. Mathers	139 3 30	46 15 0	—	
,,	Correen ..	William T. Potts	293 2 32	125 0 0	22 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Correenbeg ..	William T. Potts	381 1 28	119 5 0	1 15 0	
,,	Culliaghbeg ..	William T. Potts	433 2 20	38 15 0	1 10 0	
,,	Culliaghmore ..	William T. Potts	1,021 3 1	8 0 0	—	
,,	Kilbegly ..	John J. O'Shaughnessy ..	362 0 17	186 10 0	5 0 0	
Moore ..	Cappayuse ..	Reps. William C. Kyle ..	75 1 36	1 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonbeggaun	Reps. William C. Kyle ..	96 0 0	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. William C. Kyle ..	137 1 3	0 10 0	—	
,,	Clooniff ..	Reps. William C. Kyle ..	540 0 4	3 0 0	—	
,,	Coolumber ..	Reps. William C. Kyle ..	248 3 14	1 0 0	—	
,,	Derrylahan ..	Reps. William C. Kyle ..	63 3 34	1 0 0	—	
,,	Moore South ..	Reps. William C. Kyle ..	116 3 9	1 0 0	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF BOYLE No. 1.

Altagowlan ..	Aghabehy ..	Countess of Kingston	271 2 12	8 0 0	—	
,,	Altagowlan ..	Countess of Kingston	259 1 36	2 10 0	—	
,,	Greaghnaglogh	Thomas C. McDermottroe ..	145 1 35	1 5 0	—	
Bally arnan ..	Alderford ..	Thomas C. McDermottroe ..	139 0 7	100 5 0	25 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Greaghnageeragh	Thomas C. McDermottroe ..	108 0 13	7 15 0	—	
Ballyformoyle ..	Ballyformoyle	William G. Molloy	11 3 36	—	—	
,,	Breanletter ..	William G. Molloy	8 0 10	0 3 0	—	
,,	Derreenargan	William G. Molloy	23 1 33	—	—	
,,	,,	William G. Molloy	46 2 10	0 5 0	—	
,,	Fostragh ..	William G. Molloy	35 3 17	0 15 0	—	
Boyle Rural ..	Carrickmore ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	5 0 25	2 0 0	—	
,,	Deerpark ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	8 0 12	3 15 0	—	
,,	Demesne ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	103 3 11	61 10 0	—	
,,	Erris ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	22 2 35	14 10 0	4 0 0	
,,	Garrow ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	45 0 7	1 6 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King Harman	82 3 0	2 10 0	—	
,,	Greatmeadow ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King Harman	8 3 35	9 0 0	—	
,,	Boughan Islands	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	0 0 3	—	—	
,,	Church Islands	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King Harman	4 1 28	3 0 0	—	
,,	Seven Small Islands	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King Harman	0 1 13	—	—	

Y.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BOYLE No. 1—*continued.*

Electoral Division	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observations.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
e Rural ..	Sheegorey ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	12 0 20	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Mrs. E. F King-Harman	37 2 20	1 0 0	—	
,,	Tawnytaskin ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	16 2 30	4 7 0	—	
,,	Warren or Drum	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	22 3 36	14 5 0	0 15 0	
doge ..	Behy ..	Robert V. Stoney	48 3 18	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonmacmullan	Peter Harrington	59 0 24	36 0 0	3 10 0	
,,	,,	Peter Harrington	20 3 35	0 5 0	—	
,,	Emlagh ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	60 0 10	—	—	
,,	Grangemore ..	Robert V. Stoney	57 1 3	22 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Robert V. Stoney	30 3 0	14 0 0	—	
,,	Portnacrinnagh	Reps Mrs. E. F King-Harman	14 2 29	—	—	
,,	Tournagee ..	Reps. Mrs E. F. King-Harman	3 2 38	—	—	
han ..	Cavetown or Ballynahoogh	Guy Lloyd	128 2 28	99 10 0	5 0 0	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	20 1 0	11 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	21 3 15	7 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonshaghan ..	Guy Lloyd	3 0 0	—	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	10 0 0	4 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	3 0 0	—	—	
,,	Faus ..	Guy Lloyd	0 2 30	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	21 3 30	0 3 0	—	
,,	Glooria ..	Guy Lloyd	5 1 5	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	1 3 0	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	17 0 24	9 0 0	—	
,,	Knocknafushoga	Guy Lloyd	45 3 6	10 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	2 2 0	1 5 0	—	
,,	Treanagry ..	Guy Lloyd	4 2 3	—	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	4 0 0	1 10 0	—	
,,	Treanamarly ..	Guy Lloyd	10 0 20	0 2 0	—	
,,	Ardmore ..	Guy Lloyd	5 2 30	1 15 0	—	
,,	Croghan ..	Guy Lloyd	12 3 30	0 3 0	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	7 0 0	3 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	157 0 10	132 0 0	50 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Derrylow ..	Guy Lloyd	8 2 26	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	20 3 35	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	3 2 0	0 1 0	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	35 0 25	0 10 0	—	
,,	Enagh ..	Guy Lloyd	0 2 10	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	31 0 20	19 0 0	—	
,,	Lugnashammer	Guy Lloyd	10 3 25	8 5 0	—	
,,	Bunreagh ..	Guy Lloyd	68 3 25	38 15 0	1 5 0	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	104 0 10	68 5 0	10 10 0	
,,	Killappoge ..	Guy Lloyd	12 1 26	—	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	0 1 10	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	18 3 24	14 5 0	—	
,,	Lisdaly ..	Guy Lloyd	115 2 25	111 0 0	1 10 0	
ana ..	Corratrench ..	Major W. Molloy	18 3 24	—	—	
,,	Crossna ..	Laurence P. Duke	2 0 0	—	—	
,,	Cuiltaboolia ..	Colonel Molloy	9 2 23	4 0 0	—	
,,	Derreenine ..	Rev. Richard B. Neville ..	67 0 1	0 15 0	—	
,,	Derryherk ..	Rev. Richard B. Neville ..	9 2 34	—	—	
,,	Derreenaseer ..	Colonel Molloy	15 2 30	—	—	
rsnow ..	Ardcolagh ..	Richard O. T. Caddell ..	25 0 34	—	—	
,,	Ballinvoher ..	John Johnston	51 1 32	30 0 0	—	
,,	Carrownagappul	John Johnston	164 0 38	47 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	Camlin ..	Guy Lloyd	15 1 33	—	—	
,,	,,	Guy Lloyd	5 2 20	2 10 0	—	
,,	Cornaveagh ..	John Johnston	171 3 25	0 15 0	—	
,,	Finisclin ..	John Johnston	69 3 15	—	—	
,,	Granny ..	John G. Johnston	73 2 28	56 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	William Robinson	0 0 32	—	—	
,,	,,	William Robinson	227 0 22	41 10 0	3 5 0	
,,	Tullaghan ..	Patrick Golden	48 3 27	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Patrick Golden	0 2 0	0 5 0	—	
low ..	Clooncruffen ..	Lord Kingston	124 1 14	38 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	Leiterra ..	Countess of Kingston	49 0 37	—	—	
,,	,,	Countess of Kingston	37 3 0	1 10 0	—	
..	Carrowbeg ..	Countess of Kingston	15 1 25	11 5 0	—	
..	,,	Earl of Kingston	69 3 6	60 10 0	—	
..	Carrownanalt	Countess of Kingston	59 0 4	16 15 0	—	
..	Castletenison Demesne	Earl of Kingtson	511 3 24	299 1 0	116 5 0	Mansion house
..	Churchacres ..	Earl of Kingston	23 1 31	18 13 0	—	
..	Crosshill ..	Countess of Kingston	113 0 12	4 0 0	—	
..	Cuiltygower ..	Earl of Kingston	19 1 8	8 0 0	—	
..	Derreenavoggy	Countess of Kingston	214 2 23	50 10 0	5 15 0	
..	Drumdaff ..	Earl of Kingston	51 1 30	23 0 0	—	
..	Glebe ..	Countess of Kingston ..	1 0 10	0 5 0	—	
..	Keadew East ..	Earl of Kingston	38 0 22	38 10 0	0 10 0	
..	,,	Countess of Kingston	15 0 6	0 13 0	—	
..	Keadew West	Countess of Kingston	8 0 4	4 15 0	—	
..	Kilgarve ..	Earl of Kingston	13 2 8	6 0 0	—	
..	Knockranny ..	Earl of Kingston	102 0 11	50 0 0	—	

APPENDIX XI.

Y.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON—*continued*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BOYLE No. 1—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Keadew ..	Knockranny ..	Earl of Kingston	9 2 10	4 0 0	2 0 0	
,,	,,	Earl of Kingston	12 2 4	6 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Earl of Kingston	92 1 4	60 0 0	26 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Lurgaboy ..	Earl of Kingston	87 0 21	56 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Rush Hill ..	Earl of Kingston	57 0 19	32 0 0	—	
,,	Tullytawen ..	Earl of Kingston	158 3 30	10 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Countess of Kingston	8 1 30	2 3 0	—	
,,	,,	Earl of Kingston	2 0 0	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Earl of Kingston	58 0 39	24 3 0	—	
Kilbryan ..	Drumcormick..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	41 3 1	20 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King Harman	1 3 30	1 10 0	6 5 0	
,,	Small Island ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	0 0 8	—	—	
,,	Doon ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King Harman	32 1 0	9 10 0	—	
,,	Drumdoe ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	5 2 11	—	—	
,,	Tintagh ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	11 1 20	—	—	
,,	Hog Island ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	10 2 11	5 0 0	—	
,,	Stag Island ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King Harman	8 1 38	4 15 0	—	
,,	Two Small Islands in Lough Key	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	0 0 18	—	—	
,,	Aghacorra ..	Hon. John Wolfe Flanagan ..	13 3 25	1 10 0	—	
,,	Annagh or Drumanilra	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	20 1 39	7 0 0	—	
,,	Derryvunny ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King Harman	42 1 9	10 10 0	—	
,,	Derrywanra ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	8 1 20	2 5 0	—	
,,	Largan ..	Reps. Mrs. E, F. King-Harman	3 3 0	1 0 0	—	
,,	Smutternagh ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	30 0 8	7 10 0	—	
,,	Ash Islands ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	0 1 36	—	—	
,,	Hermit Island	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	0 2 17	0 5 0	—	
Kilcolagh ..	Ardagh ..	Reps. Arthur O'Connor ..	149 0 7	2 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Arthur O'Connor ..	36 3 36	0 10 0	—	
,,	Bella ..	Arthur O'Connor	17 0 9	12 7 0	—	
,,	,,	Arthur O'Connor	61 3 13	22 15 0	2 0 0	
,,	,,	Arthur O'Connor	86 2 9	15 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	Carrigeen ..	George A. McGusty	83 3 23	—	—	
,,	Drishaghaun ..	Reps. Arthur O'Connor ..	6 0 0	1 0 0	—	
,,	Lurgan ..	Reps. Arthur O'Connor ..	85 2 24	1 0 0	—	
,,	Mantuar ..	George A. McGusty	25 0 17	0 4 0	—	
Kilmacumsy ..	Dooneen ..	H. Taaffe Ferrall	51 3 30	0 10 0	—	
,,	Ratallen ..	Countess of Kingston	162 1 35	—	—	
,,	Runnaboll ..	H. Taaffe Ferrall	45 3 23	—	—	
,,	Corroy ..	Luke Irwin	170 1 5	138 10 0	3 0 0	
,,	Runnacocka ..	Alexander D. McGusty ..	31 0 0	—	—	
,,	Tartan ..	Guy Lloyd	77 1 0	1 0 0	—	
,,	Lackan ..	Thomas Feehily	144 3 20	90 15 0	1 5 0	
Lisgarve ..	Kilmacumsy ..	Thomas Conry	186 2 30	140 5 0	3 0 0	
,,	,,	Thomas Conry	7 0 20	6 10 0	—	
,,	Gortnacloy ..	Rev. Algernon Coote	158 1 0	0 15 0	—	
Loughallen ..	Greaghnafarna	Countess of Kingston	60 3 27	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Countess of Kingston	1 0 30	0 5 0	—	
,,	Seltannaveeny	Countess of Kingston	63 0 25	0 5 0	—	
Mantua ..	Athroe ..	Edward F. Bowen	25 0 26	1 1 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Brackloon ..	Edward F. Bowen	3 1 32	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Edward F. Bowen	0 2 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Edward F. Bowen	0 2 0	—	—	
,,	,,	Edward F. Bowen	189 0 25	45 9 0	36 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Carrigeen ..	Thomas Feeley	75 3 6	28 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Carrigeena-gappul	Edward F. Bowen	17 1 25	0 5 0	—	
..	Carrigeeny-naghtan	Edward F. Bowen	93 0 32	—	—	
,,	Cloonkorin ..	Reps. Thomas G. Wills-Sandford	125 1 27	1 18 0	—	
,,	Corry East ..	Edward F. Bowen	117 2 14	105 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Edward F. Bowen	6 3 20	6 5 0	2 5 0	
,,	Corry West ..	Edward F. Bowen	121 0 25	81 0 0	—	
,,	Edenan and Kinclare	Edward F. Bowen	18 0 34	7 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Edward F. Bowen	1 3 35	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Edward F. Bowen	178 0 4	1 10 0	—	
,,	Kinclare ..	Edward F. Bowen	136 2 4	60 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	Loughbally ..	Edward F. Bowen	29 3 10	—	—	
,,	Mullenduff ..	Edward F. Bowen	18 1 2	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Edward F. Bowen	0 1 0	0 5 0	—	
Oakport ..	Cleen ..	Conolly T. McCausland ..	10 3 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	Oakport Demesne	Earl of Kingston	556 1 33	334 0 0	41 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Drumharlow ..	Col. William H. Molloy ..	148 0 14	91 0 0	3 0 0	
,,	Hughestown ..	Col. William H. Molloy ..	105 0 21	84 15 0	0 5 0	
Rockingham ..	Ardcarn ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	13 0 30	6 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	6 2 0	6 15 0	—	
,,	Ballyardan ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	21 0 31	8 5 0	—	
,,	Carrowngashel	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	0 2 37	0 5 0	—	
,,	Demesne ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	1,439 2 25	900 0 0	160 0 0	Mansion house.

Y.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BOYLE No. 1—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation List.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
ingham ..	Errironagh ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	118 3 27	3 5 0	2 0 0	
,,	Farronagalliagh West	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	53 3 27	53 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Grevisk ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	15 2 32	15 15 0	—	
,,	Bullock Islands	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King Harman	11 2 14	7 5 0	—	
,,	Castle Island	Reps. Mrs E F. King Harman	0 1 29	0 5 0	10 0 0	
,,	Green Island ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	1 2 11	0 15 0	—	
,,	Hags Island ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	0 0 17	—	—	
,,	Lahan Island	Reps. Mrs. E, F. King-Harman	2 1 16	1 0 0	—	
,,	Orchard Island	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	7 3 2	6 5 0	—	
,,	Swallow Island	Reps. Mrs E. F King-Harman	4 1 18	3 15 0	—	
,,	Thatch Island	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	0 0 3	—	—	
,,	Knockvicar ..	John F. Peyton	145 2 20	60 10 0	13 10 0	
,,	Rathdiveen ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	2 1 20	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	8 0 0	8 0 0	—	
,,	Ballykeevican	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King Harman	1 1 30	1 10 0	—	
,,	Demesne ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King Harman	436 1 38	220 0 0	10 0 0	
,,	Keeloges ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	2 3 20	1 15 0	—	
,,	Kilbryan ..	Mrs. E. F. King-Harman ..	2 2 0	2 10 0	—	
,,	Rathdiveen ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F King-Harman	18 3 27	13 0 0	—	
,,	Trinity Island	Reps. Mrs E. F. King-Harman	1 3 13	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King Harman	0 0 34	—	—	
,,	Drumman's Island	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	37 2 24	15 0 0	1 0 0	
field ..	Leam ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King Harman	259 0 5	1 15 0	—	
,,	Estersnow ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	0 1 30	0 5 0	—	
,,	Knockroe ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King Harman	46 3 20	0 11 0	—	
nagh ..	Ardmore ..	Robert Vesey Stoney	140 0 27	90 5 0	0 5 0	
,,	Cornaglia ..	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	85 3 0	1 0 0	—	
,,	Cornameelta ..	Frances A. King-Harman ..	17 1 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Kiltybrannock	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	52 0 19	0 5 0	—	
,,	Four Small Islands	Reps. Mrs. E. F. King-Harman	0 0 12	—	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF CARRICK-ON-SHANNON No. 2.

rim East	Corry ..	Grace P. Mahon	9 0 21	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Grace P. Mahon	1 2 3	0 1 0	—	
,,	,,	Grace P. Mahon	37 0 9	0 11 0	—	
,,	Dooneen ..	William Lloyd	117 0 30	41 0 0	—	
,,	,,	William Lloyd	221 0 5	114 0 0	1 10 0	
,,	Lackan	William Hancock	120 1 15	86 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	William Hancock	183 3 2	112 0 0	—	
,,	,,	William Hancock	2 0 24	0 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	William Hancock	1 2 35	0 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	William Hancock	3 3 30	1 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	Lisnanuran ..	William Hancock	0 2 16	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. Frances Lloyd	8 0 16	4 15 0	—	
,,	Rockville ..	William Lloyd	45 2 25	26 0 0	—	
,,	,,	William Lloyd	146 1 17	119 5 0	45 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Rodeen ..	William Lloyd	64 0 0	55 5 0	—	
,,	Toomore ..	William Lloyd	200 0 21	116 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	William Lloyd	35 2 25	11 0 0	—	
rim West	Bryan Beg ..	Reps. Thomas Flannery ..	42 1 22	27 0 0	—	
,,	Carrowreagh ..	Reps. John Flynn	26 0 5	0 5 0	—	
,,	Lugateane ..	Lord Crofton	6 2 20	0 5 0	—	
iteem ..	Charlestown ..	Sir Gilbert King, Bart. ..	171 1 20	85 10 0	—	
,,	Clogher ..	Reps. Arthur Browne ..	71 0 0	59 0 0	1 10 0	
,,	Cloonavery ..	Sir Gilbert King, Bart. ..	157 1 1	122 5 0	47 15 0	Mansion house
,,	Corgullion ..	Sir Gilbert King, Bart. ..	2 3 10	0 2 0	—	
,,	Corralara ..	Lord Greville	4 3 0	0 4 0	—	
,,	Corry ..	Samuel Russell	74 2 33	47 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Samuel Russell	5 3 11	2 0 0	—	
,,	Cuiltyconway	Sir Gilbert King, Bart. ..	83 3 32	63 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Sir Gilbert King, Bart. ..	6 1 20	—	—	
,,	Dangan (Nugent)	Lord Greville	56 0 24	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Samuel Russell	27 3 29	16 0 0	—	
,,	Drumcleavry ..	Sir Gilbert King, Bart. ..	38 0 36	25 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir Gilbert King, Bart. ..	64 0 4	49 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	Sir Gilbert King, Bart. ..	3 1 0	1 0 0	—	
,,	Islands in River Shannon	Sir Gilbert King, Bart. ..	0 2 17	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Sir Gilbert King, Bart. ..	0 3 13	—	—	
,,	Lackagh ..	Sir Gilbert King, Bart. ..	33 0 35	23 0 0	2 0 0	
,,	Moyglass ..	Samuel Russell	210 0 11	100 10 0	3 0 0	
,,	Skeagh ..	Dr. Shackleton	0 0 0	0 5 0	—	
e ..	Assaun ..	Mrs. E. F. King-Harman ..	45 1 15	0 15 0	—	

APPENDIX XI.

Y.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF CARRICK-ON-SHANNON No. 2—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Creeve	Ballysundrivan	Michael Mitchell	48 0 18	40 0 0	—	
,,	Martry	John G. King	37 0 0	1 0 0	—	
,,	Lissadorn	Mrs. E. F. King Harman	21 2 26	0 10 0	—	
Danesfort	Cortober	Petronella Whyte	9 3 10	6 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Petronella Whyte	0 1 37	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Petronella Whyte	2 2 17	3 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Petronella Whyte	5 1 13	5 15 0	—	
,,	Drumercool	Reps. Thomas Keogh	26 1 29	0 10 0	—	
Killukin	Ardlavagh	Catherine Cassidy	36 1 27	0 5 0	—	
,,	Carroward	John O'Donnell	88 0 34	51 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	Knockacorha	Catherine Cassidy	7 0 21	0 2 0	—	
,,	Legvoy or Gardenstown	James Acheson	1 1 23	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	James Acheson	104 1 21	62 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	Toorymartin	John O'Donnell	90 2 31	74 0 0	4 0 0	
,,	Woodbrook	Thomas T. L. Kirkwood	335 2 7	264 0 0	4 0 0	
,,	,,	Thomas T. L. Kirkwood	7 1 1	2 15 0	0 5 0	
,,	Doorary	Thomas T. L. Kirkwood	188 1 14	129 10 0	1 10 0	
Killummod	Carrowmore	Mrs. Stanley Carey	29 1 27	0 5 0	—	
,,	Derraun	Mrs. Stanley Carey	50 0 3	0 11 0	—	
,,	Drumerr	Mrs. Stanley Carey	63 3 27	1 5 0	—	
Kilmore	Ardgallagh	Lord Greville	18 3 4	0 7 0	—	
,,	Carrowcuill	Thomas Whelan	129 0 34	90 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Clooncommon Beg	Samuel Russell	54 1 37	24 5 0	—	
,,	Clooncoose	William Lloyd	18 2 15	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	William Lloyd	10 2 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cuiltyshinnoge	Lord Greville	49 3 34	0 15 0	—	
,,	Fearagh Mahon	Henry S. P. Mahon	20 1 38	0 19 0	—	
,,	,,	Henry S. P. Mahon	19 0 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Islands in River Shannon	William McDonald	0 0 17	—	—	
,,	,,	Henry S. P. Mahon	0 0 2	—	—	
,,	Knocknagawna	Hubert Hamilton	1 3 24	1 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Hubert Hamilton	29 2 26	25 0 0	2 10 0	
,,	,,	Hubert Hamilton	0 2 26	0 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Hubert Hamilton	4 3 10	3 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Scrabbagh	Mrs. Jermyngham	4 2 18	0 4 0	—	
,,	Tully	Samuel Russell	188 0 38	141 0 0	22 15 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Samuel Russell	11 2 9	3 10 0	—	
Tumna North	Derreen	Countess of Kingston	31 2 20	—	—	
,,	Derreenasoo	Countess of Kingston	26 2 36	0 4 0	—	
,,	,,	Countess of Kingston	55 1 23	0 10 0	—	
,,	Moyoran	Countess of Kingston	6 2 35	0 2 0	—	
,,	Shanballybaun	Countess of Kingston	2 1 0	—	—	
Tumna South	Cleaheen	Countess of Kingston	22 3 30	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Countess of Kingston	178 2 3	1 14 0	—	
,,	,,	Countess of Kingston	46 2 22	0 17 0	—	
,,	Clegna	Countess of Kingston	38 2 34	—	—	
,,	Cloongreaghan	Countess of Kingston	100 3 0	0 15 0	—	
,,	Derrygirraun	Countess of Kingston	13 0 0	—	—	
,,	Drumsillagh	Countess of Kingston	5 0 13	—	—	
,,	Laughil	Countess of Kingston	5 2 5	—	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF CASTLEREA.

Artagh North	Aghalustia	Lord De Freyne	41 2 31	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	14 3 32	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	121 0 37	0 13 0	—	
,,	Carrownknockaun	John C. Murphy	7 0 26	2 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Cloonargid	John C. Murphy	450 3 34	75 0 0	2 0 0	
,,	Clooncah	Lord De Freyne	73 1 4	0 15 0	—	
,,	Cloontowart	Lord De Freyne	6 2 20	—	—	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	55 0 17	0 3 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	25 3 20	0 9 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	16 1 11	0 6 0	—	
,,	Corracoggil North	Lord De Freyne	19 2 13	—	—	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	16 1 15	—	—	
,,	Corracoggil South	Lord De Freyne	44 0 6	—	—	
,,	Creevy	John C. Murphy	5 2 35	3 10 0	—	
,,	,,	John C. Murphy	64 0 20	—	—	
,,	Curraghard	Lord De Freyne	13 0 30	—	—	
,,	Derry	The Dowager Lady De Freyne	27 2 25	0 3 0	—	
,,	Kiltybranks	John C. Murphy	34 3 16	0 10 0	—	

...—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON *-continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF CASTLEREA—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
h North ..	Kiltybranks ..	John C. Murphy	141 0 1	—	—	
,,	Lissydaly ..	Patrick O'Gara	32 3 10	—	—	
,,	Kilrooan ..	Lord De Freyne	27 0 32	—	—	
h South ..	Breanamore ..	Lord De Freyne	94 2 27	1 5 0	—	
..	Carrowbehy ..	Lord De Freyne	402 1 22	3 10 0	—	
..	Cloonagh ..	Lord De Freyne	55 0 30	1 8 0	—	
..	Cloonbunny ..	Lord De Freyne	8 1 15	0 7 0	—	
..	,,	Lord De Freyne	159 1 20	2 0 0	—	
,,	Cloondart ..	Lord De Freyne	124 2 11	3 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonmaul ..	Lord De Freyne	111 1 35	1 5 0	—	
,,	Derreenamac-kaun	Lord De Freyne	165 0 2	48 5 0	12 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Derrylahan ..	Lord De Freyne	22 0 38	0 5 0	—	
,,	Errit ..	Lord De Freyne	44 1 5	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	142 2 35	3 19 0	—	
,,	Gortaganny ..	Lord De Freyne	120 3 8	1 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	1 0 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	22 1 0	5 5 0	—	
,,	Kilroddan ..	Lord De Freyne	5 1 20	0 3 0	—	
..	,,	Lord De Freyne	24 1 25	0 6 0	—	
,,	Lecarrow ..	Lord De Freyne	42 0 38	16 0 0	—	
,,	Tully ..	Lord De Freyne	39 0 16	3 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	82 1 11	1 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	24 1 25	0 5 0	—	
,,	Urrassaun ..	Lord De Freyne	103 0 12	2 0 0	—	
,,	Drummad ..	Lord De Freyne	151 3 4	2 0 0	—	
haderreen	Ballaghaderreen	Congested Districts Board ..	1 1 14	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	2 3 27	0 10 0	—	
,,	Ballymaging or Castlemore	Congested Districts Board ..	1 0 7	0 10 0	—	
..	Drumnalassan	Congested Districts Board ..	0 2 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Kilcolman ..	Congested Districts Board ..	4 0 11	2 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonavullaun	Congested Districts Board ..	41 2 21	1 0 0	—	
..	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	3 3 26	1 5 0	—	
,,	Lung ..	Congested Districts Board ..	28 0 9	18 0 0	—	
..	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	1 0 3	—	—	
,,	Killadangan ..	Congested Districts Board ..	3 1 6	0 1 0	—	
ough ..	Creggameen ..	Reps. W. R. Wills-Sandford ..	81 0 0	—	—	
,,	Cloonalough ..	Henry B. Sampey	172 0 36	1 15 0	—	
,,	Ballinlough ..	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	2 0 7	0 15 0	—	
,,	Ballybane Lower	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	15 0 20	—	—	
,,	Curraghs West	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	181 0 32	—	—	
,,	Carrick ..	The O'Conor Don	3 3 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cashlieve ..	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	97 1 12	17 5 0	—	
..	,,	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	58 2 0	6 0 0	25 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Cloncalgy More	R. P. Worthington	7 3 20	1 15 0	0 5 0	
,,	Clooninisclin ..	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	140 0 38	0 6 0	—	
,,	Cloonkeehan West	Michael Broderick	26 2 26	0 1 0	-	
,,	Cloonlee ..	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	15 1 5	—	—	
,	Commons ..	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	7 3 17	0 5 0	—	
..	Coolatinny ..	The O'Conor Don	4 3 0	1 15 0	—	
,,	Coosaun ..	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	47 2 30	—	—	
,	Corrasluastia ..	The O'Conor Don	17 1 12	0 5 0	—	
..	Foxborough ..	R. P. Worthington	159 3 6	1 2 0	—	
..	Clooncrim ..	The O'Conor Don	26 0 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Keyfield ..	Edmond F. Sampey	58 2 0	1 5 0	—	
..	Mountain Lower	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	175 2 13	2 10 0	—	
..	,,	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	39 3 17	1 0 0	—	
..	,,	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	77 3 14	2 10 0	—	
,,	Mountain Upper	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	24 2 15	—	—	
..	,,	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	39 3 20	1 0 0	—	
,	,,	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	98 3 34	1 15 0	—	
..	Stonepark ..	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	75 0 34	7 10 0	1 0 0	
..	,,	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	22 2 17	3 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	Carraghs East	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	85 2 26	—	—	
..	,,	Edward Wills Sandford Wills ..	49 2 30	—	—	
..	Cloonreliagh ..	Annitta O. Crichton	16 2 37	—	—	
..	,,	Annitta O. Crichton	12 0 30	—	—	
ber ..	Bellacagher ..	Captain W. J. Burke	7 3 5	—	—	
,,	Cleaboy ..	John McHugh	146 3 31	82 5 0	14 0 0	Mansion house.
..	Cloonagrassaun	Thomas Trayers	43 2 30	0 5 0	—	
..	Cloonykerny ..	Mrs. F. D. Chambers	70 0 26	0 10 0	—	
,	Corrastoona Reg	Thomas Conry	98 2 28	66 0 0	5 0 0	
..	Corrastoona More	Nicholas O'Conor	187 3 38	113 0 0	0 15 0	
..	,,	Sir N. O'Conor	54 2 10	38 0 0	2 0 0	
..	Dundermot ..	Nicholas O'Connor	204 2 6	145 0 0	30 15 0	Mansion house.
,	Emlaghglasny	Terence McMenaway	362 3 10	188 5 0	2 15 0	
,	Laragh and Ross	Nicholas O'Conor	1 3 10	0 15 0	-	
..	,,	Nicholas O'Conor	36 1 28	12 10 0	—	
..	Leabeg ..	John Campbell	490 1 12	163 0 0	1 15 0	

APPENDIX XI.

Y.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF CASTLEREA—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Ballintober	Shankoagh ..	Reps. Thomas G. W, Sandford	146 2 26	1 10 0	—	
"	Timanagh ..	John McHugh	212 1 35	156 15 0	0 5 0	
"	"	John McHugh	18 2 14	7 5 0	—	
"	Tobermakee ..	Christopher McDermott ..	225 2 5	135 5 0	1 0 0	
"	Willsgrove ..	Reps. T. G. W. Sandford ..	153 3 17	79 10 0	1 5 0	
Baslick	Ballindollaghan (Crump) ..	Henry Pakenham Mahon ..	46 1 11	1 0 0	—	
"	Cloonbard ..	Henry Pakenham Mahon ..	304 2 14	2 10 0	—	
"	Corlis ..	Henry Pakenham Mahon ..	27 3 20	0 5 0	—	
"	Brackloon ..	Michael Kelly	195 1 10	2 0 0	—	
"	Cashelnagole ..	Henry Pakenham Mahon ..	30 2 0	0 10 0	—	
"	Lugakeeran ..	Henry Pakenham Mahon ..	297 0 2	2 10 0	—	
"	Tully ..	Henry Pakenham Mahon ..	769 2 13	7 0 0	—	
Bellanagare ..	Ballyglass ..	Alfred Crofton Trench ..	66 1 28	0 15 0	—	
"	"	Congested Districts Board ..	188 3 5	123 5 0	—	
"	"	The O'Conor Don	372 2 28	232 10 0	0 10 0	
"	Caddellbrook ..	Richard O'Farrell Caddell ..	50 0 14	—	—	
"	Arraghan ..	Charles M. O'Conor	169 2 24	3 13 0	0 10 0	
"	"	Charles M. O'Conor	28 0 11	13 10 0	0 15 0	
"	Ballaghcullia ..	The O'Conor Don	361 0 11	202 5 0	10 0 0	Mansion house
"	Ballynahowna	The O'Conor Don	213 1 29	11 5 0	—	
"	Bellanagare ..	The O'Conor Don	2 1 20	1 10 0	—	
"	"	The O'Conor Don ..	204 1 17	163 10 0	1 10 0	
"	Carrowreagh ..	The O'Conor Don	21 0 27	12 10 0	0 10 0	
"	"	The O'Conor Don	3 0 14	26 10 0	0 10 0	
"	"	The O'Conor Don	4 0 5	45 0 0	1 0 0	
"	Cornamucklagh and Falmore	The O'Conor Don	271 0 5	3 0 0	—	
"	Derreen ..	The O'Conor Don	61 1 4	1 0 0	—	
"	Drummin ..	The O'Conor Don	262 1 18	146 10 0	—	
"	Gortnagoyne ..	The O'Conor Don	197 2 13	201 5 0	0 10 0	
"	Kilcorkey ..	Charles M. O'Conor	196 0 22	96 10 0	5 10 0	
"	Killaster ..	Charles M. O'Conor	72 3 28	20 0 0	—	
"	"	Charles M. O'Conor	13 3 2	—	—	
"	Knockroe ..	The O'Conor Don	87 1 25	2 0 0	—	
"	Mount Druid	Charles M. O'Conor	212 2 21	171 0 0	35 0 0	Mansion
"	Peak ..	Richard Irwin	365 1 37	197 0 0	4 0 0	
"	Rathnallog ..	Congested Districts Board ..	412 0 28	340 0 0	2 10 0	
"	Mullen ..	John C. Murphy	617 1 32	104 5 0	1 0 0	
"	Raheely ..	John C. Murphy	4 3 35	—	—	
"	Moneylea ..	Charles M. O'Conor	235 3 25	159 5 0	0 15 0	
"	Garrynphort ..	Reps. Mrs. Catherine O'Conor ..	104 3 28	36 5 0	—	
"	"	Reps. Mrs. Catherine O'Conor ..	59 0 10	20 15 0	0 7 0	
"	Kilvoy ..	Reps. Mrs. Catherine O'Conor ..	460 2 7	320 0 0	5 0 0	
"	Leggatinty ..	James Davis	71 1 19	—	—	
Buckill ..	Ballinphuill ..	Lord De Freyne	142 1 36	1 10 0	—	
"	Buckill ..	Lord De Freyne	114 1 3	16 10 0	1 0 0	
"	Cloonfad ..	Lord De Freyne	107 3 15	—	—	
"	Lisdrumneill ..	John C. Murphy	66 1 2	—	—	
"	Banada ..	Congested Districts Board ..	2 2 17	1 5 0	—	
Carrowduff ..	Ardlagheen More or Highlake	Congested Districts Board ..	25 2 20	0 15 0	—	
"	Rushpark Farragher	Lord De Freyne	44 2 15	0 10 0	—	
"	Tonbaun ..	Eva Neilan	295 2 37	249 0 0	1 0 0	
Castleplunket ..	Ardeevin ..	James Neilan	97 2 15	92 0 0	—	
"	"	James Neilan	246 3 34	253 5 0	2 10 0	
"	Glenvela ..	William Murphy	207 2 22	252 10 0	2 0 0	
"	Gortnasillagh	William Murphy	344 2 35	368 0 0	—	
"	Kanefield ..	Bernard McDonnell	159 3 34	115 0 0	0 15 0	
"	Lismurtagh ..	John Sheil	218 0 4	213 0 0	—	
"	Lissalway ..	Farrell McDonnell	739 2 39	770 0 0	0 15 0	
"	Rathfuddagh	S. W. Flanagan	169 0 26	188 10 0	1 0 0	
"	Rathmoyle ..	Michael Broderick	89 1 14	33 15 0	0 5 0	
"	"	Richard Irwin	305 3 2	290 0 0	37 0 0	Mansion house.
Castlerea ..	Arm ..	The O'Conor Don	133 3 32	108 15 0	1 15 0	
"	"	The O'Conor Don	8 0 30	8 10 0	—	
"	"	The O'Conor Don	20 3 31	0 5 0	—	
"	"	The O'Conor Don	27 1 32	20 10 0	0 10 0	
"	"	The O'Conor Don	17 1 6	11 10 0	4 0 0	
"	"	W O'Grady Young	124 0 10	98 10 0	1 10 0	
"	Ballindrumlea	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	78 3 12	3 5 0	—	
"	Ballnphuill ..	Michael J. Balfe	4 2 25	3 0 0	—	
"	"	Michael J. Balfe	1 3 1	1 5 0	2 0 0	
"	Beagh ..	W. O. O'Grady Young ..	155 1 5	80 10 0	1 0 0	
"	"	W. O. O'Grady Young ..	112 0 29	2 5 0	—	
"	Carrowgarve ..	Congested Districts Board ..	152 3 2	145 15 0	5 0 0	
"	Carrowmore ..	Michael J. Balfe	124 2 29	97 15 0	0 10 0	
"	Cloonavindin ..	O. W. O'Grady Young ..	226 1 17	133 10 0	2 10 0	
"	Cloondacarra ..	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	21 2 33	0 5 0	—	
"	Cloondacarra Beg	Reps. Colonel Fitzstephen French	43 0 33	1 0 0	—	

Y.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF CASTLEREA—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
erea ..	Cloonree ..	Reps. Thomas G. W Sandford	46 3 10	—	—	
,,	Cloontrask ..	The O'Conor Don	8 3 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Demesne ..	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	558 2 8	477 5 0	90 5 0	Mansion house
,,	Knockmurry ..	Reps. Thomas G W. Sandford	5 3 30	2 0 0	—	
,,	Southpark Demesne	Michael J. Balfe	170 1 30	145 10 0	45 0 0	Mansion house
,,	,,	Michael J Balfe	235 3 15	159 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Michael J Balfe	119 3 0	133 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Michael J. Balfe	95 2 6	80 0 0	—	
,,	Termonmore ..	Reps. Thomas G. W Sandford	134 3 35	1 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps Thomas G. W. Sandford	41 1 21	15 17 0	4 0 0	
,,	,,	Reps. Thomas G. W Sandf rd	92 2 28	78 5 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	42 0 9	26 15 0	—	
,,	Knockroe ..	T. G. W. Sandford	0 2 0	0 10 0	1 5 0	
teheen ..	Brackloon ..	J. P. Mulligan	256 1 29	210 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Carrowbaun ..	Reps. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	2 3 10	1 5 0	—	
,,	Carrowreagh ..	Reps. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	3 1 0	1 10 0	—	
,,	Castleteheen ..	Congested Districts Board ..	193 3 33	203 10 0	—	
,,	Emlagh ..	Christopher F. M'Dermott ..	23 1 29	19 15 0	15 0 0	
,,	Rathnalulleagh	J. P. Mulligan	29 3 3	18 0 0	1 0 0	
fower ..	Annaghmaghera	The O'Conor Don	302 0 8	1 10 0	—	
,,	Breanabeg ..	The O'Conor Don	55 1 14	—	—	
,,	,,	Michael Broderick	64 3 13	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	The O'Conor Don	42 2 10	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonaff ..	The O'Conor Don	225 3 7	65 12 0	0 5 0	
,,	Cloonalis ..	The O'Conor Don	315 2 27	146 15 0	96 15 0	Mansion house.
,,	Cloonbonniff ..	The O'Conor Don	48 0 15	0 10 0	—	
,,	Clooncan ..	Hercules B. Brabazon ..	3 1 15	1 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Hercules B. Brabazon ..	87 3 29	12 4 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Hercules B. Brabazon ..	0 2 39	0 5 0	—	
,,	Clooncoose North	The O'Conor Don	420 3 29	3 0 0	—	
,,	Clooncraffield	The O'Conor Don	98 3 16	1 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonelt ..	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	165 2 25	1 7 0	—	
,,	Cloonfower ..	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	205 2 12	1 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonsuck ..	The O'Conor Don	28 1 12	0 10 0	—	
,,	Creglahan ..	The O'Conor Don	9 0 10	2 15 0	—	
,,	,,	The O'Conor Don	112 0 30	0 18 0	—	
,,	Derreen ..	The O'Conor Don	52 1 14	0 15 0	—	
,,	Drumnalough ..	Michael Broderick	11 2 20	5 0 0	—	
,,	,,	The O'Conor Don	11 1 30	0 5 0	—	
,,	Kilmore ..	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	48 0 20	—	—	
,,	Taghnarra ..	Reps. Thomas G W. Sandford	217 0 22	1 10 0	—	
gher ..	Annagh ..	R. P. Worthington	372 2 8	3 15 0	—	
,,	Cloonchambers	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	233 1 22	0 15 0	—	
,,	Cloonconra ..	Reps Thomas G. W Sandford	25 3 8	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	432 1 10	4 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonfelliv ..	R. P. Worthington	347 2 1	2 15 0	—	
,,	Cloonkeen ..	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	42 2 27	—	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	16 2 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonroughan ..	Walter Sweeny	44 2 0	0 8 0	—	
,,	,,	Walter Sweeny	272 3 33	105 10 0	17 0 0	Mansion house.
,	Foughil ..	Harriett Dickson	109 0 26	1 5 0	—	
,,	Leveelick ..	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	53 3 26	0 15 0	—	
,,	Willsbrook ..	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	20 2 30	0 3 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	63 3 21	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonfad ..	R. P. Worthington	278 1 11	3 5 0	—	
,,	Ballinlough Quarter	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	3 1 35	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	24 0 26	3 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps Thomas G. W Sandford	36 1 15	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	8 0 30	2 5 0	—	
,,	Church Quarter	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	41 2 13	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	0 3 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonlish or Robinhood	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	88 1 12	8 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	25 1 15	4 5 0	—	
,,	Coolougher ..	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	38 1 17	14 0 0	—	
,,	Derryharraun East	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	69 0 26	1 0 0	—	
,,	Derryharraun West	Reps Thomas G. W. Sandford	171 3 20	1 0 0	—	
,,	Roadquarter ..	E. Sandford Wills	1 0 20	0 5 0	—	
unt ..	Cloonfinglas ..	Lord De Freyne	178 3 0	1 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	169 3 26	1 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonsheever ..	Lord De Freyne	418 2 26	3 5 0	—	
,,	Gradlagh ..	Lord De Freyne	64 1 4	—	—	
,,	Leitrim ..	Lord De Freyne	14 0 5	0 7 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	25 0 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	668 1 36	3 0 0	—	
,,	Lisanaunny ..	Lord De Freyne	228 0 18	1 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonard ..	Lord De Freyne	95 0 39	1 0 0	—	
,,	Cloncarragh ..	Lord De Freyne	120 3 35	2 0 0	—	
ark ..	Callow or Rannawillin	Robert A. Longfield and Others	450 3 17	16 0 0	—	

APPENDIX XI.

Y.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON—*continued*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF CASTLEREA—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute)	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings	Observation
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Frenchpark ..	Cartron Beg ..	Lord De Freyne	26 0 24	11 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Cloonmagunnaun	Lord De Freyne	377 2 15	2 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonshanville	James Davis	6 1 30	5 10 0	—	
,,	,,	James Davis	173 2 17	1 5 0	—	
,,	Coskeagh ..	Lord De Freyne	18 0 36	3 5 0	—	
,,	Frenchpark Demesne	Lord De Freyne	1,066 1 9	846 0 0	60 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Portaghard ..	Lord De Freyne	5 0 0	2 5 0	—	
,,	Runnabehy ..	Robert A. Longfield and Others	96 3 0	1 17 0	—	
,,	Sheepwalk ..	Lord De Freyne	19 3 0	12 0 0	—	
,,	Sheevannan ..	Lord De Freyne	2 2 16	2 0 0	1 5 0	
,,	,,	Lord De Freyne	125 1 30	1 0 0	—	
,,	Slieveroe ..	Lord De Freyne	24 2 6	0 15 0	—	
,,	Sracocka ..	Robert A. Longfield and Others	44 3 19	1 15 0	—	
,,	Tullaghnamaddy	Lord De Freyne	4 3 10	3 0 0	—	
Kiltullagh ..	Ballinross ..	Martin M'Donnell	16 1 12	0 7 0	—	
,,	,,	Martin M'Donnell	16 1 32	3 5 0	—	
,,	Benmore ..	Martin M'Donnell	25 0 0	0 10 0	—	
,,	Betal ..	Stephen J. M'Donagh ..	158 1 35	72 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Castlequarter	Arthur O'Conor	13 3 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Arthur O'Conor	4 1 25	—	—	
,,	Clogher Upper	Arthur O'Connor	9 3 0	—	—	
,,	Cloonerkaun ..	Patrick M. Leonard	9 0 18	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonfad East	R. P. T. Logan	254 3 2	3 15 0	—	
,,	Curragh ..	Robert A. Longfield and Others	12 2 37	—	—	
,,	Derrylahan ..	Martin M'Donnell	38 0 10	—	—	
,,	Fiddaun ..	Martin M'Donnell	74 3 0	—	—	
,,	Lowberry ..	Stephen J. M'Donagh ..	105 2 24	63 0 0	—	
,,	Meeltraun (Wills)	Reps. Thomas G. W. Sandford	7 0 10	—	—	
,,	Moanvane ..	Congested Districts Board ..	134 2 36	64 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Mountdelvin ..	Martin McDonnell	4 0 10	2 5 0	—	
,,	Pollanalty East	Arthur O'Conor	127 3 26	—	—	
,,	Pollanalty West	Martin McDonnell	149 3 15	3 0 0	—	
,,	Pollanarroo ..	Arthur O'Conor	9 0 15	—	—	
,,	Pollaphuca ..	Martin McDonnell	64 2 20	0 15 0	—	
,,	Spring Gardens	Congested Districts Board ..	17 3 15	7 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	115 0 29	55 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Stonepark North	Congested Districts Board ..	31 1 19	14 15 0	—	
,,	Swinefield ..	Martin McDonnell	14 0 10	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Martin McDonnell	10 2 10	—	—	
Loughglinn ..	Aghalour ..	Congested Districts Board ..	9 2 8	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	8 1 2	6 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonmullin ..	Viscount Dillon	2 3 35	0 10 0	—	
,,	Lissergool ..	R. P. Worthington	64 3 2	0 13 0	—	
,,	Loughglinn Demesne	Congested Districts Board ..	5 3 33	4 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Congested Districts Board ..	321 1 10	174 10 0	—	
,,	Moyne ..	Congested Districts Board ..	8 3 10	6 5 0	—	

RURAL DISTRICT OF ROSCOMMON.

Athleague East	Carrowreagh ..	Robert O. Longfield	334 1 18	153 10 0	1 0 0	
,,	Glennanammer	Valentine M'Donnell	178 3 12	99 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Kilmore ..	Reps. Edward Kennedy ..	429 1 29	228 0 0	4 0 0	
,,	Lisnagirra ..	Reps. William Hickson ..	263 3 0	139 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Toberkeagh ..	Robert O. Longfield	277 1 31	165 0 0	4 0 0	
,,	Knockadangan	Robert O. Longfield	217 1 19	115 0 0	13 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Timothy Tiernan	116 3 28	70 0 0	0 10 0	
Athleague West	Araghty ..	William J. Talbot	48 0 24	1 0 0	—	
,,	Athleague ..	Reps. William Jameson ..	134 3 24	99 5 0	20 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Clooneen ..	Reps. William Jameson ..	14 2 11	8 15 0	—	
,,	Cloonykelly ..	Reps. William Jameson ..	4 0 7	3 0 0	—	
,,	Aghagad ..	Henry S. P. Mahon	46 1 8	1 0 0	—	
,,	Bellanacarrow	Thomas Mulry	116 1 7	76 15 0	0 15 0	
,,	Cloonyourish ..	Robert O. Longfield	105 1 16	49 5 0	1 0 0	
Cams ..	Cams ..	Messrs. Cleaver & Scott ..	29 2 10	6 0 0	—	
,,	Clooneenbaun	Reps. Francis P. Dunne ..	173 1 3	1 15 0	—	
,,	Tonlegee ..	Nicholas O'Connor	162 3 8	113 0 0	0 10 0	
Cloontuskert ..	Ballyglass ..	Sir Henry G. Bellew	62 0 12	0 10 0	—	
,,	Cloonaddra ..	James W. Carroll	322 3 28	3 15 0	—	
,,	Cloontuskert ..	Sir Henry G. Bellew	528 0 0	2 10 0	—	
,,	Coolshaghtena	John T. Davis	250 2 38	2 0 0	—	
,,	Erenagh ..	Sir Henry G. Bellew	102 1 8	0 10 0	—	
,,	Gallagh ..	Connolly J. M'Causland ..	36 2 6	0 5 0	—	
,,	Gortgallan ..	Margaret M'Gan	154 1 5	1 5 0	—	

Y.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF ROSCOMMON—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
ontuskert ..	Ferrinch Island	Connolly J. M'Causland ..	11 0 29	0 15 0	—	
,,	Lisnanarriagh	John Thomas Davis	143 1 33	1 10 0	—	
,,	Moher ..	James W. Carroll ..	142 0 26	1 0 0	—	
..	Portnahinch ..	Connolly J. M'Causland ..	32 2 13	0 5 0	—	
onygormican	Ballinturly ..	Edward Blakeney	142 1 24	103 15 0	0 15 0	
,,	Ballyglass Lower	Raleigh Chichester Constable ..	140 3 2	73 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Ballyglass Upper	Raleigh Chichester Constable ..	506 1 0	292 15 0	2 5 0	
,,	Clogher ..	Raleigh Chichester Constable ..	136 1 20	144 0 0	—	
,,	Lisnalegan ..	Raleigh Chichester Constable ..	132 1 18	131 15 0	0 15 0	
,,	Peak ..	Andrew M'Dermott	51 2 3	38 15 0	0 5 0	
,,	Runnamoat ..	Raleigh Chichester Constable ..	445 3 27	290 10 0	42 0 0	Mansion house.
mdaff ..	Carrowcrin ..	Richard Irwin	28 2 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonarragh ..	Henry S. P. Mahon	17 0 2	0 10 0	—	
,,	Corbo ..	Clare Mary Nolan	286 3 8	106 5 0	1 10 0	
,,	Derryconny ..	George A. Newcomen ..	14 3 2	0 5 0	—	
,,	Lisgobban ..	George A. Newcomen ..	12 3 39	0 10 0	—	
,,	Ballagh ..	James D. O'Connor	118 3 7	70 15 0	17 5 0	Mansion house.
,,	Ballinwally ..	James D. O Connor	131 3 30	67 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Cloonageeragh	Everard Digby	186 1 8	7 10 0	—	
,,	Clooncashel Beg	Connolly T. M'Causland ..	176 0 36	1 0 0	—	
,,	Clooncashel More	Connolly T. M'Causland ..	62 1 26	0 12 0	—	
,,	Corry ..	Everard Digby	56 1 24	0 5 0	—	
amon ..	Ardmore ..	Algernon St. G. Caulfield ..	405 2 35	253 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	Ballymacfarrane	Algernon St. G. Caulfield ..	2 0 0	0 2 0	—	
,,	Emlaghnagree	Algernon St. G. Caulfield ..	35 1 0	0 15 0	—	
,,	Emlaghyroyin	Algernon St. G. Caulfield ..	60 1 24	1 18 0	—	
,,	,,	Algernon St. G. Caulfield ..	3 2 0	0 15 0	—	
,,	Island Upper ..	Algernon St. G. Caulfield ..	12 1 12	1 0 0	—	
,,	Slieve and Corbally	Algernon St. G. Caulfield ..	437 2 6	2 0 0	—	
rty ..	Castlestrange ..	Thomas Mulry	787 0 36	478 15 0	50 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	Cloonyquin ..	Charles Duignan	245 1 13	132 10 0	1 0 0	
	Parkbeg ..	Reps. Patrick Duignan ..	296 1 12	165 5 0	1 15 0	
ride North	Carrowboy ..	Reps. John Campbell	93 1 18	76 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Cashcltauna ..	Reps. John Campbell ..	329 1 5	235 0 0	1 10 0	
,,	Cornashinnagh	Henry S. P. Mahon	44 3 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Corradrehid ..	Alexander Crichton	82 1 25	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Henry S. P. Mahon	84 1 15	0 15 0	—	
,,	Carrownalassan	Alexander Crichton	223 1 9	192 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Ballinderry ..	Thomas C. E. Goff	319 1 20	53 15 0	0 15 0	
,,	Cashelmeehan	Rev. R. N. Jackson	1 3 10	0 15 0	—	
,,	Cloonbony ..	Thomas C. E. Goff	209 3 24	1 5 0	—	
,,	Derrane ..	James Sandys	127 1 34	42 10 0	3 0 0	
,,	,,	Thomas C. E. Goff	25 0 0	10 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Reps. Capt Drought	198 1 14	127 5 0	5 15 0	
refin ..	Cappagh ..	J. D. O'Connor	51 1 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cattron or Old Glebe	James Mulry	2 1 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonshee (Connor)	Roderick O'Connor	28 2 5	0 5 0	—	
,,	Clonshee (Hartland)	Valentine J. O'Connor ..	44 2 2	0 5 0	-	
,,	Fairymount ..	Francis Mennings	53 2 23	0 5 0	-	
,,	Killattimoriarty	Col. Caulfield	104 3 8	1 10 0		
,,	Lackan ..	Henry S. P. Mahon	101 3 28	21 0 0	—	
,,	Sheehaun (Morton)	Reps. George Walpole.. ..	48 1 35	0 10 0	—	
,,	Trilacroghan ..	William J. Walpole	233 3 7	59 5 0	—	
,,	Tuam ..	Richard Irwin	17 0 15	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Richard Irwin	80 2 6	—	-	
,,	Aghmagree ..	Thomas A. P. Mapother ..	166 3 23	36 15 0	—	
,,	Annaghmore ..	Clare Nolan	2 0 33	—	—	
,,	Clooncah ..	Izadore Fawcett	45 0 30	18 0 0	—	
,,	Cooltona ..	Earl of Essex	2 2 34	—	—	
,,	Clooneigh ..	Thomas A. P. Mapother ..	505 3 22	77 10 0	3 10 0	
,,	Cloonlarge ..	Clare M. Nolan	200 2 32	1 10 0	—	
,,	Cloontimullan	Thomas A. P. Mapother ..	87 2 7	11 0 0	—	
,,	Cloontogher ..	Thomas A. P. Mapother ..	210 0 1	160 0 0	20 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Thomas A. P. Mapother ..	66 2 0	21 5 0	—	
,,	Curry ..	Hubert Martin	2 2 4	1 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Hubert Martin	270 3 26	163 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	Cruit ..	John R. Fawcett	4 2 15	—	—	
,,	Doogarymore	Clare M. Nolan	233 3 11	2 0 0	—	
,,	Fearagh—					
,,	"Maddysrulla North"	Izadore Fawcett	111 2 1	60 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Izadore Fawcett	29 0 35	13 0 0	1 5 0	
,,	"Fearagh" ..	Izadore Fawcett	83 3 33	2 0 0	—	
,,	,,	John R. Fawcett	9 1 16	—	—	

APPENDIX XI.

Y.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 257 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF ROSCOMMON—*continued.*

Electoral Division	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Kilteevan ..	Fearagh—"Friarspark"	Izadore Fawcett	145 3 32	44 5 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Izadore Fawcett	3 2 20	2 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	"Brackna South"	Izadore Fawcett	10 2 31	7 17 0	1 13 0	
,,	,,	Izadore Fawcett	16 3 5	12 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Izadore Fawcett	14 1 33	7 15 0	—	
,,	"Brackna North"	Izadore Fawcett	119 2 1	53 10 0	—	
,,	Dog Island ..	William Frazer	0 1 32	—	—	
,,	Kilteevan ..	Thomas A. P Mapother ..	357 2 27	77 15 0	1 10 0	
,,	Portrunny ..	John R. Fawcett	0 2 0	—	—	
,,	Tonlegee ..	Clare M. Nolan	314 2 0	234 19 0	37 0 0	Mansion house
,,	,,	Clare M. Nolan	4 2 10	2 15 0	—	
Lackan ..	Correal ..	Percy Magan	10 2 20	5 5 0	35 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Arthur T. S. Magan	73 3 35	38 10 0	—	
,,	Gortacarnan ..	James Sproule	45 0 34	25 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Gortnadarra ..	James Sproule	10 0 19	5 5 0	—	
,,	Killeenadeema	P. Mills M'Donnell	172 1 29	94 10 0	—	
,,	Longfield ..	James Sproule	143 3 38	103 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	Toberconor ..	P. Mills M'Donnell	167 1 3	93 0 0	—	
,,	Carrowntlieve	Arthur T. S. Magan	110 0 37	55 0 0	—	
Lismaha ..	Attiknockan ..	William J. Talbot	251 3 3	126 0 0	6 15 0	
,,	Cloonakilleg ..	Thomas K. Mahon	172 2 5	1 5 0	—	
,,	Cloonea ..	William J. Talbot	459 2 38	135 10 0	1 0 0	
	Cloondorah ..	William J. Talbot	27 0 25	1 0 0	—	
,,	Derrinlurg ..	William J. Talbot	60 2 37	0 10 0	—	
,,	Lisgillalea ..	William J. Talbot	27 2 0	7 0 0	—	
,,	Lismaha ..	William J. Talbot	112 0 38	63 10 0	1 5 0	
,,	Mount Talbot	William J. Talbot	522 1 8	289 15 0	137 15 0	Mansion house.
Mote ..	Bolinree ..	Lord Crofton	120 2 1	52 10 0	4 0 0	
,,	Carrowndrisha	Lord Crofton	12 2 15	—	—	
,,	Cloonconra ..	Mrs. Hughes and Miss Florence E. Davys	90 0 31	0 10 0	—	
,,	Clooncraff ..	Lord Crofton	413 1 25	3 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonsellan ..	Lord Crofton	193 2 21	1 10 0	—	
,,	Corgarve ..	Lord Crofton	28 0 32	14 0 0	4 0 0	
,,	Cornamaddy ..	Lord Crofton	7 3 14	3 5 0	—	
,,	Creggan ..	Lord Crofton	46 3 13	26 5 0	—	
	Derrydonnell ..	Lord Crofton	199 3 29	69 5 0	1 0 0	
,,	Ballymurray ..	Lord Crofton	0 3 20	0 8 0	1 10 0	
,,	Galey ..	Lord Crofton	4 3 33	—	—	
,,	Killeenboy ..	Lord Crofton	135 0 24	0 8 0	—	
,,	Longnamuck ..	Lord Crofton	149 2 13	101 0 0	8 10 0	
,,	Moneymore ..	Lord Crofton	1 0 10	0 10 0	—	
,,	Mote Demesne	Lord Crofton	1,238 0 26	625 0 0	140 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Newtown ..	Mrs. Hughes and Miss Florence E. Davy	71 2 28	0 5 0	—	
,,	Tromaun ..	Lord Crofton	0 3 6	0 10 0	0 15 0	
,,	,,	Martin M'Donnell	45 1 20	22 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Martin M'Donnell	145 0 14	41 10 0	—	
Roscommon Rural	Mullymucks ..	Henry S. P Mahon	218 1 19	100 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Ballybride ..	Trustees of Rev. Robert B. Birmingham	7 2 25	5 5 0	—	
,,	Ballygalda or Trust	Reps. John Neilan	93 0 36	56 0 0	16 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Reps. John Neilan	2 1 0	1 10 0	1 5 0	
,,	,,	Reps. John Neilan	119 0 27	72 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John Neilan	16 2 20	10 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John Neilan	6 0 22	4 5 0	—	
,,	Ballymartin More	Lord Crofton	175 1 15	126 0 0	2 5 0	
,,	,,	Lord Crofton	75 2 5	17 15 0	1 15 0	
,,	Ballymartin Beg	Martin M'Donnell	89 2 17	43 0 0	11 0 0	
,,	Lisnamult ..	Trustees of Rev. Robert B. Birmingham	267 0 12	221 15 0	—	
,,	Ardsallagh Beg	Thomas C. E. Goff	9 3 30	14 0 0	—	
Rosmoylan ..	Bracklin ..	Algernon St. G. Caulfield ..	320 3 20	20 5 0	—	
,,	Carrowkeel ..	Algernon St. G. Caulfield ..	50 0 27	0 10 0	0 5 0	
,,	Coolroghaun ..	Algernon St. G. Caulfield ..	2 0 22	0 5 0	—	
,,	Cornaveagh ..	Algernon St. G. Caulfield ..	526 0 3	204 5 0	2 10 0	
,,	Dunamon ..	Algernon St. G. Caulfield ..	310 3 17	151 10 0	96 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Shanballyeden	Algernon St. G. Caulfield ..	24 0 6	14 5 0	—	
Scregg ..	Ballyglass (Par. of Killinvoy)	Sir George Wm. Gunning ..	23 0 19	2 10 0	—	
,,	Scregg ..	Reps. Henry Potts	322 0 17	184 0 0	19 10 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Reps. Henry Potts	44 1 30	29 0 0	—	

—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF STROKESTOWN.

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
ghmore	Drinaun ..	Reps. Pierce Simpson	31 0 39	0 5 0	—	
,,	Annaghbeg ..	T. H. French	11 3 1	—	—	
,,	Carrownvally	Mary Plunkett Taaffe	2 2 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Michael Mitchell	11 2 17	6 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Michael Mitchell	7 2 10	4 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Michael Mitchell	18 2 15	6 15 0	—	
,,	Cloonsreane ..	Alicia Riddick	16 0 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	John Riddick	17 2 10	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Edward Riddick	20 2 28	0 15 0	—	
,,	Falsk ..	Reps. Arthur Browne	142 3 22	83 0 0	25 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	,,	Reps. Arthur Browne	13 1 39	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Arthur Browne	4 0 5	1 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	Corraslira ..	Arthur O'Connor	10 3 30	1 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Arthur O'Connor	33 0 6	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Arthur O'Connor	4 0 0	—	—	
,,	Annaghmore ..	Jane Keon	109 1 4	37 15 0	4 0 0	
,,	,,	William Keon	36 0 15	—	—	
garden ..	Drumagissaun	Stanley Coote	66 2 17	0 5 0	—	
,,	Gillstown ..	Reps. Thomas Cox	176 3 12	117 0 0	8 10 0	
,,	Grange ..	Stanley V. Coote	30 3 39	0 5 0	—	
,,	Toberpatrick ..	B. F. M'Donnell	455 0 1	237 5 0	20 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Rattinagh ..	Stanley C. Coote	34 3 8	0 2 0	—	
lin ..	Aghadangan ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	34 2 29	5 5 0	—	
,,	Ashbrook or Knocknabarnaboy	Michael and Thomas Hanly ..	78 1 16	62 0 0	3 0 0	
,,	,,	Michael and Thomas Hanly ..	41 2 37	17 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Edward J. Hanly	17 1 8	8 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Michael and Thomas Hanly ..	27 3 15	9 15 0	0 10 0	
..	Ballyfeeny ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	36 3 39	12 0 0	—	
,,	Ballyhubert ..	Nicholas R. O'Connor ..	28 1 9	1 0 0	—	
,,	Bellanamullia ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	100 3 4	63 15 0	0 15 0	
,,	Bellmount or Cloggernagh	Michael and Thomas Hanly ..	50 1 31	32 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Cloonshannagh	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	483 2 12	43 5 0	—	
,,	Cordrumman ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	48 2 23	0 5 0	—	
,,	Corhawny ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	159 1 1	50 0 0	—	
,,	Culliagh Lower	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	125 1 32	1 0 0	—	
,,	Graffoge ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	64 0 9	26 5 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	168 1 22	27 0 0	—	
,,	Killinordan Beg	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	89 1 27	49 0 0	—	
,,	Northyard ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	148 0 25	89 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	40 0 8	8 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	158 1 13	0 15 0	—	
,,	Pollymount ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	7 0 20	4 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	32 0 13	12 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	3 0 0	1 0 0	—	
,,	Scramoge ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	177 0 15	120 5 0	1 5 0	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	16 0 30	7 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	15 2 35	10 15 0	0 10 0	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	3 1 0	1 5 0	—	
,,	Treanacreeve	Alfred Walpole	5 2 0	2 10 0	—	
nlough ..	Coggal Beg ..	St. George Caulfield	116 0 3	0 15 0	—	
,,	Cloonearagh ..	Arthur Mitchell	29 1 26	0 10 0	—	
,,	Derreen ..	St. George Caulfield	89 3 5	—	—	
,,	Moher ..	Sir Malby Crofton, Bart. ..	48 2 18	0 5 0	—	
,,	Mountpleasant	Rev. William Devenish ..	10 3 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Rev. William Devenish ..	2 2 20	—	—	
,,	Coggalforty-acres	St. George Caulfield	51 1 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	Coggaltronroe	St. George Caulfield	20 0 0	0 5 0	—	
,,	Coggalstack ..	St. George Caulfield	6 2 0	0 5 0	—	
quin ..	Boyanagh ..	A. St. George French	83 3 35	81 0 0	24 0 0	Mansion house
,,	Cammoge ..	Christopher French	0 1 6	0 5 0	—	
,,	Carrowgobbadagh	Reps. J. P. Taaffe	94 0 29	110 0 0	—	
..	Cloonmahaan	Christopher French	2 3 27	0 18 0	—	
,	Cloonquin ..	Christopher French	74 3 3	80 15 0	—	
,,	Flaskagh Beg	Christopher French	4 2 3	2 5 0	—	
,,	Flaskagh More	Christopher French	0 2 0	0 10 0	—	
,,	Toberorrory ..	Major A. St. George French ..	421 0 25	374 5 0	1 10 0	
,	Tullintuppeen	A. St. George French ..	13 3 34	10 15 0	—	
,,	,,	A. St. George French ..	47 1 20	54 0 0	—	
,	Killynagh More	Christopher French	0 0 30	0 5 0	—	
..	Carrownamaddy	Richard Hague	306 1 2	174 15 0	2 5 0	
,	,,	Richard Hague	8 3 37	5 0 0	—	
,	Cloonahee ..	Richard Hague	275 3 23	145 0 0	40 0 0	Mansion house.
,	Cloonshannagh	Rep. John Gearty	37 0 26	—	—	
,,	Rathmore ..	Edward M'Caffrey	118 3 1	56 0 0	1 10 0	
,,	Drumlish ..	Lucy Roberts	12 3 23	—	—	
..	Caldragh ..	William Lloyd	7 3 30	—	—	
,	Cregga ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	5 3 25	0 5 0	—	
,,	Kiltrustan ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	31 3 17	8 0 0	—	

APPENDIX XI.

Y.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF STROKESTOWN—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation. Land.	Rateable Valuation. Buildings.	Observations.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Elia ..	Cuilmore ..	John Joseph Kelly	8 3 10	—	—	
,,	Curry ..	Reps. John J. Kelly	3 1 0	0 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. John J. Kelly	3 3 10	—	—	
Elphin ..	Emlagh ..	Reps. Rev. John Acheson ..	7 2 26	9 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. Rev. John Acheson ..	28 0 4	18 10 0	—	
	Caldrymoran ..	Charles O'Conor	130 0 7	135 10 0	0 10 0	
Kilglass North	Derrymacsteer	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	20 2 1	6 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Lord Harlech	100 2 35	45 0 0	0 15 0	
,,	Knockhall ..	John W. Flanagan	40 0 20	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	John W. Flanagan	0 1 20	—	—	
,,	,,	John W. Flanagan	11 1 26	6 0 0	—	
,,	,,	John W. Flanagan	170 0 21	81 5 0	1 5 0	
,,	,,	Richard Irwin	236 2 2	1 0 0	—	
Kilglass South ..	Ballyfeeny ..	Captain P. Mahon	40 0 18	12 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Captain P. Mahon	6 0 0	2 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Captain P. Mahon	0 1 22	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Captain P. Mahon	59 0 24	22 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Captain P. Mahon	18 0 34	8 5 0	0 10 0	
,,	Dooslattagh ..	Lord Castlemaine	107 1 23	0 15 0	—	
,,	Kilgraffy ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	86 2 38	36 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Rooaun ..	T. A. E. O'Flaherty	147 1 33	110 0 0	18 0 0	Mansion house.
Killavackan ..	Ballymore ..	Reps. Theobald Dillon ..	13 3 33	8 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Carravard ..	Theobald Dillon	45 2 0	9 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Reps. Theobald Dillon ..	85 3 2	16 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonycarran More	Rev. William Devenish ..	21 0 30	4 10 0	—	
,,	Curraghduffy ..	Reps. T. A. Dillon	28 1 1	7 15 0	—	
,,	,,	T. A. Dillon	9 1 20	3 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. T. A. Dillon	10 0 28	3 5 0	—	
,,	Killavackan ..	George Reddick	63 2 7	0 10 0	—	
,,	Telton ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	79 2 21	10 0 0	—	
,,	Tullyvarran ..	Reps. T. A. Dillon ..	219 0 22	46 10 0	—	
Killukin ..	Ardakillin ..	Hector C. Toler Aylward ..	85 2 17	44 0 0	0 5 0	
,,	,,	Ellen O'Connor	10 3 4	0 5 0	—	
,,	Ballydaly ..	T. C. E. Goff	37 3 11	6 0 0	—	
Lissonuffy ..	Derrycashel ..	B. St. George Lefroy	694 3 5	3 0 0	—	
,,	,,	B. St. George Lefroy	16 1 27	7 0 0	6 0 0	
,,	Derryhance ..	Elizabeth Lefroy	195 3 35	1 0 0	—	
,,	Drinagh ..	T. A. Dillon	2 2 16	0 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Reps. T. A. Dillon	974 3 35	5 0 0	—	
,,	Erra ..	Elizabeth Lefroy	594 1 29	3 0 0	—	
,,	Granaghan (Dillon)	Samuel Russell	195 2 10	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Samuel Russell	145 1 0	51 5 0	—	
,,	Granaghan (Martin)	Nicholas R. O'Connor ..	100 3 24	1 0 0	—	
,,	Mongagh ..	Reps. T. A. Dillon	243 3 19	2 0 0	—	
,,	Mountdillon ..	Samuel Russell	1,283 1 37	124 5 0	3 0 0	
,,	Trila (Martin)	A. R. O'Connor	185 1 22	44 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Curraghroe ..	Samuel Russell	53 3 39	31 0 0	—	
Ogulla ..	Lissacurkia ..	S. W. Flanagan	131 3 25	120 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Ballybeg ..	Lord Crofton	84 0 32	108 0 0	—	
,,	Cargin Demesne	Captain George William Drought	391 3 24	414 0 0	17 0 0	Mansion house.
,,	Carns ..	Earl of Westmeath	392 2 8	426 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Carrowgarve ..	Earl of Westmeath	221 1 19	239 5 0	0 15 0	
,,	Carrowna-geelaun	Mrs. Drought	9 2 32	7 5 0	—	
,,	Carrowntoosan	John M'Hugh	111 3 7	108 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	Glenbally-thomas	Raleigh Chichester ..	835 3 35	837 0 0	2 0 0	
,,	Lismurtagh ..	John J. Sheil	164 2 25	125 10 0	0 10 0	
,,	Toomona ..	Lord Crofton	4 1 20	5 5 0	—	
Roosky ..	Ballymagrine	William Tredennick	68 2 14	1 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonanfill ..	William Tredennick	98 2 12	1 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonfad ..	William Tredennick	114 0 2	3 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonfower ..	William Tredennick	132 3 9	2 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonshannagh	William Tredennick ..	407 0 0	1 10 0	—	
,,	Cuilbeg ..	William Tredennick	217 0 14	1 5 0	—	
,,	Derrymoylin ..	William Tredennick	311 3 22	2 5 0	—	
,,	Derryonagh ..	H. D. M. Barton	124 1 2	54 5 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	H. D. M. Barton	2 0 15	0 15 0	—	
,,	Kilbarry ..	William Tredennick	525 1 23	5 13 0	—	
,,	,,	William Tredennick	0 1 17	—	—	
,,	Meelick ..	William Tredennick	187 2 24	1 15 0	—	
,,	Moneenbeg ..	William Tredennick	6 3 34	0 5 0	—	
,,	Roosky ..	H. D. M. Barton	14 0 37	11 0 0	—	
,,	Roosky New ..	William Tredennick	30 3 8	0 5 0	—	
Strokestown ..	Bumlin ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	197 3 29	140 0 0	2 0 0	
,,	Cloonrabracken	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	249 0 36	153 15 0	1 0 0	
,,	Cloonradoon ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	422 3 10	171 5 0	65 0 0	Mansion house.

Y.—RETURN OF UNTENANTED LAND IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON—*continued.*

Taken from Parliamentary Paper No. 250 of 1906.

RURAL DISTRICT OF STROKESTOWN—*continued.*

Electoral Division.	Townland.	Occupier in Valuation Lists.	Area (statute).	Rateable Valuation.		Observations.
				Land.	Buildings.	
			A. R. P.	£ s. d	£ s. d.	
okestown ..	Farnbeg ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	22 3 28	27 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	5 1 11	7 0 0	0 10 0	
,,	Kilmore ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	215 3 38	77 15 0	—	
,,	Lisroyne ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	22 3 19	32 0 0	1 0 0	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	0 2 20	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	8 0 21	—	—	
,,	Newtown ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	227 0 8	148 15 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	4 3 10	5 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	57 3 37	56 10 0	—	
,,	Vesnoy ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	187 3 35	171 15 0	3 10 0	
,,	Carrowntryla ..	Thomas Murray	125 0 16	70 0 0	5 5 0	
,,	Cloonslanor ..	Mrs. G. Mahon	17 2 0	12 5 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	16 1 27	14 10 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	3 1 38	1 0 0	—	
,,	Clooneen (Hartland)	Connolly T. M'Causland ..	48 1 20	0 10 0	—	
,,	Kildalloge ..	Grace Mahon	9 3 30	12 0 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs Henry S. P. Mahon ..	3 2 0	3 10 0	1 10 0	
,,	,,	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	57 2 34	61 10 0	—	
,,	Lavally ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	1 1 20	0 15 0	—	
,,	,,	Mrs. G. Mahon	118 1 5	90 0 0	—	
,,	Carrowclogher	Thomas Murray	1 3 0	1 5 0	0 10 0	
monbarry ..	Ballytoohey ..	Mrs. Henry S. P. Mahon ..	1 0 30	1 0 0	—	
,,	Cloonmore ..	E. D. Beaumont Nesbitt ..	470 1 30	2 0 0	—	
,,	Corramagrine	E. D. Beaumont Nesbitt ..	49 2 23	0 5 0	—	
,,	Corraun ..	E. D. Beaumont Nesbitt ..	145 2 26	0 10 0	—	
,,	Lack ..	E. D. Beaumont Nesbitt ..	20 2 14	0 10 0	—	
,,	Newtown ..	E. D. Beaumont Nesbitt ..	159 0 7	1 10 0	—	
sk ..	Bloomfield ..	Hector C. Toler Aylward ..	110 1 18	85 0 0	10 15 0	

DUBLIN: Printed for His Majesty's Stationery Office.
By ALEX. THOM & Co. (Limited), 87, 88, & 89 Abbey-street.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

ELEVENTH REPORT

OF

THE COMMISSIONERS.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

DUBLIN:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY ALEXANDER THOM & CO. (LIMITED), ABBEY-STREET.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
E. PONSONBY, 116, Grafton-street, Dublin; or
WYMAN and SONS, Limited, Fetter-lane, E.C., and
32, Abingdon-street, Westminster, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, Tweeddale-court, Edinburgh.

1908.

Cd. 4088]. *Price* ½*d.*

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

WARRANT APPOINTING THE COMMISSION.

EDWARD *R. & I.*

EDWARD THE SEVENTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, to

Our right trusty and right well-beloved Cousin and Councillor WILLIAM HUMBLE, EARL OF DUDLEY, Knight Grand Cross of Our Royal Victorian Order;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor SIR ANTONY PATRICK MACDONNELL, Knight Grand Commander of Our Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, Knight Commander of Our Royal Victorian Order, Under Secretary to Our Lieutenant-General and General Governor of that part of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland called Ireland;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor SIR JOHN CHARLES READY COLOMB, Knight Commander of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor SIR FRANCIS MOWATT, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Companion of Our Imperial Service Order; and

Our trusty and well-beloved :—

The Most Reverend PATRICK O'DONNELL, Doctor in Divinity;

JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esquire;

WALTER INCH KAVANAGH, Esquire;

CONOR O'KELLY, Esquire; and

ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esquire; Chairman of the Fishery Board for Scotland;

GREETING!

Whereas We have deemed it expedient that a Commission should forthwith issue to inquire into and report upon the operation of the Acts dealing with Congestion in Ireland, the working of the Congested Districts Board, and the Land Commission under these Acts, and the relations of the Board with the Land Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction; what areas (if any) outside the districts now scheduled as congested, require to be dealt with as congested; what lands are most conveniently situated for the relief of congestion; what changes in law or administration are needed for dealing with the problem of congestion as a whole, for facilitating the migration of the surplus population from congested areas to other lands, and generally for bettering the condition of the people inhabiting congested areas.

Now know ye that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your knowledge and ability, have nominated, constituted and appointed, and do by these Presents nominate, constitute and appoint you the said William Humble, Earl of Dudley (Chairman); Sir Antony Patrick MacDonnell; Sir John Charles Ready Colomb; Sir Francis Mowatt; Patrick O'Donnell; John Annan Bryce; Walter Inch Kavanagh; Conor O'Kelly; and Angus Sutherland to be Our Commissioners for the purposes of the said Inquiry.

And for the better effecting the purposes of this Our Commission, We do by these Presents give and grant unto you, or any three or more of you, full power to call before you such persons as you shall judge likely to afford you any information upon the subject of this Our Commission; and also to call for, have access to, and examine all such books, documents, registers and records as may afford you the fullest information on the subject; and to inquire of and concerning the premises by all other lawful ways and means whatsoever.

And We do by these Presents authorize and empower you, or any three or more of you, to visit and personally inspect such places as you may deem it expedient so to inspect for the more effectual carrying out of the purposes aforesaid, and to employ such persons as you may think fit to assist you in conducting any inquiry which you may hold.

And We do by these Presents will and ordain that this Our Commission shall continue in full force and virtue, and that you, Our said Commissioners, or any three or more of you, may from time to time proceed in the execution thereof and of every matter and thing therein contained, although the same be not continued from time to time by adjournment.

And We do further ordain that you, or any three or more of you, have liberty to report your proceedings under this Our Commission from time to time, if you shall judge it expedient so to do.

And Our further will and pleasure is that you do, with as little delay as possible, report to Us under your hands and seals, or under the hands and seals of any three or more of you, your opinion upon the matters herein submitted for your consideration.

Given at Our Court at *St. James's*, the 20th day of July, 1906, in the sixth year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command.

H. J. GLADSTONE.

Appointment of Secretary.

DUBLIN CASTLE,

July 24, 1906.

WALTER ERNEST EVERARD CALLAN, Esquire, B.L., The Castle, Dublin, has been appointed to be Secretary of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into and report upon the operation of the Acts dealing with Congestion in Ireland.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

ELEVENTH REPORT.

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

We, the Commissioners appointed by Your Majesty on the 20th July, 1906,

> "To inquire into and report upon the operation of the Acts dealing with Congestion in Ireland, the working of the Congested Districts Board, and the Land Commission under these Acts, and the relations of the Board with the Land Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction; what areas (if any) outside the districts now scheduled as congested, require to be dealt with as congested; what lands are most conveniently situated for the relief of congestion; what changes in law or administration are needed for dealing with the problem of congestion as a whole, for facilitating the migration of the surplus population from congested areas to other lands, and generally for bettering the condition of the people inhabiting congested areas,"

Availing ourselves of Your Majesty's permission to report our proceedings from time to time, desire to submit to Your Majesty, as an Appendix to this eleventh preliminary Report, minutes of the evidence taken in London during the month of January, and statements and returns in writing that have been furnished to us in connection therewith.

We think that the immediate publication of these documents is desirable.

All of which we humbly submit for Your Majesty's most gracious consideration.

DUDLEY, *Chairman.*
A. P. MACDONNELL.
JOHN C. R. COLOMB.
FRANCIS MOWATT.
✠ PATRICK O'DONNELL.
JOHN ANNAN BRYCE.
WALTER KAVANAGH.
CONOR O'KELLY.
ANGUS SUTHERLAND.

WALTER CALLAN,
Secretary.

LONDON. Dated this 14th day of April, 1908.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

APPENDIX

TO THE

ELEVENTH REPORT.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

(TAKEN IN LONDON, 22ND TO 24TH JANUARY, 1908),

AND

DOCUMENTS RELATING THERETO.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

DUBLIN:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY ALEXANDER THOM & CO. (LIMITED), ABBEY-STREET.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
E. PONSONBY, 116, Grafton-street, Dublin; or
WYMAN and SONS, Limited, Fetter-lane, E.C., and
32, Abingdon-street, Westminster, S.W.; or
OLIVER and BOYD, Tweeddale-court, Edinburgh.

1908.

[Cd. 4089.] *Price* 1*s.* 2*d.*

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	Page
List of Members of the Commission,	iii
Terms of Reference,	iii
List of Witnesses,	iv
Digest of Evidence,	v
Minutes of Evidence,	1
Index to Appendices,	40
Appendices	42

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.

The Right Hon. The Earl of Dudley, G.C.V.O. (Chairman)

The Right Hon. Sir A. P. MacDonnell, G.C.S.I.

The Right Hon. Sir John C. R. Colomb, K.C.M.G.

The Right Hon. Sir Francis Mowatt, G.C.B.

The Most Rev. Patrick O'Donnell, D.D., Lord Bishop of Raphoe.

John Annan Bryce, Esq., M.P.

Walter Kavanagh, Esq., M.P., D.L.

Conor O'Kelly, Esq., M.P.

Angus Sutherland, Esq., Chairman of the Fishery Board for Scotland

Secretary—

Walter Callan, Esq.

TERMS OF REFERENCE.

"To inquire into and report upon the operations of the Acts dealing with Congestion in Ireland, the working of the Congested Districts Board, and the Land Commission under these Acts, and the relations of the Board with the Land Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction; what areas (if any) outside the districts now scheduled as congested, require to be dealt with as congested; what lands are most conveniently situated for the relief of congestion; what changes in law or administration are needed for dealing with the problem of congestion as a whole, for facilitating the migration of the surplus population from congested areas to other lands, and generally for bettering the condition of the people inhabiting congested areas."

WITNESSES.

	Page of Digest.	Page of Evidence.
DORAN, Mr. Henry, ...	v.	1
MITCHELL, Mr. F. W. D., . . .	x.	36

DIGEST OF EVIDENCE.

DORAN, Mr. HENRY.

See pp. 1-36.

Classification of Estates bought by the Board under Act of 1903, which had been treated and prepared for sale—According to amount of loss on improvements.

Particulars had been prepared of the actual loss incurred by the Board in treating estates bought under the Act of 1903, 59394.—These estates were classified as follows:—Class A.—Poor tenanted estates on some of which there was a small proportion of untenanted land available for migration and enlargement of holdings; Class B.—Very poor tenanted estates on which there was practically no agricultural land available for these purposes; Class C.—Estates comprised wholly or mainly of untenanted land used chiefly for migration; the total purchase price of A., B., and C. was £317,639, the total expenditure on improvements £81,249, and the total net loss £41,152, 59561.—The total poor law valuation £12,457, and the total area 53,627 acres, of which 10,558 acres were untenanted, and 43,096 acres were tenanted, 59394-8, 59400-2, 59561, 59640, 59828.—Class A., represented by the Dillon and De Freyne Estates, comprised 76·1 of the gross purchase money, and though the improvement had been substantial, the percentage of loss had only been 9·4 of the cost price of the estates, 59561.—Class B., represented by the Carna, Erris, and Connemara Estates, and those about Mallaranny, comprised 15·6 per cent. of the gross purchase money; the only improvements effected had been improvement of dwellings, re-arrangement of holdings, and the making of roads and drains; the number of economic holdings had not been materially increased, 59562.—Improvements had not been considered sufficiently directly reproductive for any appreciable portion of the outlay to be charged to the sale prices of holdings, so that the percentage of loss had been 21·6 per cent. of the cost price of the estates, 59572.—Class C. comprised only 8·3 per cent. of the gross purchase money; its total area was 3,000 acres of grass land, and the loss 28·8 per cent., 59562, 59572.—The average loss on A., B., and C. together was 12·9 per cent., 59577, 59708, 59764, 59810, 59837, 59941, 59948.

Typical Character of Estates Classified.

Improvements had been effected as economically as was consistent with efficiency, and as the above were average estates, the result of the operations, though not an absolute guide, should afford the safest available information on which to estimate the loss likely to be involved in the treatment of similar properties, 59405, 59574, 59644, 59655, 59678, 59681, 59834, 59943, 59945.

Effect which the granting of Compulsory Powers would have on percentage of loss.

It was, however, most important to analyse the character of the above estates; 75 per cent. consisted of properties needing improvement, but responding to treatment like the Dillon Estate. The Board had done their best for A. but sufficient relief had not been given. They had not been able to acquire the lands best suited for migration purposes, and consequently very few people had migrated. A number of Dillon Estate tenants would go if lands could be acquired near at hand. Granted compulsory powers, greater improvements could be effected in future, and the 9 per cent. loss on A would be increased, 59575-91, 59705, 59837, 59843-4.—It was not likely that in practice all the tenants of an estate could be provided with economic holdings. The arrangements on Colonel Smith's estate in Erris and on the Madden Estate had approached the ideal, and the loss had

DORAN, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

been 25·4 and 24 per cent. respectively, 79704-8.—The Dillon Estate had, owing to favourable circumstances, been treated without loss, which fact had reduced the average percentage of loss to 6 per cent. If the Dillon Estate had to be bought to-day, improvements like those effected would, by themselves, mean a loss of 10 per cent., and this would be at least doubled if really satisfactory treatment were given. This would be the case on all such estates unless they happened to contain a large area of grass land, 59592-8, 59672-6, 59696-9.

Low percentage of loss when Untenanted Land was in the ambit of the Estate.

The Armstrong Estate was a fair illustration of the result of operations in favourable circumstances. Few new houses had been required, and the untenanted land, though not near the tenanted, had been within the ambit of the estate. Had it been at any distance the actual net loss of 15 per cent. would have been greatly increased, perhaps doubled. The land might have cost even less—the increased expenditure would have been on building, fencing, and road-making. Advances on the sale price of holdings had been taken into account when estimating the 15 per cent. loss, but not loans, 59598-615.—Assuming what was unlikely—that fifty families would have migrated, the net loss would have been at least £100 per family, although a certain proportion of the expenditure would have been put on the annuity, 59598-619.

Proportion of B Estates which should be bought, and treatment which should be given.

If a million's worth of land were bought annually, it would not be advisable to buy more than 10 per cent. of the B class; the area of these estates was not indicated by the percentage, *e.g.*, the Berridge Estate, though very large, was not worth much; congestion on these properties could not be much relieved by migration; the majority were remote from grass areas, and a considerable number of occupiers objected to migration, and in any case were quite unfit for it at present; B estates were the worst class, and would probably remain bad no matter what the Board did for them; for this reason the Board had rather avoided the purchase of B in remote districts, 59822-4, 59826, 59828, 59835, 59837-41, 59848-9, 59961.—The standard of comfort of one-half the population of the congested districts could only be appreciably raised by the provision of industrial employment, 59827.—All maritime districts were of Class B, and the development of fishing would keep these. Even if this could not be done to a satisfactory extent, the conditions of life of the population could be much ameliorated, 59827.—Few would probably argue that emigration should be facilitated (though a large number of people would be willing to go), but if the peasants were given decent homes with turbary for fuel, grazing for a couple of cows, and space for fowls, they would, though poor, lead good and happy lives, and would be a valuable asset to Ireland if she could employ them as labourers; if not they would be useful as migratory labourers, 59849-50.—In this last case the conditions under which they travelled and their housing in England should be supervised, 59852.—Lands should be striped and money freely spent on improving houses, as nothing seemed to have a more elevating effect on the habits of a peasant's family than the possession of a good house and surroundings, 59828.—The Board only put up new houses for the people they moved in striping, the peasants themselves building four times as many houses with grants given under the Houses Improvements Scheme and the Parish Committee Schemes, 59842.—

DORAN, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

Smaller sums were given for substantial improvements to existing houses, carried out in accordance with the Board's specifications, and sometimes a sum was added to the sale price of the holding and repaid in the annuity; buying an estate to stripe, improve, and re-sell to the tenants would by no means make future migration more difficult; the vacated holdings could easily be amalgamated with the adjoining striped holdings; in such cases the better house was always chosen for retention, 59842-5, 59851-2.

ADVANTAGES OF INCREASED MIGRATION; COST TO BE BORNE BY THE STATE, PROPOSED.

The more migration work done by the Board the more radical and effective was their treatment; the country really received good value for the expenditure involved as compared with the loss entailed by treating estates without substantially improving them. A special grant should be given by the State to meet the loss on increased migration; at present the only portion of the Board's funds not derived from Irish sources was the annual Parliamentary Grant of £20,000, 59765-8.

PURCHASE OF ONE-THIRD UNTENANTED LAND PROPOSED; INCREASED LOSS WHICH WOULD BE ENTAILED.

Witness recommended that Class C should in future comprise one-third of the estates purchased, 59632.—Then the loss, calculated in the same proportion as it had actually been on this class, would, roughly speaking, raise the loss on the entire group of estates from 12·9 to 17·2 per cent., because untenanted land cost most to try and prepare for migrants, 59632.—If congestion were only to be relieved by enlargement of holdings, a large amount of grass land should have to be bought in order to assist the worst estates, 59645, 59648-50, 59688-92, 59705, 59781.—C was only a loss, because it was needed for A and B, and as a matter of account the actual loss could be debited to the estates benefited, 59640-4.—Class C should be used chiefly for the amelioration of A, as more satisfactory results would be obtained there than in B, 59835-7, 59846-7.

COST OF MIGRATION; CONSIDERATIONS AFFECTING QUESTION OF FUTURE LOSS.

The tenants in these groups had all paid at least two years' full rent, and the untenanted land had been sold at the average price paid by the Board, viz., twenty-seven years' purchase of the estimated annual value, or 29·5 years' purchase of the poor-law valuation, 59692, 59798.—This last was misleading as a standard of value, because a bog valued at 3*d.* might be bought cheap at £4 per acre if situated near a densely populated district. If the Board were to charge the same interest as the Estates Commissioners, and the revenue of the land while on hands were substantially reduced, the 17·2 per cent. loss would be increased in proportion, 59796-804, 59856-9, 60026-7.—The goodwill of his old holding was credited to a migrant in the price of his new holding, he paying the twenty-seven years purchase only for the extra amount of land acquired *plus* something for the new buildings erected. (The minimum desirable accommodation for a family cost £110, the annual value of the new land being seldom less than £15. This would, roughly, represent a capital sum of £40, while the Board, having spent, say, £120 on buildings, would lose £80 on the transaction). The occupation interest of the vacated holding would be charged to the incoming tenant *plus* the fee-simple. If the house was not of much value, little or nothing was allowed for it. A bad house was knocked down, but if fairly good, the new occupier paid a separate rent for it, while his old house was, if necessary, demolished, 59620-32, 59769-73.—Though migration had before entailed an average loss of only 25 or 26 per cent., it was not likely in future to be less than 30 per cent. The cost price at twenty-seven years of the estimated fair value of a £15 holding was £405. The cost of buildings, as the Board knew by experience, had risen to £130, that of roads to £20, and of fences to £20 owing to scarcity of labour, making the total cost £575. Calculating the sale price on an annuity of 85 per cent. of the £15 annual value, *i.e.*, £12 16*s.*, the total cost was £294, entailing a loss of £181. By deducting the average value of the occupation interest of the vacated holding —viz., £35—the loss was reduced to £146, and still further to £94, or 23·2 per cent., if a £2 rent were paid for buildings, making the gross fair rent £17, 59761-4, 59768, 59781, 59948-9, 59968, 60003.—The annuity of a migrant's holding should not exceed 85 per cent. of the fair letting value, including buildings, and it would be better if these could be excluded. This could not be done without increased loss, unless bigger men would migrate. The larger the occupation interest of the vacated holding, the smaller the loss involved. Moreover small surrendered holdings allowed but a small enlargement of adjacent holdings. It was, however, doubtful, judging by recent experience, if bigger men would migrate, and there were not many of them in Class A. The acquisition of an adequate amount of grass land near the estate treated would lessen the difficulty, but the effect of the migration of larger men would probably not counterbalance the loss entailed by the increased cost of labour, 59710, 59764, 59768, 59965-72.

INCREASED LOSS TO BE ANTICIPATED IF TOO HIGH A PRICE WERE PAID FOR THE OCCUPATION INTEREST IN UNTENANTED LAND.

It seemed likely that the Board would seek to acquire a far larger proportion of non-residential tenanted holdings than hitherto; if they had to pay more for these than for land in the owner's possession they would not be able to sell the holdings created at annuities not exceeding the 85 per cent. of the fair rent without incurring a far larger loss than the 30 per cent. of the cost price of the land alone of the migrant's holding; there seemed no real reason why a larger price should be paid for land jointly owned by two persons (tenant and landlord) than for land occupied by one, 59710.—The land was valued on an estimate of the revenue it was capable of yielding when properly managed, and the buildings were valued separately; the number of owners had nothing to do with the question, 59715-6.—Untenanted land sometimes fetched an excessive price in the open market when the State provided money for the purchase of the fee-simple; otherwise not; in any case a prudent buyer would have regard to the instability of a competitive rental; grazing rents in Mayo and Roscommon had fallen considerably, so that the undivided interest was not so valuable as might appear, 59710-41, 59856-7, 60026-7.

EXPENSES WHICH SHOULD BE CHARGED TO ADMINISTRATION.

It should be pointed out that the loss on estates bought under the Act of 1903 included cost of surveyors, paymasters, and clerks of works. The Estates Commissioners charged all such expenses, except the wages of gangers, to administration, to be included in the vote for the Land Commission, and the Board should do likewise, 59859-61.

REDUCTION IN PERCENTAGE OF LOSS IF BOARD'S AREA OF OPERATIONS WERE TO INCLUDE THE WHOLE OF THE CONGESTED DISTRICTS COUNTIES.

The Board, acting on a right principle, had bought only estates needing treatment. Probably about one-fourth of the land in Connaught—*i.e.*, estates and sections of estates—could be passed for direct sale, and if these were included in the area of the Board's operations the percentage of loss would be reduced by perhaps one-fourth; also the proportions of A, B, and C would be changed, 59403-9, 59412, 59636, 59644-68, 59683 59861, 59863, 59942, 59946-7. —The remaining three-fourths did not include any estates on the verge of being economic, though there were some in Class A which had not needed much treatment—*e.g.*, the Colles-Sandes Estate, costing £71,000, on which the loss had only been 2·8 per cent. If, which was unlikely, there should prove to

DORAN, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

be a larger proportion of such estates in A the percentage of loss on the entire would be reduced. This would, however, be counterbalanced to some extent by the increased expenditure on estates like Lord Dillon's, 59677-82, 59684-5, 59947.

PROPORTION IN WHICH THE THREE CLASSES OF ESTATES SHOULD BE BOUGHT IF THE BOARD WERE TO DEAL WITH £1,000,000 WORTH OF LAND ANNUALLY.

If the Board dealt yearly with £1,000,000 worth of land, of which one-third were of C Class and one-tenth of B Class, the loss on the two, counted as 30 and 20 per cent. respectively, would be £120,000; if the total loss were limited to this sum 75 per cent. of A, tenanted estates, would have to be dealt with without any loss. The limit, however, should be at least 15 per cent. to allow for a loss of 5 or 6 per cent. on A. This last figure had been brought down from 9 per cent. because if the whole county were dealt with there would be a larger proportion of estates of better quality in A than was shown in the schedule, 59819-21, 59942-3, 59947.—In practice it would not be possible to preserve the exact proportions of A. B, C, though if, as seemed probable, as much as one-third of C could not be acquired, more of B could be bought, and in that way the loss on the gross output kept within a fixed average. This, however, was uncertain, for the Board should in future buy blocks of estates, and there might be an excess of A over B or of C over the others. If there were at any time an accumulation of B the purchase of A and C would have to cease for a while, and the output would be less. There should not be more than £1,000,000 worth of C in hand at any time. If the annual grant to be made to the Board were based on an average net loss it would be necessary to allow them a reasonable discretion in the selection and grouping of estates, so as to keep the total of the varying losses within the estimate. It would be objectionable to fix the grant on a varying percentage of loss; it would be preferable to have an annual grant fixed by a new Act placed at their disposal to be applied at their discretion, subject to the general understanding that they would sell annually about £1,000,000 worth of estates, 59705, 59819, 59829-32, 59855, 59861, 59883-91.—The Commission should make it perfectly clear in their recommendation that very variable losses were necessarily incurred in dealing with different classes of estates and that the percentage named by them was the average for all classes, so as to prevent people from clamouring for the average percentage of loss in the treatment of each estate, 59889-93.

POWER FOR THE BOARD TO EXCLUDE ESTATES OR PORTIONS OF ESTATES NOT REQUIRING TREATMENT.

It should rest with the Board to exclude from purchase estates or portions of estates which could be sold without special treatment, 59819, 59855.—They would have any large property offered them inspected, and if a substantial portion either did not need or was incapable of improvement, it should be certified as a separate estate to be sold direct (as its purchase by the Board would lead to great dissatisfaction, and hamper the work of reform on other properties), 59412-3, 59415.—Landlords and tenants would probably easily come to terms over the good part of the estate when they understood the reason for splitting up the property. Tenants would not wish their holdings to be bought by the Board and held for a couple of years when no money would be spent on them eventually, 59145, 59438.—In the few cases where landlords and tenants had come to terms before approaching the Board the difficulty of dealing with estates had been increased. There was a general desire amongst West of Ireland landlords to do it, and tenants were so anxious for the Board to buy and improve that they agreed to give too high a price. The landlord should first notify the Board of his intention to sell, whereupon the Board would inspect, and in many cases would be able at once to declare the estate one which could be sold direct. The Board would not arrange the price, but the landlord would negotiate direct as at present, 59432-6, 59456, 59468-9, 59480-1.—If inspection showed that a portion needed treatment the Board should not tell the landlord to arrange as he could with his tenants about it, for many estates were mortgaged or liable to family charges on the entire. The two sections should be declared simultaneously—one to be bought by the Board, the other direct—at a price arranged before the issue of the certificate, 59429, 59432-7, 59440, 59455-6, 59460, 59468-9, 59491-2.—There would be no difficulty about inspection, but it must take place before the question of splitting up an estate could be determined, 59474.

MAPS REQUIRED.

A landlord proposing to sell to the Board would have to lodge a map showing the actual holdings, as he had to do now for the Estates Commissioners. At present the Board only required him to show the boundary of his tenanted and untenanted land. Several properties were in such a state of rundale that only highly-skilled surveyors could have mapped them out extensively, and this would have meant considerable expense, 59417, 60246.

EFFECT ON PRICE OF SEPARATION OF ESTATE INTO TWO PORTIONS.

A bargain such as that contemplated above should not affect the total price. The land excluded from treatment should always be sold higher than the other, and though owners might ask too much, tenants were able to form a standard of prices, 59418-21.—Negotiations should be subsequent to inspection, but in any case the Board would not be justified in refusing a certificate, though compulsory powers should be used later if necessary; it was for the Estates Commissioners to approve the price in cases of direct sale, and to have the non-zone cases inspected; the Board's inspector could, when inspecting ascertain what the tenants were prepared to give, and could then, if invited by both parties, act as a friendly negotiator in regard to the direct sale; it would not be his duty to fix the price, but he might have to report that prices were such as the holdings were security for, or that they were within the zones, 59421-2, 59429-30, 59437, 59482, 59493-4.—It would probably be advisable not to issue the certificate until the price had been arranged for both sections of the estate; the aggregate price might be settled if the Board were not obliged to buy the good section, 59427-8, 59442-4, 59501.

PROPORTION OF CONGESTION WHICH SHOULD EXCLUDE AN ESTATE OR PORTION OF AN ESTATE FROM DIRECT SALE.

It would not be desirable to fix any proportion of congestion which would decide the Board to withhold the certificate; if ten out of a hundred tenants needed holdings rearranged they should be dealt with; any part of the estate not needing treatment should be excluded from purchase, or, in a case like the above, there would be a large transaction for small results; an estate with four or five scattered holdings needing improvement should pass direct; on a mixed estate the holdings were usually clustered together, and such a section with four or five tenants should be scheduled as congested, and treated; the Board could do this, and lose the ten per cent.; at present, though such a townland went through the agency of the Estates Commissioners, it did not actually pass into their possession, 59483-8, 59503-6.

POWERS OF THE BOARD IN REGARD TO DIRECT SALES. BOARD SHOULD HAVE SAME POWERS AS ESTATES COMMISSIONERS.

Most landlords would probably, if they could, make the sale conditional on the entire estate being bought. The Board would risk nothing by doing this, but their administration would be encumbered, and there would be delay and expense, 59445-51, 59502, 59507.—It was possible to fit part of an estate for sale more quickly than the rest, but the Board could not sell land until

DORAN, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

they had paid for it. This difficulty could be met by giving the Board the same powers as were conferred on the Estates Commissioners by Section 6 of Act of 1903, when part of an estate was to be sold direct, of having the sale agreements executed by landlord and tenants, the Estates Commissioners being responsible for the total price agreed upon. The inspector might arrange that a certain number of tenants should buy direct at, say, £10,000, while the Board should buy the rest at, say, £40,000; if the landlord agreed he would receive both sums, in each case *plus* the bonus, the Board securing that the tenants would agree to, and pay, the price. This would be easy in practice, and on further consideration, witness believed it would be the best plan. First the Board would value, and after negotiating with the tenants, make up the gross price, asking the landlord to accept it on condition that three-fourths of the tenants signed undertakings to pay the prices making up the offer. Tenants whose holdings were not to be improved were always willing to buy without delay, 59458-60, 59472-3, 59489, 59503, 59506, 59514-6, 59525, 59864-8, 59875, 60241-2.—Economic and uneconomic holdings running side by side would sometimes have to be dealt with together in order to carry out drainage, road-making, and the apportionment of turbary. There might be a bog centre affecting the whole estate, and the plan sketched out above had been suggested as a solution of this difficulty, 59411, 59494-8, 59500-1.—The Estates Commissioners' practice was to make all tenants sign agreements, even those whose holdings were to be affected, but the Board would not do this; if a man with surplus turbary signed an agreement to buy his holding without any reservation he would not allow that turbary to be allotted to other tenants, 59865, 59876-82. —If the owner of an estate needing treatment in any portion were dissatisfied with the gross price it would be the Board's duty to buy the whole property compulsorily. Estates with grass lands should be included in the above category, 59499, 59869-74.—Making Section 6 of Act of 1903 applicable to the Board would encumber their administration to some extent, but the only expense involved would be that now incurred by the Estates Commissioners in regard to the preparation and lodging of maps and agreements in cases of direct sale. The State would lose nothing, as the money for estates to be passed direct would have to come from the Land Purchase Fund, no matter who was the purchasing authority, 59448-51, 59508-12, 59554-7.—The undertakings might still be lodged with the Estates Commissioners, who in any case would have to deal eventually with the vesting. They would inspect as to boundaries and security of non-zone holdings on the normal section, as they now did on the whole of an estate. The Board's responsibility would end when the agreements had been obtained from vendor and tenants, these being subject, as in all cases of direct sale, to the approval of the Estates Commissioners. At present the Board's valuers were not from the Land Commission, except in respect of untenanted lands and holdings not subject to judicial tenancies, and then they only inspected for occupation. If, however, the Board employed them in the first instance a firm offer could be made to the landlord, for the Estates Commissioners probably could not offer the price unless the zone limits were abolished. The judgment of the Land Commission valuers should in any case be accepted as final, as it would be based on practical knowledge, whereas the Estates Commissioners would not have seen the holding in question, 59529-39, 59541-6.—No matter what was done estates needing treatment would have to be separated from others by somebody, 59548.

Guarantee Question.

The Board up to the present had been obliged to guarantee against default of annuities on all the sales. That guarantee should not be applied to the larger volume of work proposed, because, being an accumulating liability, it would seriously affect the Board's position in a few years, 59540-1.

Cost of Inspection under proposed New Scheme.

Witness believed inspection cost a good deal in scattered cases, but £10,000 would probably well cover the outlay which the Board would have to meet under the scheme suggested, 59536, 59557-9.—Transactions in regard to direct sales should not be included in the £1,000,000 which had been proposed as the Board's income for land purchase, or it would take about 25 years to pass the 17 to 30 millions worth of property to be dealt with, 59454, 59507, 59513, 59517-20, 59547, 59549-52.

It should be possible to exceed £1,000,000 a year in exceptional cases.

In any case it would be well if legislation were to provide for dealing with a larger output of estates needing treatment when the owners willing to sell and the tenants willing to buy represented property of value in excess of the proposed million a year. Otherwise there would probably be great dissatisfaction over the delay which would necessarily be in curred over the transfer of property, 59855.

Amount of Land which the Board should have in hands in order to turn out a million's Worth Annually.

If the Board turned out a million's worth of land a year they should hold nearly three millions' worth. The tenanted land would, on an average, be under treatment for two years. They should if possible have about a million's worth of untenanted land, as stock in hands, so as to give migrants a larger choice, only selling and buying one-third each year, 60008-10.

Means of obtaining Information as to Amount of Grass Lands available.

The only information of any value which could be obtained as to the amount of grass land available for migration had already been furnished to the Commission under the heading "Non-residential Holdings."* As to the number of years it would take to absorb all the grass lands of the eight counties, the estimate supplied by witness gave full information. It was an outside estimate, giving the poor law valuation and the acreage, 59773-6, 60004-7.

Re-organisation of Staff Required—Cost, &c.

The present outdoor staff cost between £18,000 and £20,000; the indoor staff £9,000 or £10,000, the total cost, including office expenses, being £31,000 or £32,000. The staff, now up to its full strength, would be able to deal with about £300,000 worth of property per year if in future they were allowed to proceed without interruption and delay. The amount of additional land which it was proposed to deal with would not proportionately increase the amount of work which would be done by the superior officers, but the staff should be reorganised; the outdoor staff should be trebled, because land should be turned out more rapidly, and much time would be taken up inspecting estates and negotiating for purchase. From £50,000 to £60,000 would be needed, including expenses of clerks of works, surveyors, and inspectors, now charged to estates. The indoor staff would not need a proportionate increase, 60011-23, 60052-5.—The staff should be reorganised. Instead of four inspectors and five assistants there should be nine inspectors—one in each county or other defined area; in some counties two would probably be needed. The inspector's duty would be to do in his district very much what witness tried to do over the whole area. there would be a chief inspector to supervise the others, and each of these last would direct and train men to carry out the detailed work, 60027-9, 60055-6. —An enormous staff would not be required for splitting up an estate into one section which needed and one which did not need treatment. The revision of maps for the good portion would be a small matter; while the expense of mapping the other part would, as stated, fall on the landlord, 59417, 60242-6.

Procedure now followed by the Board in regard to Land Purchase.

Proposals to sell to the Board were always sent through the Secretary. Witness then submitted a short report to the Board as to the advisability or otherwise of buying. If the estate seemed suitable he asked authority to inspect it; then, having inspected and valued, classifying the rental and

* See pp. 48–9.

DORAN, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

so forth, he reported to the Board, naming a maximum price they might offer, and giving an estimate as to the cost of re-arrangement; the offer if issued was prepared by the solicitor, and sent through the Secretary; the Board did not as a rule make a second offer. and their offer was always conditional on verification of the particulars supplied them; subsequent negotiations, up to the stage of purchase, were in the hands of witness and of his staff and assistants; the legal steps of the purchase were carried out by solicitors; meanwhile witness gave the Board a detailed estimate of the receipts and expenditure for the period from purchase to re-sale; witness could not exceed the limits laid down in the estimate and approved by the Board without authority from the Board; the work of re-arrangement was carried out by the Board's clerk of works and superintended by the inspectors and assistants, 60032-51.

Uncompleted Sales.

If the Board were to operate in congested areas now in the hands of the Estates Commissioners some difficulty would arise in regard to uncompleted sales. The Estates Commissioners might hand over all originating requests and applications in respect of such estates to the Board to deal with, the Board deciding whether to certify the properties as fit to be passed by direct sale. If the estate had not been declared by the Estates Commissioners no agreement would have been entered into with the tenants. The landlord however, might reasonably object to the Board's reviewing the price proposed for holdings not within the zone conditions, he having lodged an agreement on the understanding that the Estates Commissioners alone could fulfil that function, 60233-9.

Impending Revision of Bonus—Effect on Rate Sales to Estates Commissioners, the Board being restricted from Purchase pending Report of present Commission.

Anticipating a change in the bonus adverse to their interests, landlords were anxious to sell as quickly as possible, and to get on the list for the payment of purchase money; according to Mr. Callan's figures nearly one-half of the holdings in counties containing congestion were either sold or had been offered for sale, and probably a very large proportion of the remaining half would be offered to the Estates Commissioners within the next three or four months; a considerable area of the non-economic and intermixed holdings could then be vested, and the problem of dealing with vested congestion would be much enlarged. Several Mayo landlords had lately approached witness, only to be told that the Board was debarred from purchasing at present, 60247-9.—On receiving this answer, Lord Arran's agent had at once arranged with the tenants on the following terms:—All the untenanted land on the estate would be given to tenants or their sons; other estates containing untenanted lands would be sold on the same conditions, and these estates would be bought at once, as owners would get nearly their own price from tenants on such terms, 60253.—A landlord had no right to force such an agreement on the Estates Commissioners, but the tenants themselves would insist on having the land regardless of the law, 60255-6.—If the sales of estates continued and the Board were debarred from buying the idea of forming a new Congested Districts Board should be abandoned, 60257-8.

Withdrawal of all Power from Board and Estates Commissioners to give Land to Sons of Tenants proposed.

The Estates Commissioners had given fifteen out of seventeen new holdings near Castlerea to sons of tenants, 59911.—They had only done their duty under the Act of 1903, but their action made the work of migration on adjacent lands much more difficult both for themselves and for the Board, 59914.—Landholders openly stated that their sons had the first claim to holdings; the Estates Commissioners had given holdings near Castlerea to sons of tenants on the Dillon and De

DORAN, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

Freyne Estates bought by the Board; the Board had only given four holdings to sons of tenants; the law should not only be altered in regard to the Estates Commissioners, but the Board's power of giving surplus land to sons of tenants should also be withdrawn, or it would be impossible to carry out migration on a large scale; at present the agitation which had arisen since the Act of 1903 was very effective in preventing people from migrating, but in face of it, the desire to migrate had increased; witness would not buy large blocks of land without knowing that the land acquired was passing satisfactorily to people who had surrendered land for the relief of congestion, 59908-33, 59977-8.

Re-sale by Tenant Purchasers—Pre-emption Question, &c.

The Board had done enough for their migrants, but they should be further helped by being given agricultural education and direction when put on their new holdings, 59853-5.—None of the Board's migrants had sold, and they were not likely to do so unless they failed from some cause, in which case a man ought to sell his interest; he would probably be replaced by a better man, and this would increase the security. The State was justified in losing so much in order to have a holding formed to be occupied by an industrious family for the benefit of the country, and in order to relieve congestion. It did not concern the State if a man sold within a month. A smaller loss would have been incurred by emigration, but no one advocated wholesale emigration as a desirable remedy for congestion, 59774-81.—It would not be unfair if the State refused to sanction a sale unless the loss previously entailed by migrating the holder were repaid, but there would be less inducement to migrate, 60003.—Legislation restricting an occupier from mortgaging his holding would not interfere with his credit, as this, in the case of a small holder, was largely regulated by his personal character and reputation. The proportion of small holdings sold for debts was very small, 60002.—When holdings in counties containing congested districts were put up for sale the Board should have the right of pre-emption, 60031.

Compulsory Powers Needed in order to Acquire Large Blocks of Land.

The ground for the claim for compulsory powers was based upon the necessity of the Board's dealing with large blocks of districts. Granted these powers, the Board should operate in all the counties at the same time. They would be regulated in their mode of starting by the particular district in which they started; and by the estates offered them at the beginning of their operations. There should be a list, say, of ten centres in Mayo, with ten resident officers, each of whom would begin with one estate, widening the field of operations until the whole country was covered. When the Board began working in a centre where the landlord had offered to sell, and they made no trouble, conditions being favourable, the adjoining landlords almost invariably offered, and the area was gradually enlarged. Landlords seldom objected to a discreet inquiry as to their willingness to sell. Compulsion should not be resorted to hastily, and should only be used when a landlord refused to sell an estate either tenanted or untenanted which it was desirable to acquire. Satisfactory progress would probably be made in negotiations if the Board proceeded quietly, 59951-6.

Price required to give Landlord his Net Income—Effect of Rate of Interest.

The Board since 1903 had paid 27½ years' purchase for grass land. This price, *plus* the bonus, would not give a man his net income on the 3½ per cent. basis. To do this it might be necessary to give as much as 35 years' purchase of the agricultural rent of the very good grass lands, because the rents obtainable for this for accommodation purposes were far in excess of their agricultural value. This, the very best land, was the last which the Board would

DORAN, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

seek to acquire, or if they did buy it they would keep it for grazing, as it was much needed for this purpose in poor districts. In this case it would probably return what had been given for it. The Board's operations would diminish the demand as well as the supply of this land, for if the poorer land were taken from graziers they would no longer want grass lands for accommodation purposes, 59783-97, 59804-7.—No landlord would refuse to exchange his income from untenanted land for an investment at four per cent., as it could be proved that the majority of grazing rents in the West of Ireland had fallen considerably in the last twenty years, 59741, 59808.—Inferior land had deteriorated largely because store cattle had been fed on it continuously, while no manure had been put into it; the very best land had suffered least, but all kinds of grass lands had depreciated very much; for the last ten years not so much, and for the last five years still less. In several places the grazing rental had been stationary, but there had been no rise; a truer test of the letting value of grass lands would be furnished by the last five than by the last ten years, 59808-18.

Powers of Pre-emption, Resumption, Determining Future Tenancies, &c.

The Board had sometimes acquired tenanted holdings by voluntary agreement; sometimes they had served notice to pre-empt, having been advised in several cases to pay the excessive prices offered when inquiry had shown the intending purchaser to be a *bona fide* one; a tenant holding under a judicial tenancy could not complete the sale of the tenant-right without first serving the landlord with a notice of his intention to sell and of the terms of sale. Holdings were not often sold by auction; the landlord would make an offer, and if he and the tenant failed to come to terms the Land Commission, after hearing both sides, would fix the price at which the landlord would pre-empt; in cases of resumption by the Board the prices had usually been arranged without going before the Land Commission, though in a few cases they had had to go into court, 59742-5.—An ordinary landlord could not resume possession of holdings for the enlargement of his demesne or for taking sites for the extension of a town; while the Act of 1903 empowered the Board to do so for the purpose of migration and the enlargement of holdings, as well as for the purposes above specified in the Act of 1881, 59747.—Witness did not think the Estates Commissioners had the Board's extended powers of resumption. Notice for resumption might be served at any time, and a year's notice was not necessary, as it usually was in the case of determining a future tenancy. Any landlord could do that by serving notice to quit, and the Board had done so in several cases, but had had to give compensation in accordance with the scale laid down by the Act of 1881. This was fixed according to the rent payable and the number of years' purchase the tenant was to get for disturbance, 59751-3.—He was also paid for the unexhausted value of his improvements; this was always settled by the County Court Judge; there had evidently been some mistake in the drafting of the Act, for the Board had no power of resuming possession of a present yearly tenancy. They had first to serve notice on the tenant to have a fair rent fixed, and then serve the resumption notice. There had lately been several such cases, 59759-61.

Maintenance of Improvements.

The Board had spent a great deal on main drainage and accommodation roads with most satisfactory results, but as there was no provision for the maintenance of these drains and roads, they would probably before twenty years be almost as bad as before, 59980.—The Board never made either a drain or a road for the benefit of one holding. The County or District Council should be made responsible for the maintenance of the arterial drainage, with power to levy a rate on the holdings benefited. It was very important that there should be a central official authority to make the County Councils do their duty in this respect, 59984-5.—The Board had contributed thousands of

DORAN, Mr. HENRY—*continued.*

pounds towards roads which could not be dealt with by the county, but they had also made many accommodation roads for access to detached parts of holdings, bogs, etc., and it would not be fair to require the people who did not use these roads to pay for them. Possibly the Department of Agriculture could make some small contribution towards the upkeep of these roads in the interests of agricultural development, 59991-3, 59999.—The new Board should have compulsory powers to call on the people accommodated by a particular road to repair it if necessary, and in the event of their failing to do this, to make a levy for the cost of having it put into proper condition. There was not much danger of houses being allowed to go out of repair, 60001.

Improvement of Houses: Board's Houses—Improvements Scheme did not Overlap Work of Commission.

The purchase of land in blocks would not do away with the need for Parish Committees, because the Board would wish to deal with estates quickly in two or three years, and they could not in that time ensure all the houses being improved. The conditions which the Board while dealing with an estate offered for the improvement of the houses were far more favourable than those offered by the Parish Committees, and though a fair number of people took advantage of this, very many could not be induced to carry out desirable improvements while the Board could employ them at full wages, 59895-902.—They were engaged when at home in road-making and drainage in the summer, and at fencing, etc., in the winter. In spite of the Board's efforts a very large proportion of bad houses remained on many estates, 59905.—In the idle time of the year people worked under the Parish Committee schemes, and the House Improvement scheme in most of the poor districts was too slow to allow of its being withdrawn on sale of the estate. No one with a holding on an estate being treated by the Board could get a grant under the schemes, so there was no over-lapping. In any case the Parish Committee's work extended over the whole congested area, and was not confined to estates bought by the Board, 59905-7.

MITCHELL, Mr. F. W. D.

See pp. 36-9.

Cost of Administration.

The cost of the Board's administration, including estates, fisheries and everything, amounted for the present year to £36,000. The share of this attributable to the estates business was about £25,000, made up as follows:—Outdoor staff and expenses = about £10,000; indoor staff and office expenses = (roughly estimated), £12,100; law staff and expenses = £4,000. This last figure was unusually high, due to some of the charges for previous years having been paid this year; the normal amount would be at least £2,500, 60259-70, 60296, 60300.

Proposed Increase in Staff, Additional Expenditure, etc.

In the Estates Branch there were 16 temporary clerks and witness proposed adding 16 more in order to deal with the trebled amount of work it was proposed to entrust to the Board. There was no reason to suppose that the other estates would be less trouble than those already treated; witness understood that estates to be passed for direct sale were not to be included in the million's worth of land on which expenditure was being calculated; the head of the branch was the only permanent civil servant; he was chief clerk and senior man in the office next to the Secretary and Assistant-Secretary and drew a salary of £500 a year. The salaries of the temporary clerks ranged from 25*s.* a week to £200 a year, 60264-75.—For the first few months they had 25*s.* a week, and if efficient, their salary was gradually increased. As a rule the maximum salary was about £150, but there were one or two temporary

MITCHELL, Mr. F. W. D.—*continued.*

clerks, who had been in the office 12 years or more, receiving £200. The clerical staff was paid at a lower rate in the aggregate than any department of the Civil Service in Ireland. It had not been proposed to increase the salaries; they had been estimated at £100 a year each, which would allow for some increments. The temporary clerks would like to be made permanent civil servants and given the right to pensions, 60276-9.—There would be an increase in the collection of rents corresponding to the increased number of estates it was proposed to deal with. The Land Commission did not collect the annuities until the holdings had been re-sold. There was an officer in charge of the rent branch of the outdoor staff, with a salary between £300 and £400, and a third-class clerk receiving £172. There were eleven temporary clerks, and witness proposed to add eleven more. The accounts branch did work in addition to that connected with estates. The present staff consisted of a bookkeeper, at from £350 to £400, two third-class clerks, one with £180, and one with £95, and eleven other clerks. Witness suggested adding twelve temporary clerks, involving an additional expenditure of £1,200 in salaries, 60287-91.—The correspondence branch and the stores branch should also be considerably increased. The work of the former was chiefly in connection with estates. The aggregate increase needed would be £14,600. This would cover the cost of office maintenance, printing, stationery, postage and telegrams. To this something should be added in order to increase the salaries of the men holding office, as an enlarged staff would entail more work. Then there were about half-a-dozen heads of branches who would naturally expect higher salaries for the same reason, 60291-95. —After consulting with Mr. O'Connor, witness had decided that the present law staff expenditure should be raised to £6,500. Experience had shown the advisability of making a rather liberal estimate, but £500 might be taken off and spent in increasing the above-mentioned salaries, 60296-304.

Amount of Interest paid by the Board, Loans would be needed.

The Board were now paying an abnormal amount of interest—£9,000 on their estimate for the current year—chiefly because they had not yet repaid a sum of nearly £50,000, and this year they were paying instalments as well as interest. The above sum had been borrowed from the Board of Works, with the consent of the Treasury, out of the local loans fund, on the security of the Church Surplus Grant, for the improvement of estates, and to some extent also for other purposes, *e.g.*, Raiffeisen banks, agricultural loans and loans to tenants. If the Board had 3 millions' worth of property in hands it would be fair to assume that the amount they could borrow from the Board of Works would be £200,000—the enhanced value recoverable on that amount of land. Under the Treasury rules they could not borrow more than they would probably be able to recover out of the expenditure. The estimate had been based on past experience. The Board had no fund from which they could draw in order to meet the heavy expenditure entailed by estates when in hands. When they re-sold they could only recover a small portion of the outlay, losing the balance and the interest, 60305-12. —In cases of emergency, the Board had a statutory right under the Act of 1891 to draw a portion of the Church Surplus Grant of £1,500,000 if the Treasury approved. It would be quite allowable and doubtless advisable if this were done in the present circumstances, but it might be objectionable to borrow any large part of a sum of money which the Board had given as security. A considerable sum had been guaranteed to cover the purchase by tenant-purchasers in the Board's area, but since the last Act the whole sum was not in the contingent guarantee. The Treasury might, however, help in another way, viz., by giving a loan from the Board of Works. Borrowing from the Grant would mean paying interest at the rate of 2¾ instead of 3½ per cent. A great emergency had arisen, and if it were known that the Treasury would not advance the £25,000 asked for in the estimate, Mr. Doran should be wired to immediately to stop all the work being done on estates, as the Board would be bankrupt at the end of the month, 60313-33.

MITCHELL, Mr. F. W. D.—*continued.*

Floating Capital which would be needed.

Mr. Doran assumed that there would continue to be delay in recovering the proceeds of estates on resale, and the Board would need some floating capital to tide them over this interval. Hitherto they had accumulated some floating capital by saving, but it had been insufficient, and there would be a £40,000 deficit at the end of this year. If Parliament gave the Board a sufficiently large income they might be able to save enough the first year to provide a floating capital. They had a surplus every year on their estimates. They never exceeded their income and had several times stopped Mr. Doran's work in order to avoid a deficit. The Board's work had been increasing too fast for their means; even if they had a surplus they would not have to surrender it to the Government, as did other departments. They only submitted their accounts to obtain the formal sanction of the Treasury, 60333-44.

Loss on Estates.

The adoption of Mr. Doran's proposal that the cost of Clerks of Works and Surveyors should in future be charged to administration, would, roughly speaking, bring his estimated loss on estates down to £125,000, *i.e.*, to 12½ instead of 15 per cent., 60345-9.

Proposed Increased Expenditure on Parish Committees.

It had been suggested that the Board would like to increase the number and enlarge the grants of Parish Committees, raising the total expenditure in this direction from £12,000 to £20,000. If all Connaught were scheduled the Board would have to refuse to listen to the applications for grants, with which they would be besieged, 60356-9.—No allowance had been made in the estimate for agricultural development, and only 50 per cent. had been added, on a rough guess, for industrial development. When the Board had helped Foxford so liberally they had had plenty of funds, but since then they had not the means to encourage any such project, 60364-9.

Expenditure on Fisheries.

The gross expenditure, direct and indirect, on fishing during the previous year—a normal one—had been £40,000, out of which £26,000 had been recovered. There should be more officers, and the Board should spend more on piers and perhaps on boats. They were now paying £3,900 for steamer services, £3,000 of which was the cost of the *Granuaile*. Witness had assumed in his estimate that the Board would not revive subsidies which had been withdrawn, although they might do this if they had the means, 60379-86.

Transfer of Agricultural Work from the Board to the Department.

The Board would never have consented to the transfer of the agricultural work to the Department had they known that what they had been carrying on at a cost of £11,000 was to be practically extinguished by being reduced to £2,000. Parliament should have given a further grant, but the Department should not have accepted the transfer until they had the necessary money. Witness believed they were now expending up to £10,000, 60370-8.—Witness had no authority for his estimate; he merely wished to help the Commission to judge how Mr. Doran's proposals would work in with the income; the figures had been made up hastily, 60359, 60386.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

ONE HUNDREDTH AND FOURTEENTH PUBLIC SITTING.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22ND, 1908.

AT 11 O'CLOCK A.M.

In Westminster Palace Hotel, London.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (Chairman); The Right Hon. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL, G.C.S.I.; The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; The Right Hon. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT, G.C.B.; Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL; JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.; ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esq.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Mr. HENRY DORAN recalled and re-examined.*

Jan. 22, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

59394. CHAIRMAN.—We are anxious, Mr. Doran, to obtain from you some further evidence with reference to the probable loss that would be incurred in dealing with estates which need treatment in the counties containing congested districts?—The Secretary having informed me that the Commission desired to obtain some further evidence from me as to the probable loss that would be incurred in dealing with estates that needed treatment in the counties containing congested districts, I have prepared particulars of the actual loss incurred by the Board in the treatment of estates purchased under the Irish Land Act, 1903, and which since then have either been sold or are now ready for sale.

59395. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—Have all these estates needed treatment?—Yes, but they differed considerably.

59396. All of them have needed treatment?—Yes. These are estates that were purchased under the Act——

59397. CHAIRMAN.—In order to make it quite clear would you tell me does this memorandum of yours† include only the estates which have needed treatment, or does it include all the estates purchased under the Act of 1903?—It includes only so many of the estates purchased under the Act of 1903 as have been actually prepared for sale.

59398. And treated?—And treated.

59399. Have there been, as Sir Francis asks, other estates which the Board have purchased which have not required any treatment?—There have been no such estates.

59400. There are no, what you might call, good estates to set off against these estates which required treatment?—These estates were made up of grass lands, poor tenanted estates, and very poor tenanted estates.

59401. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It was contemplated as a possible arrangement that estates should be sold to the tenants on a certificate from the Congested Districts Board, that they might pass. No such estates as those have come into the categories that are here put down in your paper?—No.

59402. These are estates that required treatment? That required very substantial treatment.

59403. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—As a matter of fact, I assume that the policy of the Board has been to purchase only estates that required treatment, or estates which, by reason of having untenanted land, lent themselves to the treatment of congested estates?—They have not bought any other class of estates.

59404. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Did not the Board seek on one hand untenanted land, and on the other the poorest class of untenanted estates?—Not quite the poorest, but poor estates. The Board have not up to the present purchased any tenanted estates, except those that needed substantial treatment, and untenanted land, or an estate which was partly tenanted and partly untenanted.

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—That elucidates the point.

59405. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Now, is there any likelihood of their acquiring any estates that do not require any treatment, or that they would not require for the treatment of other estates?—No. I would not think so; I do not think they ought to buy such an estate. Perhaps I ought to explain, first of all, that the reason I submit particulars of this group of estates to the Commission is that in my opinion they are an average type of what will have to be dealt with by the Board, and that the Board have not carried out any works upon them that are not necessary. They have treated them as economically as estates of the kind could be treated while effecting substantial improvements upon them. Consequently I submit that the results of the operations on these estates afford about the safest information that is available for you to form an opinion of the net loss in the treatment of similar estates.

59406. Mr. BRYCE.—Before you leave this part of the subject, suppose that the Commissioners were to recommend that the whole of Connaught should, for buying purposes, be put under the Congested Districts Board, are there not estates in Connaught—I don't mean merely in the present congested districts counties, but in Connaught—which might require no treatment?—There are several.

59407. Only so far you have not acquired any?—The Board have always declined to buy such estates.

59408. There are not very many of these estates?—I assume that they would be about one-fourth of the unsold estates.

59409. These would require no treatment?—No. It is only a rough estimate, in fact, a guess.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—We have in the statistics that assuming that the holdings now being dealt with by the Estates Commissioners are excluded from the operations of the Board, there are 30,000 holdings over £10 valuation. Of these 30,000 holdings only a comparatively small number, as I understood, would be dealt with by the Board.

* For former examinations, see Appendix to the First Report of the Commission [Cd. 3267, 1906], p. 75; Appendix to the Eighth Report [Cd. 3889, 1907], p. 13; Appendix to the Ninth Report [Cd. 3845, 1908], p. 74; and Appendix to the Tenth Report [Cd. 4007, 1908], p. 232.

† See p. 41.

Jan. 22, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

59410. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—I think Mr. Doran was making his calculation rather by estates than by holdings —That about one-fourth of the estates would pass without improvement.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—We had these figures from Mr. Callan. He stated that there were 80,000 holdings under £10 valuation, and that there were 30,000 holdings over £10 valuation not dealt with, that is, excluding the holdings now being dealt with by the Estates Commissioners. Of the 30,000 holdings perhaps 5,000, it was suggested, might come under the Board's treatment, leaving 25,000 holdings which would be sold under the ordinary law.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I think it is given as 84,954, of which 74,000 do not exceed £10 valuation.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You are referring to the scheduled districts: I am talking of the larger area.

59411. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—When you say that one-fourth might pass without treatment by the Board, I take it that you meant that the Board would be able to declare portions of a large estate a separate estate, so as to allow those separate portions to pass unimproved, while the Board would improve the remainder?—That is so. I don't think you can go by holdings, for the reason that you will always find holdings that do not require treatment adjoining holdings that do require treatment in the same townland. You cannot exclude those, because if you do you very often would not be able to carry out land improvement work such as drainage, road-making, and the apportionment of the turbary. If you exclude all holdings that you do not want to spend money on you would very often make it impossible to carry out drainage works, road-making, and the apportionment of turbary.

59412. When you calculate, roughly, that one-fourth of these properties might pass to the tenants unimproved, I take that one-fourth to comprise entire estates and portions of other estates, that, by such a body as the Congested Districts Board, might be declared estates capable of passing without improvement?—Yes. That is it. My idea is this: that if the Board were offered a large estate we would have it examined, first, by an inspector, with a view to seeing if there are substantial portions of it that do not need treatment, or tenanted holdings upon it that cannot be enlarged, no land being available. I would think that there would be no object in the Board purchasing such a section of an estate if it did not need improvement, or if they are not in a position to improve it in any way, either by the enlargement or the re-arrangement of holdings; and it would appear desirable to make a separate estate of such a portion, and let it pass direct from landlord to the purchasers. It would be objectionable for the Board to purchase and hold an estate upon which they did not intend to carry out any substantial improvement. Such action would certainly lead to great dissatisfaction, and would make the work of the Board on estates that needed radical treatment much more difficult.

59413. CHAIRMAN.—Your view is that where an estate exists that does not need improvements the Board could, by granting a certificate, allow that estate to pass in the ordinary manner from landlord to tenant?—Yes; and should do so in respect of every estate, or every portion of an estate, that they were not in a position substantially to improve, or that does not need improvement.

59414. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—In the percentages of loss which you have given here you have included the parts of these estates that required no treatment?—Yes, but they are mostly scattered holdings.

59415. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Would you contemplate giving a certificate to a landlord for one portion of his estate and not for the other portion?—What I contemplate doing is that on an examination of the estate it might be found that there was half or quarter of it, or even a townland, that was not connected with the development of that estate or the adjacent estates —those must also be kept in view in connection with drainage and road making—then any such portion of an estate, even to a townland, upon which the Board could do no good by purchasing, should be made a separate estate, and the Board should buy the remainder of the estate direct.

59416. Do you think that there would not be any difficulty in the landlord and tenant coming to terms on the part for which you gave a certificate? What I mean is that I think it would be difficult to negotiate between landlord and tenant if portion of an estate was excluded?—If they understood the reasons for the splitting up of the estate I anticipate that they would always arrange terms.

57417. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Would not you require to have maps made of the estate that you would keep and of the estate that you would be disposed to release?—Yes. A vendor, on proposing to sell the estate to the Board, must lodge a map. At present he is only required to show the boundaries of the estate, and the boundary of the tenanted and untenanted land; but under the new procedure, such as you are discussing, I would say it would be necessary for a vendor, in the first instance, to lodge a map, showing the actual holdings, as they are required now to do for the Estates Commissioners. The Estates Commissioners require a vendor to lodge a map, showing each holding. The Congested Districts Board, desiring to make the cost of negotiating a sale as low as possible, only required vendors to lodge a map showing the boundary of the tenanted portions of the estates and the untenanted portions, but not showing the individual holdings; mainly for the reason that several of the estates offered to the Board were in such a state of rundale and intermixed plots, that vendors could not get local surveyors competent to make the surveys, and would have had to employ highly skilled men, and it would put them to considerable expense to have these rundale estates mapped on a large scale. Consequently, the Board, in order to facilitate the vendor, decided they would only ask him to show the boundary of the tenanted land and the boundary of the untenanted land, within the outer boundary of the estate.

59418. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—What would be the effect, as far as one can imagine, on the price, of such bargains as that, whereby properties should be split up into good and bad parts, and each of these declared a separate estate?—I don't think that it will affect the total price.

59419. As a matter of fact, don't you think that a landlord would be disposed to put a higher price upon the good land, knowing that the bad land would be freed from all arrangements regarding the zones, and that it would be purchased by the Congested Districts Board?—The good portions of the estate, which would be excluded from treatment, should always go at a higher price.

59420. Of course, they would go at a higher price. That goes without saying. But my question is: don't you think that the landlord would be disposed to put a higher price on the good part with a view of protecting himself against loss upon the worst part?—Of course, he might do that; but tenants having knowledge of the transactions all round them, as they occur, get to a standard of prices.

59421. It would upset, at all events, the principle of arrangements by which the price of the whole, the good and the bad, is had regard to?—I don't think it would, and I don't think it ought, because I assume that when the vendor offers his estate to the Congested Districts Board he would not settle the price with the people beforehand; that the negotiations as to price would be subsequent to the inspection by the Board's officers, with a view to issue of certificate for direct sale of the entire or portion of it, and the price for the better portions to be sold direct could be arranged by vendor and tenants, as at present.

59422. CHAIRMAN.—Supposing that land which was good land or of the kind that was certified by the Board to be in a condition in which it might pass direct from landlords to tenants, and supposing that, as Sir Antony MacDonnell foreshadows, the landlord was disposed, because the land was very good, to put up the price to an impossible figure, would not the Board have the power to say, "No; in these circumstances we won't certify that it is land which can pass direct from landlord to tenant, but we will purchase that land on the basis of so-and-so." Would not that be a safeguard?——

Mr. KAVANAGH.—The certificate would have been given before, surely.

CHAIRMAN.—The certificate might be made with a proviso?—I do not think that the Board would be justified in refusing to certify for those reasons, but the issue of a certificate ought not to bar them from putting compulsory powers into operation at a later period if they deemed it necessary.

59423. Might not the certificate be made conditional?—It appears to me that they should certify for all estates that they cannot substantially improve by taking over.

59426. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—But do you advert to the point that you are dealing with an estate which contains two sections—a section which may pass unimproved, and a section which needs improvement? Do you think would not the Congested Districts Board dealing with these insist on knowing the terms on which it must purchase the poorer part before it issued any certificate as to the passage of the other part of the estate from landlord to tenant?—The certificate could not possibly issue, as I understand, until after inspection.

59427. Do you think would the Board dream of issuing a certificate for the better part until it had come to a substantial understanding as to the price at which the other portion might be bought direct?—It would probably be a more satisfactory procedure not to issue the certificate until the price was arranged for both sections of the estate.

59428. That is what I was coming to. Does not it come to this then—before the Board makes up its mind as to apportioning off a part of the estate and declaring it a separate estate the Board will have come to an understanding with the owner about the aggregate price for the whole estate?—That would be satisfactory if the Board had not to buy the portion that did not need treatment.

59429. CHAIRMAN.—The Board could say to the owner—"Here is land which we admit does not require improvement, and therefore we are not anxious to deal with this land at all; we don't want to deal with it. You can go ahead, and arrange with your tenants with regard to this land, and if you can come to a satisfactory arrangement with your tenants, then come to us, and we will certify that the land is in a fit state to pass to the tenants"; and if there is any difficulty, if the landlord was to ask an absurd price, than the Board, as I understand it, should be perfectly free to say—"We are going to purchase this land; you have not been able to arrange with your tenants; we are not going to have a lot of this land lying in the centre of your estate unpurchased, and therefore we are going to purchase it on the basis that has been laid down by Parliament, and re-sell to the tenants"?—I think that it ought to work out in practice in this way. An estate has been offered *in globo* to the Board, and after inspection they decide that there is a certain portion of it that they ought to purchase. During the inspection the inspector would ascertain from the tenants the price they were willing to pay. The inspector could, if desired by the vendor and tenants, assist in arranging the price for the portion which it was intended to sell by direct sale, and if the Board arranged with vendor for the remaining section the declaring of both estates should occur at the same time—one section for purchase by the Board at a price, and the other portion bought by the tenants direct at a price arranged before issue of certificate.

59430. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—May I ask would the certificate of the Board depend upon the acceptance by the landlord of the price fixed by the inspector? An estate has two parts, and, as I understand you to say, you would propose that the inspector when he inspects should put a value upon the part of the land which may pass direct, and on the part of the land which required treatment. Would you say that the certificate of the Board would depend upon the acceptance by the landlord of the valuation made by the inspector of the two parts?—No. I would not say that in respect of the portion to be sold by direct sale; I suggest that the inspector would merely act as negotiator if invited to do so.

59431. CHAIRMAN.—Would you advise that? What has the inspector got to do with it? It is a question of voluntary sale, voluntary negotiations between the landlord and the tenant for land that does not require treatment. It is not the business, to my mind, of an inspector or anybody else to interfere in that case between the landlord and the tenant. It is for the landlord and tenant to come to terms, and to arrange between themselves at what price the land should pass. The only difficulty is the question of the certificate, should you grant the certificate, and take it out of the hands of the Board before the negotiations have taken place? Then if those negotiations fail you are left with a district of tenanted land, which has not been dealt with, lying in the midst of the Board's property. The tenants will clamour for some arrangement. They will say they cannot come to terms, and then things will go on in an unsatisfactory condition. My point is, cannot you hold over your certificate, and say: "We don't want to deal with this land; it is not land which is of any use to us, but at the same time of course we want it sold; we want it to change hands with the property lying all round it; go and make an agreement with your tenants if you can make a satisfactory agreement, and then come to us, and we will certify." If these negotiations fail, then the Board can say: "Well, rather than allow this land to remain in an unsatisfactory or unbought condition we will buy it." That seems to me fairly simple, but I don't think that the price which an inspector sets out should come in at all in a voluntary arrangement between landlord and tenant?—I am afraid that I have not made myself quite clear.

59432. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—I think you have had compulsory purchase of land in view. This is a voluntary arrangement, and as a voluntary arrangement works out, is not this what you are cognisant of—that the landlord and tenant have their bargain made before they come to the Board at all?—They have not, and we don't desire that they should have.

59433. They frequently have?—Yes, in a very small proportion of the estates purchased by the Board, and the existence of such agreements have always increased our difficulties in dealing with the estate.

59434. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The whole position would be changed. Their policy would not be to stop voluntary purchase on estates that did not require re-arrangement of part or the whole. I want to know this: is it in your mind that the landlord is to get the certificate first before he negotiates with his tenants, or that the certificate is to be asked for after he enters into agreements with all his tenants and they are completed? Which is the position that you take up? Take the position of the landlord in Connaught within the area—assuming Connaught to be within your area, and powers of compulsion given—who wants to sell direct to his tenants. Is he to apply to the Board before he begins negotiating for the certificate, or is he to apply to the Board when the negotiations with his tenants are completed? Which is your position?—My position would be that he ought to apply to the Board before he arranges prices, and after inspection he would be informed of the portion, if any, of the estate which the Board were prepared to certify as a separate estate for direct sale.

59435. Now, before the Congested Districts Board can give him that certificate he must open his estates for inspection—must he not?—Yes.

59436. If the estate on inspection is approved of, and a certificate that no re-arrangement was necessary is given, then he is in a position to be free to negotiate with his tenant-purchasers, but the result of the inspection will affect tenants' minds as regards price?—I think the best way is to explain how I would propose to proceed in the matter. A landlord in any of the counties containing congested estates has decided to sell his estate. Having done so, he notifies the Congested Districts Board of his intention to sell, with a view of ascertaining from the Board whether they consider that his estate or any portion of it ought to be sold to them or sold by direct sale. Before a reply can be given the Board must have the estate inspected. If the inspector reports it is an estate that needs little or no re-arrangement, or that the Board have no means of improving or enlarging the small holdings upon it, and that the inspector ascertained that tenants were not likely to migrate, if land could be got elsewhere—I would say in such a case the vendor should be informed that the Board were prepared to declare that property to be an estate that might pass by direct sale

59437. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—That part of the property might be declared an estate, because that is important?—I am taking the whole first, and I then come to the second case. The object of splitting in the second case would be this, that the Congested Districts Board want to reduce the dimensions of the problem, and one of the best ways in which this can be done is by excluding from their control all estates, or portions of estates, that they cannot substantially improve, in order to reduce to a minimum the area to be prepared for sale by the Board. Consequently, when the inspector reports that certain portions of the estate do not need treatment, and might be sold direct while the remainder of it is an estate that needs substantial treatment, and should not

Jan. 22, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

be sold except through the Board, I don't think the Board should say to the landlord: "We will exclude the portion not needing treatment, and let you make such arrangements as you can with your tenants, and when you do so the Board are prepared to declare it to be a separate estate." That would rarely be feasible, for this reason. Many of these properties are mortgaged, or are liable to family charges secured on the entire, and a vendor could not sell one section of his estate and leave the other out, so that the two transactions, in my opinion, must usually be carried out at the same time; and while it would be no part of the duty of the inspector of the Congested Districts Board to fix a price between landlord and tenant on the portions of the estate that the Board do not propose taking over, it might be, on the other hand, his duty to report that the prices were such as the holdings were security for, or if the zone standard of valuing continued to apply, that they are within the zones.

59438. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Will you just allow me to put you in the position of a landlord? He generally knows in dealing with his tenants whether he probably would be able to come to terms with all his tenants on the estate which would enable him to sell. According to your procedure, you first have to get the Congested Districts Board to send an inspector, and the Congested Districts Board's inspector rules out of the estate so many tenants because he considers that their lands need treatment; and then the Board say, "We will give you a certificate for the rest." Do you think now, knowing the country as you do, that the landlord, in those circumstances, would have any hope of coming to a voluntary agreement as to the rest of his estate when the tenants hear that the Congested Districts Board are coming in to the other part of it? And do you not think that it would, in effect, absolutely stop direct sale?—I had that objection in my mind when I suggested that both sections should be arranged for at the same time. I don't anticipate any difficulty in this. For instance, the tenants of the estate will know quite as well as the officer of the Board that a certain portion of the estate needs no improvement, that the Board cannot do much for it; and the tenants on these holdings will have no desire to have them bought by the Board, and be kept in hands for a couple of years, when they are aware that the Board are not going to spend money on the holdings. For that reason I think the proposed procedure will work out fairly well.

59439. What do you mean by doing it simultaneously? I don't exactly follow you. When you say that the operations of the Board and the voluntary sale by the landlord in agreement with his tenants should go on simultaneously, do you mean to say that the Board's schemes should be determined, where they are to go and what they are to do, by the landowners wishing to sell direct?—A landlord first offers his estate to the Board.

59440. I am taking the case of a landlord who wants to sell voluntarily?—If he does desire to sell, he may approach the Board, and ask if they are prepared to certify his estate for direct sale, and if the Board decide to split up the estate an effort should be made to have the price for both sections arranged at the same time.

59441. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—He either offers it to the Board or he asks the Board to certify that it is an estate that they can pass?—The result of that is an inspection, and the result of the inspection is a decision as to whether the entire or portion of the estate may be certified for direct sale.

59442. The application is either that the Board should buy or that the Board should give a certificate. Now, suppose the application is that the Board should buy. When the Board receives that application, it inspects, and asks the vendor his price—is not that so?—Yes.

59443. The price is distributed over the good and the bad portions of the estate—Is not that so?—Yes.

59444. Suppose that the Board and the vendor are able to come to terms, and recognise that certain terms are fair for the whole estate, for the two portions of it together, and suppose that the Board would say, "It will convenience us, in practical management, that it should be divided into two, and that one portion of it should pass direct to the tenants and you should sell the other direct to us," is not that the way the thing would work out?—That is a way it might be arranged. But I meant to convey all along that when the Board was making those arrangements their inspector would assist in getting the price fixed for both sections.

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It is obvious you might get a complicated case, but to illustrate my argument I want to get the simplest case—that is, an estate in regard to which the Board and the vendor agree about the price. Even after they have agreed about the price, it is not necessary that the whole estate should be sold direct to the Board. Some of it may be sold direct to the tenants. Is not it the case that whether the Board buy direct itself or whether it sanction a direct transaction with the tenants, in every case the Board would be careful to ascertain what they think they are going to give?

59445. CHAIRMAN.—Suppose the landlord refuses to do that. Take the particular case that the estate is offered to the Board, and the Board fix a price, which is distributed over the good and the bad land, and that the Board say to the vendor, "It would be a great convenience if we were not obliged to take that portion of your property which we don't want to improve, and it would meet our convenience if we were to certify that portion to be a property such as could pass direct to the tenants, and we will buy the rest." Suppose you were the landlord, would not you be likely to say, "That would complicate matters. I don't want to deal with two people. I don't want to have the trouble of negotiating with the tenants for this portion of the land. I want you to take the rest. I offer it to you *in globo* or not at all." Suppose a landlord took that line, what would you do?—Most landlords would take that line, if they could oblige the Board to buy the entire.

59446. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—I did not make my question clear. I did not suppose that the good portion would be left on the hands of the owner at all?—Let me put it in another way. My view is that if the landlord offers to sell his estate, or if the landlord applies to have his property declared an estate, in both cases it must be inspected, and in both cases the terms of sale could be arranged for it in one or two sections.

59447. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—The sale to the Board?—No. The sale must go through somehow. Once the landlord decides to sell, he will have to sell his estates either this year or next year. If the Board find certain portions of an estate, which they learn through their inspector needs treatment, then they have to say, "We cannot agree to certify your property to be an estate which should be sold on direct sale: there is a certain portion of it, however, which we will be prepared to certify."

59448. Surely, the landlord is not asking for that. *Ex hypothesi*, he is asking to sell the whole estate to the Board?—I was taking the whole case first. I will take it either way.

59449. CHAIRMAN.—You are taking the supposition that he was asking for a certificate to sell direct?—In one case the landlord offers to sell his estate to the Board, and the Board inspects——

59448. And the Board says, "There is part of the land which we don't want to buy, because we cannot improve it." Then the Board cannot expect that the landlord will agree to sell to them the portion that they are willing to buy without at the same time having an arrangement made for the purchase price of the portion of the estate that they desire to exclude, can they?

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Suppose that the Board come to the conclusion that there is one portion of the estate which requires treatment, then, instead of their offering a certificate to the landlord on which he is to make an agreement with the tenants, what objection is there to the Board buying the whole estate?—None whatever, except encumbering their administration with property which they cannot improve.

59450. I don't see that they are encumbering themselves. The Board are taking no risk. If it is within the zones, where is the risk to the Board?—There is no risk to the Board, but there is delay and expense incidental to the sale of the holdings to the tenants.

59451. Then, what is the objection?—I make no other objection.

Mr. SUTHERLAND.—I don't think it was Mr. Doran's suggestion.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—There is portion of an estate which does not require treatment. Why should not the Board deal with the whole estate, and deal with those tenants, and get rid of it?

Mr. SUTHERLAND.—I don't think that the contrary was argued.

Mr. KAVANAGH.—It is the only way out of the difficulty.

CHAIRMAN.—That the Board would take it over?

Mr. KAVANAGH.—Yes. The difficulties of splitting an estate with one portion sold to the Board and the other sold to tenants by voluntary sale are too numerous to be contemplated. I think that if there is portion of an estate requiring improvement, and the Board require that portion, then the whole estate should be taken by the Board.

59453. CHAIRMAN.—Suppose you purchase *in globo* from the vendors an estate upon which there are holdings that require treatment, while there are parts that do not require treatment. Could you allow the Board to declare the part that does not require treatment an estate, and allow it to pass over rapidly to the tenants, retaining the other part to be improved?—I was going to say that that was obviously a way out of the difficulty. If the Board got power to purchase an estate, and divide it, and sell portion of it direct, as soon as possible, after arranging with the vendor, that would get over the difficulty that has been discussed.

59454. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—I should have thought that that was what we were trying to arrive at from the very beginning. Why could not the Board buy the whole estate, and sell the one half direct and the second half after they had done the required treatment?—The only remark I have to make is that if you limit the output of the Board to £1,000,000 a year, as suggested, and if you include all these transactions in the limited output, it will take a long time to get rid of all the land that you want to deal with.

59455. Mr. KAVANAGH.—How many generations will it take to get over the difficulty of splitting an estate in two and selling one to the Board and leaving the other to be carried out by voluntary sale? You could never do it?—That is why I suggested from the beginning that both transactions should be carried out simultaneously. I think that very few estates could be so divided by reason of mortgages and family charges, unless the sale of both sections could be carried out about the same time.

59456. CHAIRMAN.—How about an estate where a vendor applies to the Board for a certificate for a direct sale—there is a difference there?—There is. Because, in many such cases, the Board may be able to report at once that the entire estate is one that may be sold direct.

59457. That is possible, but suppose you find on inspection that part of the estate is in such a condition that it cannot be allowed to pass direct, what is the Board to do then?—It comes back to the case we have been discussing.

59458. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Surely you can do it now?—You cannot do it now.

59459. Is not it quite possible in such a case as the Dillon estate to take part of it, and fit it for sale much more quickly than the rest of the estate?—Yes, but you cannot sell until you become owner, and you must pay the purchase money before you become owner. One way to do it would be to give to the Board the same powers that the Estates Commissioners now have under section 6 of the Act of 1903, when portion of an estate is to be sold by direct sale, of having the sale agreements executed by landlords and tenants, the Board being responsible for the total price agreed upon. That would meet all the difficulties that have been raised, and the Board take over the portion of estates requiring treatment.

59460. CHAIRMAN.—Then our conversation has brought us to this. It is not feasible, so far as we can see, to divide an estate; that the estates within any specified area which it is suggested to give to Board must be sold as estates either to the Board or by direct sale?—The inspector might arrange that a certain number of the tenants should buy at a price amounting to, say, £10,000 by direct sale. The landlord is quite willing to do that. Section A then is to be sold for £10,000 direct, and is to be declared as a separate estate. Section B the Board proposes to buy for £40,000. The two sections are declared to be an estate at the same time, and the landlord is to get £10,000 with the bonus for one section, and to get £40,000, plus the bonus, for the other section.

59461. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—If you split it he has got to go to the tenants, and say to them, "Agree to buy"?—I have said all along that the price for both sections should be arranged at the same time.

59462. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—That is the key to the whole situation?—The agreement as to the amount the tenants will give must be a preliminary to fixing the price.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Then a certificate cannot be applied for until a landlord agrees with his tenants.

59463. CHAIRMAN.—If it is possible to split an estate then an arrangement between landlord and tenant must be arrived at before the vendor approaches the Board. He must come to the Board and say—"I have an estate, part of which is good land and part of which is land that no doubt requires treatment. I have arranged with my tenants to purchase the better land direct from me at a certain price." If you agree to buy the other part on the same day as you suggest, the estate is divided, the certificate is granted by the Board to carry out the arrangement made with the tenants on the one hand, and you purchase the other portion?—There would be no difficulty in doing that in a majority of cases.

CHAIRMAN.—That is the only way in which it can be done.

59464. Mr. BRYCE.—How can it be done without inspection?—It cannot be done without inspection.

59465. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It is not necessary before negotiating a bargain between the vendor and the Board that the tenants and the vendor have agreed on a price for the better portion. It will quite suffice if up to the time the Board and the vendor have agreed about the price for the whole estate the tenants have agreed as to the price at which they will buy?—That will suffice.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Then the landlord is to carry out a direct sale to the tenants through the Congested Districts Board. That is your proposition?

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—No.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The price of the whole estate is to be fixed between the landlord and the Congested Districts Board. That is ruling the decision of the landlord with regard to his tenants, whom the Board don't want to touch.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—That is not quite so. He would come to the Congested Districts Board, and say—"I can sell to my tenants, A, B, and C, for so much money. That being so, can I agree with you to buy the rest at such a price"?

59467. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Then the Congested Districts Board must give that price?—The price represented by his agreement with his tenants.

59468. CHAIRMAN.—Where is the inspection to come in under your proposal? I should have said before?—I have been viewing that proposal from what I know of the difficulties that usually arise. If the tenants enter into an agreement to purchase with the vendor before they approach the Board, the Board ought not to buy, because, as you have it in my evidence, once the tenants enter into agreements to purchase their holdings, and the Board subsequently buy the estate subject to the agreements, they have no power to deal with the estate, except under voluntary arrangements. The relation of landlord and tenant no longer subsists. They cannot enter upon the lands and applot turbary, make roads, or re-arrange holdings; so I have said all along, before the Board negotiate for the purchase of an estate the price should not be fixed between the landlord and tenant.

59469. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—That is easily understood: before negotiations begin the price cannot be fixed?—Not before the Board are invited to offer. There is a general desire now among the landlords in the West of Ireland to settle the price with their own tenants before they ask the Board to buy. The result is in the case of poor estates that the tenants are so anxious that the Board should purchase and spend money in improving the estate that they would agree to give two or more years' purchase for their holdings than they otherwise would. For this reason, and the reasons already stated, the Board in all cases object to purchase estates if the tenants have already entered into agreements to buy their holdings at a stated price. We have done it in a few cases, and we have had great trouble in dealing with the tenants.

59470. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—I don't think that anyone contemplates that being done under the new arrangement. Take the case in this way. The owner says that he is willing to sell his estate, and comes before an officer of the Congested Districts Board or before the Board itself for the purpose. The Board asks him what is his price.

Jan. 22, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

He names his price, it is tenanted land, *ex hypothesi*, or largely tenanted land. The Board's officer goes down and makes an inspection, and finds out what the tenants are willing to give for their holdings——

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—All over the estate—both parts?

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—More particularly on the part that must pass or may have to pass direct—indeed over the whole estate?—I would say over the whole estate.

59472. They also value or fix a value on the grass land. The Board says in these circumstances—"We are not able to give you more than such and such a sum for the entire estate, and it is apportioned in such and such a way on the different portions of the estate." Suppose they come to an agreement about the price, as has happened in the past, then the price is agreed on between them. It is a voluntary sale. The Board then says—"We require powers to allow some portions of that estate to pass straight to the tenants; other portions we must hold in our own hands." I take it that that in the main is your suggestion?—That, in substance, is one of my suggestions. Let the Board agree to buy the entire estate, and let them then declare each part of the property a separate estate, that is, the portion to be sold by direct sale, separate from the portion to be treated; and if the Board had the power which the Estates Commissioners now have of merely getting the tenants on the portion that does not need treatment to sign purchase agreements with the landlord for a price which the landlord agrees to accept, the purchase would be from the tenants to the landlord direct on that section of the estate through the intervention of the Congested Districts Board, as is done at present by the Estates Commissioners in cases coming under section 6 of the 1903 Act.

59473. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you mean that the landlord and the Congested Districts Board having come to an agreement on inspection, the landlord says he will sell for so much, and you agree that it is a fair price, then you divide this estate into two portions, one of which you are going to deal with, and the other of which is to go direct to the tenants: do you mean that the Congested Districts Board will do the rest, and secure to the landlords that the tenants do agree?—Yes.

59474. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—What about the date at which the inspection should come. As I understand the proposal which you are now considering, the question of inspection will raise no difficulty at all?—No. I don't see any difficulty raised by inspection, but it must always take place before any answer can be given as to whether the estate is to be declared an estate in one or two sections.

59475. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Any objection based upon inspection goes out of it altogether if the landlord is to get the price agreed upon; and if the Congested Districts Board is to be responsible for the price agreed upon I don't care about inspection?—From the beginning that was the foundation of my suggestion, with this qualification—that at present the Board have no power to have any privity with these direct transactions, and they should consequently be allowed to exclude that portion of the estate from sale; but it might be made part of the Board's duty to arrange that undertakings to purchase at prices which amount to the total sum that the landlord agrees to accept are entered into for that portion to pass by direct sale while they agree to buy the remaining portion.

Mr. BRYCE.—It seems to me that the whole of this is really a dispute about words, because does not this mean that the whole sale is done through the Congested Districts Board. The introduction of the question of direct sale is really not a matter of any importance at all; practically the Congested Districts Board become responsible.

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It is a question of expeditious administration.

Mr. BRYCE.—It is a question of expeditious administration, and the only advantage of Mr. Doran's suggestion is as regards the margin of money that the Congested Districts Board has to deal with. Cannot that be provided for by saying that the amount of money, the £1,000,000, or whatever it is, shall be limited in its application to those cases where the Board is going to keep the land in hand for treatment, and that its margin should be increased *pro tanto* in proportion to the amount disposed of by direct sale.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—That practically stops direct sale, except through the Congested Districts Board.

Mr. BRYCE.—No sale should go through without inspection within the Board's area. The moment you introduce inspection you introduce the responsibility of the Congested Districts Board for the whole affair.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Not in case there is no congestion. In the case of estates which are not to be treated, in which Mr. Doran does not want to do anything, he would want to assure himself beforehand that there was no necessity for treatment. It would not be inspection as regards price, but merely inspection to see whether the estate can be passed through, and handed over to the Estates Commissioners to deal with on the certificate.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Certainly.

59476. CHAIRMAN.—You remember that case in East Galway where a landlord had good land. He had also bad land somewhere else. There was a difficulty in that case, and he insisted on the Board buying both estates?—That is the Blake estate.

59477. Suppose that in that case the owner had not insisted on both properties being sold together: with regard to the East Galway property there was nothing to do there?—No, except to give rise to any amount of trouble because we would not give it to sons of tenants.

59478. There was no improvement?—No.

59479. There was an estate which, if the man had not insisted on it being linked up with his tenanted estate, might be very well certified to pass direct.

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It comes really to this: in addition to the untenanted land you acquire some fair land, which will pass in estates, and require no treatment.

59480. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I agree with you personally as regards estates requiring treatment. Now let me come to your proposal as to estates requiring no treatment. Your idea is that the landlord should say to the Congested Districts Board that he is ready to sell. You agree with me that, perhaps, there is no treatment to be done. Are you going to arrange with the tenants what they are going to give, and are you going to leave the landlord, when you have inspected, in the position that nothing has been done? You find that nothing at all is required, but the landlord has not negotiated with the tenants. He knows his price, and you say, "Now, that is clear, and you are at perfect liberty to sell." Are you going then to take the case up for the landlord, and arrange with the Estates Commissioners that he is to get that money? Do you arrange what the tenants are going to give?—No.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Then you stop the direct sale of all estates that don't require treatment.

59481. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—How is that?—What should be done is this: intending vendors of estates in counties containing congested districts should, in the first instance, before arranging any price with the tenants, apply to the Board to ascertain if the Board are prepared to declare the entire property to be an estate for direct sale. The Board, after a casual inspection, not an expensive one, will be able in many cases to declare such property an estate that might pass by direct sale. They then express their willingness to certify to that effect, which means that the landlord will negotiate direct, as at present, and the estate will pass through direct to the Estates Commissioners, as at present.

59482. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—I quite agree?—If they remain as at present with the relations of landlords and tenants, by requesting him to apply for a certificate before he fixes the price on the holdings, you would get over the difficulties that you were anticipating about price.

59483. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—What will be the proportion of congestion which will decide you in withholding that certificate or not? What would be the proportion of the estate requiring treatment that would induce you to keep the estate for yourself and not allow it to pass under certificate to the Estates Commissioners?—I would not like to fix any proportion, because I think if there was only one townland on an estate in rundale and in need of treatment, or one townland with several small holdings, that was near a grass farm, you would be justified in stipulating that that townland should not pass by direct sale.

59484. Take it that there were 100 tenants on an estate, and that ten or five of them required rearrangement, would you keep that estate?—Your arrangements would be such that you would make these ten right, if they could be made right.

59485. You would have to buy that estate in order to do it?—Not under my proposal, if I made it clear.

59486. I certainly understood you to say that you would?—I would exclude the portion, big or small, that did not want treatment.

59487. You would have to buy the whole estate before you excluded?—If you have to buy the whole estate it will, in the case stated, mean a large transaction for small results.

59488. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—You might have four or five tenants up and down the estate. Would you not allow that estate to pass direct?—Yes; but I am talking of a small section of the estate, such as a townland or so.

59489. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—I thought we had come to this conclusion: that without buying the estate and becoming the owners for the full price, you could not proceed to divide it up into sections, part of which can be sold off without any treatment and part of which requires treatment, and that it was on account of that that you would require a margin, and in regard to the portion to be passed through you would step into the position of the Estates Commissioners—you would be the broker between landlord and tenant?—Yes; but the Estates Commissioners don't actually become legal owners. In cases where the Board perform the function of brokers I suggest the Board would have purchase agreements signed between landlords and tenants covering the amount of purchase money agreed upon for the section of estate not needing treatment.

59490. I thought we had come to this conclusion—that you have the right to buy or not to buy. If there is no treatment necessary you don't buy. You simply satisfy yourself that no treatment is necessary, and you give a certicate, and then the landlord deals with them as he does now, and deposits his agreements with the Estates Commissioners, or applies to the Estates Commissioners under section 6 to get them to buy the whole thing. If you buy an estate on which ninety-five do not want treatment and five do require treatment ,and become responsible to the landlord for the price, when the estate is vested in you and you have deposited your money you can divide that estate up into smaller sizes if you wish. You can say to the ninety-five tenants, "Come to an agreement" or they may have come to an agreement before you bought at all; then you ask them to carry out their agreement, and pass the land to the ninety-five straight off. There is no difficulty in that: you do it in two or three months, and you draw the money, and then you deal with the five who are left?—That seems to me to be a very objectionable arrangement altogether.

59491. Chairman.—I don't like to insist on what I am told is impossible, but in a case like what Sir Antony mentions, what is to prevent the Board from adopting the plan which I suggested half an hour ago? What is to prevent the Board saying, "Our inspection has shown us that there is a certain proportion of congestion on this estate which prevents us at present from giving a certificate that it is an estate which can pass from landlord to tenant. You have in a corner of an estate a little patch of congestion. This may be remedied, and if you can, with regard to nine-tenths of your property, arrange satisfactory terms with your tenants, then come to us and show us that these terms have been arrived at, we will then certify with regard to nine-tenths of your property that it is an estate which can pass direct, and on your then proceeding to a sale with your tenants on the nine-tenths we will undertake at the same time to purchase the one-tenth which is congested"?—The suggestion which I have made is that the terms of purchase should be simultaneously arranged for both sections of the estate.

59492. I venture to say it comes back to what I said. You must withhold your certificate in that case until the man has arranged with his tenants. You may say, "Go away, and make your arrangements with your tenants"?—I did not suggest that you should do that.

59493. Sir Francis Mowatt.—In the transaction, as to the part of the land that you can pass direct, are you contemplating that the Board, before they accept shall satisfy themselves that the prices are correct prices for those tenants to pay? You are discussing now the price of an estate, part of which can pass direct and part of which must be treated, and the proposal, roughly, is you should say to the landlord, "Settle with your tenants the price of the part that is passing direct and we will give our certificate as regards that price." Do you contemplate before giving that certificate that the Congested Districts Board should have approved of the price which the tenants have to pay?—No. It rests with the Estates Commissioners to approve of the prices in cases of direct sale.

59494. Chairman.—Personally, I would say that they have nothing to do with the matter?—In the case just mentioned what would happen is, it would be a direct sale, and the agreements would pass, as now, to the Estates Commissioners. Their function in relation to the agreements would be to have the non-zone cases inspected by their inspector, and reported on as to security.

Sir John Colomb.—You are assuming that the landlord agrees with his tenant before he applies to the Congested Districts Board.

Chairman.—The only way, then, is this: a landlord comes to the Board, and says, "I am anxious to sell my estate direct; will you certify that I can do so"? The Board then proceeds to have that casually inspected, and discovers that 80 per cent. of the estate or 70 per cent. or any figure you like is in a condition which can pass direct, but that 20 or 30 per cent. contains congested holdings, which must be improved. If the Board certifies that the whole of the estate is to pass, then the 20 or 30 per cent. suffers. I mean that the Board has no opportunity of improving them. They may be a small proportion, still, whatever their number is, they don't get their circumstances improved. I would say that the Board should say to this landlord, "We find 20 or 30 per cent. of your estate is in this condition, and, therefore, we cannot certify at present that it is in a fit condition to pass direct; but go away and make agreements with your tenants, with regard to this 70 per cent., and we will deal with the rest of them." You would then show him on the map the portion of the estate that you would certify for direct sale and the portion that you wanted to buy.

Sir Francis Mowatt.—"Go away, and make arrangements with your tenants with regard to that 70 per cent., if you can do so; then come back to us, and if we can then make a satisfactory arrangement with you with regard to the other 30 per cent. we will certify that your 70 per cent. portion can pass direct, and we will take over the 30 per cent."

Sir John Colomb.—Is there the slightest hope of being able to arrange with the 70 per cent. when the others are going to get the benefit of the Congested Districts Board's interference?

Chairman.—Why not?

Sir John Colomb.—This is the state of mind of the tenants. The Congested Districts Board is coming to deal with portion of the estate. It will set them all agog. They will hold on until they see what benefits the congested people are going to get, and the moment the Congested Districts Board have done anything they will open their mouths wider.

Mr. Sutherland.—Are you referring to the landlords?

Sir John Colomb.—No; the tenants.

Mr. Kavanagh.—It might cut both ways.

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—What becomes, Mr. Doran, of the necessity of road making, turbary, and drainage if 70 per cent. passes out of your hands altogether, and 30 per cent. remains? How will you arrange about all these?

59495. Chairman.—That may be a reason which would prevent the Board from certifying?—When you indicate on the map beforehand the portion of the estate you wish to purchase for treatment you will exclude all holdings of that kind—holdings affected by roads and drains.

59496. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—The whole estate may draw its turf from one bog?—Of course it would naturally draw it from one bog if it was in the neighbourhood.

59497. Chairman.—It seems to me then that if it is of such a character that it was a bog centre which would affect the whole estate you would have to buy the whole estate?—It was suggested that the Board might in all such cases arrange the price for the estate, if they had power to carry out the sale in this way, to get undertakings to purchase from tenants of all

Jan. 22, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

holdings on the estate which they did not need to interfere with and declare that to be a separate estate for direct sale from the landlord to the tenant, and the Board should take over the remainder of the estate at the balance of the gross price agreed to be paid to the landlord.

59498. It seems to me that the difficulty of that plan is this, that you are then really taking the negotiations out of the hands of the landlord altogether?—If you object to that, I am negotiating with you for the entire. I take the responsibility of settling with the individual tenants and lodging undertakings and you must get the balance of your purchase money.

59499. The landowner may not be satisfied with the purchase price?—Then if not, there is no way but to buy out the entire estate.

59500. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell. Take the case you have made. In that case the Board would consult with the tenants to ascertain what has been passing between the tenants and the owner, and the Board and the owner have come to an agreement about the price. That is the case you are making?—Yes. On the gross.

59501. In that case I take it what you are anxious for is this, that the Board having ascertained the price which the tenants are willing to give and having come to an agreement with the owner as to the price which he is to get on the gross, should have power to arrange, so that a certain amount of the property will pass direct to the tenants and another portion of the property pass direct to the Congested Districts Board?—Yes.

59502. That is how you sum up your idea about how the thing would mainly work out in practice?—Yes, and my only objection to taking over the entire purchase is that it will so increase the volume of property to be dealt with by the Board that it will make the rate of progress in dealing with the areas that need treatment extremely slow.

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—It comes to this: I think we cannot ignore the definition of congestion altogether.

Chairman.—It does not seem to me to affect the question at all. How is the definition of congestion going to help you here in the least?

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—It will indicate at once what estates you ought to buy.

Chairman.—It will indicate that on certain estates there are poverty and congestion.

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—It will indicate also that the poverty is a negligible quantity if you so regulate the definition of congestion.

Chairman.—A negligible quantity means, however you try to get out of it that you are prepared to sacrifice a certain number of tenants.

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—I think it a *reductio ad absurdum* that in order to improve the condition of five tenants you are to buy the holdings of 500.

59503. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—I don't see that this is a question which affects our definition of congestion at all. I would agree with Sir Antony MacDonnell in leaving the five men in their present condition, leaving them to be improved in some other way. There are many such people in all parts of Ireland and I don't see how it affects the definition of congestion. What difficulty is there in the supposition that the owner and the Congested Districts Board, after the tenants have been consulted, would in voluntary agreement agree about the price for the whole estate, and that the Congested Districts Board would in future have the power which the Estates Commissioners possess of allowing portion of that estate to pass direct to the tenants and keeping the other portion in hand for improvement? Is not that the whole thing?—That is the whole case. You can declare any portion of a property to be an "estate."

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—When your lordship said you agreed with me in regard to the remaining tenants I think your lordship admitted in principle the importance of the definition of congestion in regard to estates, and you ought to have a principle which would regulate your not buying particular estates and buying others.

Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—I hope you would agree with me that no matter how efficient the improving authority is it cannot propose to itself to eliminate every single uneconomic holding in each district.

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—That is my reason for raising this question. If you don't have some definition of congestion you will empower the authority to deal with every single case of congestion that may arise.

Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—And it would be for the authority not to touch in this way the relief of congestion except in case of an appreciable area on the estate.

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—That is the principle I am contending for.

Chairman.—Obviously if there are a few tenants scattered about the estate who are in a very poor condition it would be very difficult to pick them out from the estate, but if there is a townland or a corner of an estate in a very congested condition which needs improvement, is not it perfectly possible to arrive at a plan by which the 95 per cent of that property shall pass direct, and the Board take over that 5 per cent.? Is not that possible?

Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Quite possible.

59503A. Chairman.—And it seems to me perfectly indefensible, if an estate of that sort exists, with a little townland in a corner of it, with five or six or ten tenants in a very poor condition, to sacrifice those tenants?—It is usually the case that where there is a mixed estate with some very poor holdings the poor holdings are usually clustered together in portion of the area.

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—They won't pass uncared for. If they were only 5 per cent., say, scattered up and down according to his lordship the bishop, and, as I understand, according to you——

Chairman.—My point is that the poor tenants are all lying together.

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—If there was an estate consisting of 100 tenants, with five tenants having uneconomic holdings in a corner, your lordship would still, as I understand the matter, give a certificate that that estate should be passed through the Estates Commissioners?

Chairman.—I should bar that townland.

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—Why bar that townland because the Estates Commissioners are competent to deal with that townland?

Chairman.—That raises the question whether the Board and the Commissioners are to operate in the same area.

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—That is a point, but I want to point out that if the Congested Districts Board retain that estate for the sake of improving that small area they will be spending money and spending time and enlarging enormously the problem with which they have to deal, while there is another agency equally well adapted for the purpose of such small work as that.

59504. Chairman. That little townland has got to go into the possession of some body to be improved, and has got to go into the possession of the Estates Commissioners or the Congested Districts Board. The rest of the property, although it goes through the agency of the Estates Commissioners, does not actually pass into the possession of the Estates Commissioners?—That is the point.

Chairman.—They are the main conduit pipe between the landlord and the tenants.

59505. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—With reference to those five, I think if they happen to be in a townland such as Lord Dudley contemplated, would not it be your view when the Congested Districts Board had arrived with the owner at an understanding about price, the Board would allow the 95 per cent. to pass direct, the formalities being done by the Estates Commissioners, and declare a congested estate the land on which the five were situated, and in that way reserve the five for treatment?—Yes.

59506. They could do that now?—Yes. They could schedule the land as a congested estate, and lose the ten per cent. What I have thought of that is that it would be very much more desirable that the Congested Districts Board should be responsible for the carrying through of the purchase perhaps of an estate which was to be divided into two sections, one being scheduled for direct sale, and the other for sale by the landlord to the Board; that the Board should get agreements signed by the tenants, and become responsible to the landlord for payment of the agreed price, which there would be no difficulty in doing in practice. We get undertakings lodged with the Estates Commissioners to cover the price agreed upon for Section A.

59507. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—You apprehend that if the Congested Districts Board were to buy estates on which only a small portion is congested, that will naturally use up very much faster the £1,000,000 a year which was suggested for dealing with the congested parts?—Yes. It would encumber the Board's administration to some extent.

59508. Whether the non-congested portions of an estate are purchased through the Land Commission, or whether they are purchased through the Congested Districts Board, the expenses will equally fall upon the same fund?—Quite so.

59509. Therefore, as regards the total expenditure, in dealing with those lands it will be the same in the one case as in the other, subject only to the Congested Districts Board in case of the removal of the Estates Commissioners. So I don't see, subject to any explanation you may now give, why the total charge upon the fund out of which the purchase is to take place will be increased, because the purchase is made by the Congested Districts Board, and not by the Estates Commissioners?—As regards the portions of the estate not needing treatment, the Congested Districts Board's expenses of administration would be increased in a small proportion, but to that extent only that would be necessary to cover the cost of preparing and completing the sale agreements and to pass them through the Sales Department.

59509A. Mr. BRYCE.—But you are not going to pass them through?—Yes.

59510. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Out of the Land Purchase Fund must be found in any case the purchase money for those properties?—Yes.

59511. If the improvement costs something to the Congested Districts Board under the proposed scheme it would have cost a corresponding amount to the other authority?—Certainly.

59512. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—I don't see, therefore, that this change in arrangement increases the total annual charge which would fall upon the State Fund?—Certainly not. It won't increase it at all; but some confusion of ideas appears to have occurred in the discussion, from the fact that I was expressing my opinions altogether in view of the suggestion made to the Commission, that the output of the Board would be £1,000,000 a year, and in order to make the administration as effective as possible as regards the relief of congestion, I considered it very desirable that they should not purchase estates, or substantial portions of estates, that they could not substantially improve, and that it would be an incumbrance to the Board's administration to be obliged to undertake the function of supervising direct sales, which could be done by the Estates Commissioners, as at present.

59513. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You see no objection to the Congested Districts Board within the area of operations being the conduit pipe?—No, if you don't apply the output limit of a million a year to such estates, I see no objection whatever.

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—As Sir Francis pointed out to you, it is very much the same thing whether the zone is on one side of the line or the other.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The whole thing that is exercising my mind is what effect is the operation that is suggested going to have on stopping direct sale? My mind is not clear at all on that.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—Assuming that to be the case, that you may stop direct sale, won't you, *pari passu*, increase the number of sales of land at an identical price, only it will be through the Congested Districts Board instead of being direct? The same amount of land will be sold, the same price will be paid, but instead of many cases of direct sales from landlord to tenant, the Congested Districts Board will buy *in globo* all estates, any portion of which need treatment.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The sales will be all under section 6, or, at all events, *in globo*.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—Yes.

CHAIRMAN.—I still personally cannot understand why it should be impossible to divide an estate. If the suggestion that was proposed some time ago were adopted, Sir John says that there would be no chance of getting the tenants to agree. Upon that I cannot express an opinion. Sir John says that, and I don't know whether you agree with him, but I cannot understand why it should be so.

Mr. KAVANAGH.—There would be great difficulty.

59514. CHAIRMAN.—Then, suppose that it does come to this, that you have to buy the estate *in globo*, what difficulty is there in saying to the landlord, "Go and arrange your terms with 70 per cent. of your tenants, and then come back, and we will undertake to take the rest"?—There would be no difficulty, as far as I know, in carrying out a sale to make it a condition that where the Board declared a portion of the estate needed treatment, to oblige the Board to be responsible to secure to vendor the total price agreed for the entire estate. That was suggested a moment ago.

59515. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—If you do that you will quite meet Mr. Kavanagh's point. Mr. Kavanagh does not want a conveyance to the Board. All he wants is agreement as to price?—Yes; precisely the same procedure as the Estates Commissioners now apply. They inspect an estate. They find that a certain section of the estate, it may be 10 out of 100, come within the definition of congested estate. On the re-sale of that they can lose a certain percentage, and pass the remainder of the estate by direct sale. If the Board decided that portion of an estate is such as should be subjected to treatment, there would be no difficulty if the Board arrange with vendor the total price, getting undertakings signed by tenants and vendor in respect of those parts of the estate which they desire to pass as a separate estate by direct sale.

59516. Mr. KAVANAGH.—That meets my point altogether?—In practice there is no difficulty in that. It will get over Sir John's difficulty also.

59517. CHAIRMAN.—That contemplates, does it not, that there should be advances beyond the million? You would suggest that those holdings with regard to which the Board got any undertakings should not be included in the million?—They should not.

59518. And the sales in these cases should be treated as direct sales?—Yes.

59519. And should not be included in the million given the Board?—They should not.

59520. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—The million is to be the cost of land?—The proposed sale price of land per year.

59521. CHAIRMAN.—If you depart from your million does not it lead us into great complication? To begin with, how do we know how much of this land outside would be purchased? We don't know what amount of money outside the million would be required by the Board. That is one difficulty. It is impossible for us to earmark any particular sum for that?—At present I don't see any objection to depositing those undertakings in the ordinary way with the Estates Commissioners, and letting them deal directly with the vesting, as they must eventually do in any case. I see no difficulty about sending in agreements to cover a certain section of the estate, and letting the Estates Commissioners deal with that portion of the estate which is in a normal condition, the same as they do with estates no portion of which needs treatment.

59522. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Would not that involve the Estates Commissioners sending inspectors down?—There is no objection to that that I can see.

59523. CHAIRMAN.—That would be a double inspection?—No. They would be only inspecting as to boundaries and security of non-zone holdings, as they do now in cases of direct sale.

59524. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—No. The agreement has been made by you and then submitted to the Estates Commissioners?—The agreements would not be between the Board and the tenants, because the Board are not yet owners.

59525. Between whom would they be?—Between the owner and the tenant, the Board being merely an agent, or negotiators, who say to vendor, "We value one section of the estate at £10,000, and the gross estate at £100,000. We propose, and undertake, to get agreements lodged in respect of one section of the estate for £10,000. Then we will pay you £90,000 for the remainder, so securing you £100,000, which you agreed to take for the entire estate."

59526. If the Estates Commissioners send down an inspector, who says, "We don't consider that this is sufficient security," what is to happen?—The agreements lodged are to be subject to such provision as apply to all cases of direct sale.

59527. You would have made an agreement with the landlord?—As regards the portion of estate to be sold direct, the Board's responsibility ends on obtaining agreements from the tenants and vendor to purchase their holdings at the prices agreed, provided that the agreements are accepted by the Estates Commissioners.

Jan. 22, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

59528. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you mean that the gross price settled between the Congested Districts Board and the landlords may be subject to the review of the Estates Commissioners also? Surely, that makes the landlord worse off than ever?—I don't see why it should. All agreements for direct sale are, at present, subject to these conditions.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—It brings in the Estates Commissioners to review the price given by the Congested Districts Board.

CHAIRMAN.—There would be double inspection. Your people would have to inspect first of all in order to fix a price, so that they could say to the landlord, "We will undertake to get you agreements as regards £10,000." You would have to found that agreement upon advice given to you by your inspectors, and then, having done all that, the Estates Commissioners would send down the inspectors in order to review what you had done.

59529. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Are not your valuers valuers from the Land Commission?—No.

59530. They are supposed to be in future?—Only in respect of untenanted lands and holdings not subject to judicial tenancies.

59531. CHAIRMAN.—We had agreed that the inspection should be done by Land Commission valuers?—That being so, the Estates Commissioners would not alter the price.

59532. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—They would be not paid for inspection but valuation for the Estates Commissioners?—They inspect our holdings, and spend a large amount of money on the inspection.

59534. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Not the Estates Commissioners. That is the Land Commission—an entirely different thing?—The Estates Commission is a department of the Land Commission.

59535. They don't inspect for security, these men who come down to look after your affairs. They merely inspect for occupation. It is done under Commissioner Lynch as a preliminary to recording the price of it?—They inspect for occupation, although the estate bailiff or other person with local knowledge swears an affidavit within ten days of date of vesting holding that tenant-purchaser is in occupation.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—That does not interfere with you at all. They don't clash with you.

59536. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—What percentage of the purchase money is represented by inspection? What does it cost—one-half per cent.?—I could not say. I think that the inspection in these scattered cases costs a great deal. The Land Commission could tell the cost.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—The Estates Commissioners' outdoor staff, all told, costs £12,000 a year.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—How much land do they inspect in a year?

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—They have paid out £19,000,000 in four years.

59537. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—Their cost would be £48,000 in four years, for that amount of land would be very small. It is hardly worth considering?—I am aware that a very large proportion of the estates in respect of which agreements have been lodged are not yet inspected.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—That money has been paid out.

59538. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You are talking about the landlord and the Congested Districts Board agreeing to a gross price subject to review. The landlord in agreeing to this price would not know whether he was going to get it or not. It would not be a firm offer?—It would not on my first statement, but if the suggestion were acted on that all the untenanted lands and non-judicial holdings on an estate should be valued by the Land Commission, the statutory rent-fixing body, the Board could make a firm offer, because the price would not be liable to deduction.

59539. CHAIRMAN.—If the Estates Commissioners would not take the price as fixed?—Unless the zone limit be abolished I don't think they would have the power to object.

59540. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Would there be any difficulty about that subsequent valuation in the future more than exists now with reference to sales to tenants by the Congested Districts Board?—The Congested Districts Board up to the present has been obliged to guarantee against default of annuities on all the sales. That guarantee should not be applied to the larger volume of work you now propose, because it is an accumulating liability every year, and would seriously affect the Board's financial position in the course of a few years.

59541. You would suggest then that the valuation by the officer of the Land Commission should be taken itself as sufficient to satisfy in the case of the sale subsequently from the owners or the Congested Districts Board to the tenants?—Yes. I would say where the prices fixed were within the zone limits as applied to judicial holdings, or rents assessed by the Land Commission valuers as equivalent to judicial rents that they could not alter the price.

59542. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—If you are within the zone limits the Estates Commissioners would have to accept, but where you are not within the zone limits, with non-judicial rents and so on, would you have the Estates Commissioners accept, without any challenge, the recommendations of the valuers?—The Land Commission valuers.

59543. They don't do that now. You make the report of the subordinate binding upon his superior?—I think it is rather absurd myself to assume that a person sitting in an office in Dublin knows more about the value than a man who walks the land.

59544. There are diverse valuations?—Yes, but a person in Dublin who has not seen the holding can't be a judge of its value.

59545. It is the judgment of a man whose judgment is trained by long experience. It is not a whim?—How can that be? I hear it is a common thing to alter the valuer's estimate, but I don't see any justification for thinking that a person, no matter how experienced, who never saw the holding, can form a better judgment on its value than the valuer, who inspected it, especially when he is a man stated to be selected for his competence as a valuer.

59546. You know perfectly well that two valuers do not agree?—I say that the opinion of either is better than that of a man who never saw the place.

59547. Mr. KAVANAGH.—I think there will be difficulties in any half-way house in the question of buying estates?—That being so I think I may repeat what I have said already that there is practically no difficulty in the way of the Board undertaking to pass those cases through provided the cost is not included in the proposed output of a million, and that the necessary expenditure to cover the administrative duty is provided.

CHAIRMAN.—There again you increase your staff to an extent which, so far as I can understand, is not estimable. These conduit pipe duties will necessitate a staff, and how big that staff will be and what it will cost we cannot estimate.

Mr. BRYCE.—Sir Francis Mowatt has just shown that the cost will be very small as regards inspection.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—It is about 5 shillings per cent. for inspection.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—It will be more than that, because as Mr. Callan has just pointed out to me in most direct sales it is not inspection of land for value; it is only inspection for occupation. The actual inspection of land is only in regard to sales under section 6 to the Estates Commissioners, and sales under section 5 where the question of price between landlord and tenant comes in. So if you had it as you now propose to have it the actual inspection and valuation of the land would be greater.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—Possibly, but as far as the figures go it would be a small proportion on the purchase of an estate.

59548. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Whatever the administrative difficulties or wherever the valuers come from, in the suggestion that there would be a valuation from the Estates Commissioners there is nothing new; it is only that the valuation is done under new auspices. It would be done if no arrangement such as is now contemplated were carried through?—No matter what body does it, all these things which we are discussing must be done by some one body. Some one body must separate estates needing treatment from those not needing it.

59549. CHAIRMAN.—Would you exclude the whole of the estates which don't need treatment at all? Don't you think that £1,000,000 a year for the rest of them would be an adequate provision to make? Don't you think that that would mean that the estates would pass through within a reasonable number of years?—It is very difficult to estimate it, but on the figures that Mr. Callan prepared it would take a considerable time.

59550. It would not take more than 25 years?—About that—from 17 to 30 millions' worth of property.

CHAIRMAN.—That is excluding all the estates which don't need improvement at all and including all the estates where even small improvements are necessary?

Mr. Callan.—Yes. Mr. Doran made an estimate, necessarily a rough estimate, that if you exclude estates which do not need improvement you would exclude one-fourth of the area.

Witness.—You would allow one-fourth of the area to pass through. That was a rough estimate.

59552. CHAIRMAN.—If we admit we cannot get over this difficulty of dividing the estates, if we say we won't attempt it, and merely have the two classes, those estates which can be certified by the Board as being absolutely free from congestion, and the other class where there is congestion which the Board must be prepared to buy *in globo*, even though there may be only 10 per cent. of congestion; then we are forced to admit that the problem may take more than from 17 to 30 years to settle at £1,000,000 a year?—It would, if estates, or portions of estates, that don't need treatment are included in the output of £1,000,000 a year.

Mr. BRYCE.—Surely it will be one-fourth of the whole, if Mr. Callan's estimate is that one-fourth of the whole does not require treatment.

Mr. Callan.—In the whole of the area which it was suggested might be assigned to the Board there are, in round numbers, 180,000 holdings. The valuation of those holdings is under £2,200,000. Of the 180,000 holdings close on 70,000 have either been sold or agreed to be sold. That leaves 110,000 holdings that remain to be sold. That is to say, of 180,000 holdings eleven-eighteenths remain unsold, and seven-eighteenths have been sold, or agreed to be sold. If you reduce the valuation of the 180,000 holdings, which is just under £2,200,000, by seven-eighteenths, that leaves, roughly, £1,300,000. That is to say, 110,000 holdings remain to be sold at a valuation which is estimated at £1,300,000. If all that land passed at 20 years' purchase it would be a matter of £26,000,000, and at the rate of £1,000,000 a year the process would take 26 years. If 30 years' purchase were given, £39,000,000 would be required, and then it would take 39 years at the rate of £1,000,000 a year. In either case the amount that would be sold by the Board is over-stated, and therefore the time is over-stated. There is a certain amount which would not be purchased by the Board because it does not need treatment. It was suggested in the estimate submitted to the Commission that that would be additional to the £1,000,000 a year. Mr. Doran says, as a very rough estimate, that the amount of land which might be certified for direct sale would be one-fourth. Therefore if 20 years' purchase was the average price instead of £26,000,000 being required for sales through the Congested Districts Board it would be only three-quarters of that, which would be under £20,000,000, which, at £1,000,000 a year, would take less than 20 years. And again, if the price ran up to 30 years' purchase you would exclude the one-fourth of £39,000,000. That would bring it down to under £30,000,000, which would mean under 30 years. That is how those original estimates were made.

59553. If the Board were to deal with land at the rate of £1,000,000 a year you think that it would increase your outdoor staff by £30,000 a year?—Yes, if £1,000,000 a year were applied to purchase of estates that needed treatment. In respect of those, the cost of my staff would be increased by £30,000 a year.

59554. If £1,000,000 a year is to go on estates that require treatment, that will increase the expenses of your outdoor staff by £30,000 a year?—Yes; and the additional duty in relation to portions of estates to pass by direct sale would increase the expenses only in small proportion.

59555. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—If we take it you want £30,000 a year in addition to your present income for the treatment of land needing treatment I would ask Mr. Doran what class of expenditure for staff would be needed on the land which passes direct to the tenants; it would be altogether different from the expenditure on the million's worth of land?—The expenditure would only be the same as if it passed through the Estates Commissioners—administrative.

59557. Try now to add what you think that amount will be to your £30,000 a year which you require additional in order to pass a million's worth of property that is ameliorated. How do you add for the property that is not improved? Take half a million's worth of that property or a million's worth of it: what additional expenditure will they need on staff for that process?—There would be no expenditure, except that incurred in connection with the preparation and lodging of the maps and agreements, such as the Estates Commissioners have to incur in cases of direct sale.

59558. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—What would you put that at?—I have no basis for an estimate, except what Sir Antony stated as to cost of dealing with £19,000,000 worth of property paid for under Act of 1903.

59559. Would another £10,000 do it?—I should think that amount ample.

59560. Then allowing very liberally it would be £40,000 a year?—Yes.

59561. CHAIRMAN.—Will you go on, Mr. Doran? In the particulars of loss* which I have prepared I only include the estates which have either been sold or are ready for sale. There are a great many others in course of treatment which are not yet ready for sale. The estates to which I refer are classified as follows:—Class A.—Poor tenanted estates on some of which there was a small proportion of untenanted land available for migration and the enlargement of small holdings. Class B.—Very poor tenanted estates on which there was practically no agricultural land available for migration and enlargement of holdings, and upon which the improvements effected were mainly re-arrangement of the holdings, improvement of buildings, road-making, and drainage. Class C.—Migration estates comprised wholly or mainly of untenanted land used chiefly for migration. The total purchase price of estates A, B, and C is £317,639, and the total amount spent in improvement works is £81,249, and the total net loss £41,152. The total poor law valuation is £12,457, and the total area is 53,627 acres, of which 10,558 acres were untenanted, and 43,069 acres were tenanted. Class A comprises 76·1 per cent. of the gross purchase money. This class, comprising poor estates, on some of which there was a small proportion of land available for migration and enlargement, were the estates that incurred the least loss for effecting a substantial amount of improvement in the condition of the occupier. Class B comprises 15·6 per cent. of the gross purchase money. Class B estates are those classified as being very poor, which need a large outlay to make any change in their condition, and where there was little or no land available for enlargement. The only improvements effected for the large outlay were improvement of dwellings, re-arranging the holdings, and making roads and drains. The Board have not materially increased the number of economic holdings.

59562. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—That is Class B?—Yes; such a place as Carna, in Galway, or similar estates. That would be amongst the poorest of that class perhaps. Class C comprises only 8·3 per cent. of the gross purchase money; that is untenanted land. Of the estates purchased under the Act of 1903, which are now ready for sale or sold, speaking in round figures, three-fourths of the land dealt with was Class A, poor estates, where there was considerable room for development and improvement by drainage and road-making, the improvement of dwellings, consolidation of holdings, and, to some extent, by migration and enlargement of holdings. I would put the Dillon Estate in that category, and the De Freyne Estate would be included in the same class. Class B would be represented by those poor estates round about Mallaranny and similar poor tenanted lands elsewhere, which, no matter how much you spend on them, you cannot so improve that the people could live on the land alone.

59563. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—The expenditure in that case is very largely on houses?—Frequently. Where there are rundale holdings it is very largely striping the holdings, the land usually being of such a poor character that you cannot charge such outlay to the land. It costs more to fence in a twenty-acre holding, half of which is rock, than it will to fence through arable land. In the one case you may be able to charge the land with the outlay, in the other case you cannot.

59564. CHAIRMAN.—Class C seems to me to be very important?—Yes.

59565. But apparently you have only bought 8 per cent. of it out of the £317,000 you have spent on land purchased?—These lists do not represent all of what we have bought. I am only giving you actual figures of estates we have ready for sale or have sold under Act of 1903.

59566. Only 8 per cent. is grass land?—Only 8 per cent. is estates wholly or mainly untenanted.

* See p. 46.

Jan. 22, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

59567. That shows that there has been extremely little migration work done in comparison with your other work?—Comparatively speaking, yes.

59568. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You may say absolutely, because the migration work has been extremely small. I think we had better face that fact?—We will come on to it. You can ask me any question you like it afterwards. The total area of Class C is 3,000 acres of land.

59569. CHAIRMAN.—Grass land?—Yes.

59570. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You have got 10,000 acres of untenanted land at the bottom of the first page of your memorandum. You give a total area of 53,627 acres, of which 10,538 were untenanted?—Altogether untenanted land, but there would be untenanted land in A as well.

59571. This is the whole lot?—Yes; but I am talking of C alone now.

59572. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You are talking of the area of land to which migrants have been moved?—I am talking of untenanted land included in C. A contains some untenanted land. B contains little or none. C is practically altogether untenanted land. 10,000 acres is the area of the untenanted land included in A, B, and C. The percentage of loss on the treatment of estates was as follows:—Class A 9·4 per cent. of the cost price of the estate; Class B 21·6 per cent. of the cost price of the estate; Class C 28·8 per cent. of the cost price of the estate. That is to say, Class A was put through hands at a comparatively small loss, being estates capable of considerable development, containing some untenanted land, and not being the poorest class of tenanted estates. In Class C, which was altogether migration, the loss was 28·8 per cent. The average loss upon A, B, and C was 12·9 per cent.

59573. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—Can you tell me the extent of Class C?—I hand in a schedule* which shows it. The average loss on all three classes was 12·9 per cent.

59574. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—What is the statutory limit to what you are allowed to spend on estates?—There is no limit; but you are now in search of some information that will enable you to base an opinion as to the average loss which the Board might sustain in dealing with, say, a million's worth of property per year, and I give you these particulars in the hope that they may assist you. You have, in lists A, B, C, in round figures one-third of a million's worth of typical estates.

59575. Are you satisfied that this 12·9 or, say, 13 per cent. would be sufficient all over to meet demands?—No. I would rather you would allow me to finish my memorandum before I answer that. You have here the information that in dealing with these estates, the cost price of which was nearly one-third of a million, £317,000, the average loss was 12·9 per cent.; but you have to analyse the character of the estates that make up the group. That is very important.

59576. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You would not say that sufficient relief has been given in the case of the Class A estates?—No.

59577. Consequently if we aim at the relief which we ought to give it will be very much more than 12 per cent.?—Very much more. That is why I think it so necessary to emphasise the classification. When you come to analyse this group, on which the average loss is 12·9 per cent., you find that 75 per cent. of it is estates which needed treatment, but which responded to treatment like the Dillon estate, and on that 75 per cent. the average loss was only 9 per cent. on the purchase money; but when you came to settling migrants and dealing with them as economically as possible, the loss was nearly thirty per cent.

59578. May I take it that 75 per cent. was not improved to the extent to which you would be glad to improve it?—It is not at all brought up to the extent that anyone could say is satisfactory, but we have done a lot of useful work on these estates.

59579. Consequently you cannot say that the 9 per cent. is any indication of what the loss would be in the future probably?—No. under more satisfactory treatment.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—On the assumption that you are going to make it a perfect job?

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—A considerably larger number of people should have been migrated than you were able to do.

59581. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Also you were restricted in this way, that you could only deal with properties that were offered to you, and that the outlay and expenditure there are not quite the same as where you have the power of acquiring property generally?—Yes. That is very important.

59582. Therefore, this is dealing with the loss on properties dealt with under circumstances that are going to be changed?—Yes; that ought to be changed.

59583. Therefore, this is no real guide to the loss and expenditure where the Congested Districts Board have powers to acquire property wherever it is wanted for the relief of congestion?—It is not an absolute guide, but it does afford you, as I think you will see later on, reliable data for arriving at an opinion in the matter.

59584. What I mean is that in Class A the loss is only 9·4 per cent. You were simply reduced to that because you could not do anything else?—We did all we could for those estates under present conditions.

59585. You could not take any large portions of Class C in relief of Class A?—We had not much of Class C. We did all we could for Class A, having regard to the number of people who were willing to leave these estates. Only a very small proportion of them would migrate to the lands we could offer. We did not refuse to migrate anyone who would migrate to the lands available; but we had so little land on hands that intending migrants had but a small area to select from. Some of these estates are quite near grass farms that we had no power to acquire, and we had to sell a considerable number of uneconomic holdings, although grass farms were near them.

59586. CHAIRMAN.—You say you did your best with the amount of grass land available. What was the chief reason that you had no more grass land?—We could only endeavour to buy those that were offered to us, and we did buy most of them.

59587. You were not handicapped with want of funds?—No.

59588. You had plenty of funds to buy if you got the landlords to sell?—I think so. At least we have never come to that point when we were told that there was no money to pay for estates.

59589. Take the Dillon Estate. If you had compulsory powers that would have enabled you to buy more grass land, do you think you would have been able to have migrated more people?—Yes; if we could have got the lands that we would have selected, say, within ten miles or so of the estate.

59590. If you had compulsory powers to enable you to purchase grass lands suitable for migration, you think you would have been able to prevail upon more people to migrate on that estate?—I am quite sure. In fact, I believe that a number of the Dillon people will migrate if the Board can get lands within ten miles. Several of them have already applied for holdings on grass lands purchased within the past two years.

59591. That would enable you to make a better job on the Dillon Estate?—Yes.

59592. Would it also increase the amount of your loss?—We dealt with the Dillon Estate without any loss, and the Dillon Estate, being half the volume of the work completed, up to a date mentioned in my evidence at your first sittings, had the effect of reducing the average percentage of loss to 6 per cent. on all the estates dealt with, simply because half the volume cost nothing.

59593. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It does not come into these figures at all?—No.

59594. CHAIRMAN.—It is not fair to take the Dillon Estate as an example?—On the other hand, here are 75 per cent. of the cost price of the estates dealt with under Act of 1903, some of the Dillon Estate type, and our loss is 9 per cent.

59595. I suppose the same handicap applies all round?—Yes.

59596. If you had compulsory powers to obtain grass lands in the neighbourhood of these estates you would have been able to migrate greater numbers of people?—Yes.

59597. The loss, therefore, would have been greater?—Yes, but the results would have been more satisfactory.

59598. If you had compulsory powers from the beginning your loss would have been more than 9 per cent. with regard to the 75 per cent. in value of estates?—Yes; and it will be more if the Board put them into anything approaching a satisfactory condition. It is only where the condition of the people is slightly ameliorated that the loss can be small.

* See p. 46.

Where you have to apply radically ameliorative treatment to poor tenanted estates, like portion of the Armstrong Estate and others, it is only where there happens to be a large area of grass land on the estate that you can enlarge all uneconomic holdings, and make a really satisfactory settlement without a large loss.

59599. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—What was your loss on the Armstrong Estate?—About 15 per cent., although the untenanted land was on the estate.

59600. CHAIRMAN.—Are you satisfied with the Armstrong Estate?—Yes.

59601. Do you call that an ideal arrangement?—Approaching it.

59602. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It is a case where in the removal of congestion land could be found for enlarging holdings on the estate itself?—Yes.

59603. Therefore, it is not a parallel case to that in which people would have to be transferred to a distance?—No. That is why substantial improvement can be effected cheaply.

59604. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You had not to build new houses?—Very few new houses.

59605. CHAIRMAN. Is there any estate you have dealt with at all since the beginning where you have had sufficient grass land to enable you to migrate all the people who wanted to migrate and where the arrangements you were able to make have been, in your opinion, as perfect as could possibly be made there; is there any estate that you can give us that will show the loss that would be any guide to us as regards future operations, where you would have power to obtain grass land?—The Armstrong Estate is a fair illustration of the results under favourable circumstances. Although the untenanted land was some distance from the tenanted portion it was within the ambit of the estate, and it cost very much less to rearrange and dispose of, inasmuch as the greater part was given as enlargement.

59606. Suppose that the grass land was not on the estate, and you had to buy from somebody else, say, compulsorily, to what extent do you think that would have increased your loss?—We should have had to migrate at least fifty people out of it, and it would have increased the loss. It would have greatly increased, perhaps doubled, the actual loss.

59607. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It would have been over 30 per cent.?—Probably.

59608. Whereas it was within 15 per cent.?—Yes.

59609. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Do you count loans in that?—No, we don't count loans, but we count advances on the sale prices of the holdings. Any sum included in the sale price of the holdings in respect of buildings is taken into account before assessing the net loss.

59610. These are just grants, not loans?—Yes; grants or advances to be repaid.

59611. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Look at the details. Would you have paid any more for the land if you had to buy the land, say, twenty miles off? Would you have paid any higher number of years' purchase for the land than you did in the case of the Armstrong Estate?—We would not.

59612. The land would have been the same?—About the same, or perhaps a little less.

59613. And the other expenditure would have been on building the houses?—Yes; fencing and road making.

59614. In the new place?—Yes.

59615. Preparing the holdings?—Yes.

59616. You say you would have migrated fifty families: how much would it be per family?—I don't believe we would have got the fifty to go.

59617. Assuming you would?—Assuming we would, our net loss would be at least £100 per family. That would be £5.000.

59618. Mr. KAVANAGH.—To build houses and all?—Yes; the net loss.

59619. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—A certain portion of the expenditure would be put on the annuity, but the portion that you would not put on the annuity causes the £5.000 extra?—Yes.

59620. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Would you have got anything for the goodwill of the places they had abandoned?—We would; but that would be credited to the migrant in the price of his new holding. That is our plan.

59621. But if you gave him the goodwill of his new holding you would not also credit him with the price of the holding which he had abandoned?—No. Our procedure is this: it is explained really in this memorandum later on, but I will give it to you now. We buy, say, £10 worth of land at twenty-seven years' purchase for £270. That is the average price which the land cost us. A man who has a £5 holding proposes to take a £10 holding from us. We value the occupation interest of his holding. The rent, we will say, is £5. If he was an improving tenant he might have reclaimed portion of it; he might have built a house and offices on it; and, we will say, for the sake of illustration, that the gross value of the land in its present condition is estimated by us at £7, although the rent is only £5. In its present condition the rent is estimated at £7. We give him £7 worth of the new holding for £5, and we give him that £7 worth at the price at which we were prepared to sell him the £5 holding if he had not migrated; that is to say, if we had bought that £5 holding from the landlord at twenty years' purchase we would figure out the price of the new holding like this. We would say, "If you don't migrate we will sell you your present holding at the price we paid the landlord, twenty times £5, that is £100; we are going to move you on to a new holding, and will give you £7 worth of land on the new holding for £100." We give him £7 worth of the new holding at the price paid for his £5 holding, because £7 of the new is only the equivalent of the gross annual value of the old holding; and we charge him twenty-seven years' purchase for the remainder of the land included in new holding; that is, if we give him £10 worth altogether we charge him twenty-seven times £3 for the remainder. We would give him the new holding at £181 for the land, *plus* such addition as we consider we ought to make for the new buildings we erect. We cannot erect buildings affording the minimum desirable accommodation for a family under £120. The annual value of the land comprised in our new holdings is generally not less than £15.

59622. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—That is a moderate figure?—Yes. That is for the minimum accommodation. We say to the migrant, "We don't suppose you will be satisfied with the offices we put up. Double them or treble them within the next year if you like." If the value of the land in the holding was only £10 a year, the most we would put on the buildings would be one-eight of the value of the land; that would be an annuity of £1 5*s.* on the buildings in addition to the annuity on the land.

59623. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Then you would have given him the difference between the capital value of the buildings and of the £1 5*s.*?—Yes. An annuity of £1 5*s.* would, in round figures, represent a capital sum, £40, and the cost of the buildings would be, say, £120, we would lose on the transaction £80, the difference between £120 and £40. We would not lose on the allowance that we make for the occupation interest of the surrendered holding, because we would charge for his vacated land the sum allowed for occupation interest in addition to the cost of the fee-simple.

59624. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—You would get it from the people who got his land?—Yes.

59625. CHAIRMAN.—All this is an annuity arrangement. No cash passes?—Yes. No cash passes.

59626. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—His occupation interest is not merely in the land but in the house?—Yes, if it is a substantial one, but if it is not we don't allow much, if anything, for it.

59627. The incomer is to be charged the occupation interest you credit him with?—Yes.

59628. If you pull down the house?—If we do we lose the amount allowed for the building.

59629. If you don't pull down the house how are you relieving congestion?—If we get a migrant to go who has a fairly good house we will always have somewhere near a more or less helpless person with a bad house, and we move that person into the migrant's house and knock down the bad house.

59630. You move, say, a widow from another house into the house of another person, whose interest has been bought?—Yes, and thus get them into better houses. If we fix the rent of the house at 10 shillings a year in estimating the occupation interest, we charge the woman or other person who gets the migrant's buildings 10 shillings a year for the building in the rent.

59631. And you pull down her house?—Yes, if it is a bad one.

59632. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Do you mean houses to which no land is attached?—No, but in valuing the holdings we first of all put our acreable rents on the

Jan. 22, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

land; we then examine the buildings, and if they are in good repair we put on a separate rent for the buildings in connection with the holding. The average loss on A, B, and C together was 12·9 per cent. As already stated, the tenanted estates A and B comprise 91·7 per cent. of the gross cost price, and the untenanted land, Class C, was only 8·3 per cent. of the gross. If, as recommended in my evidence, the estates dealt with each year by the Board should comprise two-thirds tenanted and one-third untenanted land, the loss if calculated for one-third untenanted in the same proportion as it has actually been on the estates, as shown on list C now handed in, would make the loss on the entire group of estates, comprising two-thirds tenanted and one-third untenanted work out at 17·2 per cent. To make that clear I told you that the gross value of the entire group, A, B, and C was £319,000, but only 8 per cent. of that was untenanted land, and as Sir Antony MacDonnell suggests, the consequence was that we were obliged at the time to sell the group with many uneconomic holdings, not having a sufficient area of suitable untenanted land. If we raise the proportion of C land to 33 per cent., or one-third, leaving A and B at two-thirds, the average loss on the group would work out at 17·2 per cent.

59633. CHAIRMAN.—It is like this: the more grass land you buy and the more bad estates the greater the expense?—Yes.

59634. If you want to deal with the very poorest land where the congestion is greatest you must have a large amount of grass land on hands to relieve it?—You must, if relief is only to be by enlargement of holdings.

59635. And the more grass land you have the greater will be the loss?—Yes.

59636. Sir. FRANCIS MOWATT.—On the other hand, the less congestion the estate has that you purchase the smaller the amount of grass land required?—Yes, and the less loss incurred in treatment.

59637. If you got an estate on the verge of being economic very little grass land would be required?—Yes, and very little loss would be incurred.

59638. And by enlarging the district, as we propose to enlarge it now, until it covers the whole of Connaught and other counties, the area with which you will have to deal will contain a great many more of such estates that are almost economic?—Certainly.

59639. Therefore to that extent the proportion of loss will be reduced?—Very substantially, if you allow me to include all.

59640. Mr. KAVANAGH.—All the grass must be on Class C, but you relieve Class A and B, and in that way is it not unfair to put all the loss on Class C?—No. I said that A contains a small proportion of untenanted land.

59641. But naturally the greater loss occurs on Class C?—Yes. That is the actual loss, which, as a matter of account, might all be debited to the estates benefited.

59642. You relieve Class B and A by it?—Yes; and taking A, B, C together, you get the losses of each class merged.

59643. If there was no Class A and B there would be no necessity for Class C?—No; that is to say, if you did not remove people from Classes A and B you would leave C grazing land as it is at present.

59644. It is not a loss in itself, but it is a loss because it relieves A and B?—Altogether. I consider that these figures, based on actual facts, afford the best guide to what the minimum loss might be in dealing in a similar manner with estates needing treatment in the counties containing congested districts. There is not one of these estates that did not need treatment. No estate was bought by the Board that did not.

59645. CHAIRMAN.—Then that means that you think that 17 per cent. is about the correct figure to allow?—I think it is very near it—ascertained, as it is, from the results of treatment of estates purchased and prepared for sale since the passing of the Act of 1903.

59646. You make a reduction for the sort of estates that Sir Francis has just alluded to?—Yes. This would not include any estate except those needing treatment.

59647. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—There might be a very slight change in it?—If I was allowed to include estates which only need very slight treatment it would reduce the percentage substantially. I have shown in these returns the actual amount expended on improvements on each estate.*

59648. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—I think you do afterwards reduce the percentage from 17 to 15?—Of course this is only a means of roughly estimating it, nothing more than that.

59649. CHAIRMAN.—Those figures go on the assumption that you are dealing with a very poor class of estate. Suppose you had in future to operate over the whole of the area that we have mentioned, what reduction do you think could be made from the 17 per cent?—I estimate that one-fourth of the estates could be passed through without any necessity for treatment, and if that one-fourth be included in the output, and sold through the Board, only a small loss would be incurred, and it would reduce the percentage of loss on entire sales by 4 to 5 per cent.

59650. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Excluding them altogether?—Excluding them I don't think the figure could be reduced to much less than the figure I state, 15 to 17 per cent.

59651. CHAIRMAN.—Surely we need not go into the question of the estates that do not require treatment at all. They can be passed through without loss. Then there are the very poor estates, such as you have had in your mind here, and also the estates which require some treatment, but not very expensive treatment, because either the grass land lies very adjacent or because the great majority of the tenants are economic tenants. Putting those two classes together, what deduction do you think ought to be made from the 17 per cent.?—I think that the estates on lists A, B, C, when grouped, indicate a typical average.

59652. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—I fear you did not state to us that one-fourth of the land might pass without treatment on estates that had no parts of them congested?—No; what I meant was in the whole of the counties containing congestion.

CHAIRMAN.—They don't come into it at all. We need not consider them.

59653. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—I am afraid that Mr. Doran's one-fourth includes two classes, those that contain no portion congested and those that contain small portions congested?—Yes; all the estates, and portions of estates, that might be excluded from purchase by the Board.

59654. Comprising the whole of estates that do not need treatment, and estates, portions of which are capable of being classified as estates, which portions do not need treatment; is that so?—Yes.

59655. CHAIRMAN.—If you go into Connaught tomorrow and buy a block of a million's worth of land, tenanted and untenanted, and proceed to treat it, what do you imagine would be the sort of average loss that you would incur?—I think really that the figures I have given on lists A, B, C afford the most reliable data available for making such an estimate.

59656. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—Your figures profess to deal with land such as you have been dealing with. Now, we want to consider an entirely different state of things. You are coming into districts in which the congestion is not nearly so great. Many of them are almost economic holdings, but upon a lot of those estates there will be a few of these not quite economic which will therefore require some slight treatment. It is obvious that the percentage of expenditure or loss in treating that very small portion of the estate cannot be anything like the amount you will lose in dealing with a very poor estate. You said that under those circumstances, which are not included in those figures, the reduction would be very great on the 17 per cent. I want to ask you have you formed any estimate of what the figure should stand at instead of 17 per cent. loss?—The 17 per cent. is based on the assumption that we are only applying treatment to the portions needing it and excluding the remainder. Consequently if you include the entire of an estate or area one-fourth of which needs no treatment, that will reduce the percentage of loss very substantially.

59657. What do you mean by very substantially?—I told you I based the 17 per cent. loss on the assumption that one-fourth of the lands in those counties would be excluded, and if you include the entire

59658. You are estimating that in this new district to which you are alluding one-fourth of the land would not require treatment?—Yes.

* See p. 46.

59659. Therefore you would reduce the 17 per cent. loss practically by one-fourth?—Yes—to from 12 to 13 per cent. of the entire, one-fourth of which involved no loss.

59662. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—What you mean is, that suppose you bought the whole county one-fourth of the land in the county would not require treatment?—Yes.

59663. Three-fourths would require treatment?—Yes.

59664. You estimate that the average loss upon the three-fourths, that is the estates requiring treatment of some sort or another, would, in the aggregate, amount to 17·2 per cent.?—Yes, but if you were to have the same expenditure, and were to be allowed to include all the estates before calculating an average that 17 per cent. would be reduced approximately by one-fourth.

59665. CHAIRMAN.—The point is this: excluding, first of all, the one-fourth that don't require treatment at all, that leaves you 75 per cent. of estates that require treatment of some sort?—Yes.

59666. The great majority of estates may be estates of the class you have already dealt with which are set out here. With regard to these estates, you tell us you think that 17 per cent. is about the proper amount of loss, but my point is, that within that 75 per cent. of estates there is another class of estate that you have not dealt with at all hitherto under your Board, the estate which needs a certain amount of improvement, but not any very great improvement. It is not classified in any of your A, B or C. It is not a very poor estate; it is not an estate which has only a small amount of grass land, nor is it an estate which is really mainly grass land. It is an estate, 80 or 85 per cent. of which perhaps is economic, but a small proportion, 20 or 15 per cent., is uneconomic. You have not dealt with that class of estate at all, because it has not been the policy of the Board to devote its attention to that class of estate?—No.

59667. You have looked to poorer estates than these and these were crowded out. If we give you the whole of Connaught you will find within the 75 per cent. which you have got to treat some estates of that kind?—I don't think so. I think they are in the one-fourth that are excluded.

59668. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—In the 75 per cent. Mr. Doran, I think, includes only land—I won't say estates—requiring remedial treatment. In the 25 per cent. he not only includes estates that have no portion of them congested, but also includes that portion of estates having a little bit of congestion, which is not congested. Am I right in saying that in the one-fourth you include, first, estates that have no portion congested, and second, estates that have a little bit congested, and that you include the non-congested part of those estates?—In my replies I have only one procedure before my mind all through. It is this, that the Board would continue to do what they have done in the past, and only buy estates needing treatment.

59669. Do we take it your 17 per cent. of loss is for estates of every class requiring remedial treatment?—Yes.

59670. Therefore in the 75 per cent of estates requiring remedial treatment you have no portions of estates or large portions of estates that don't require remedial treatment?—No.

59671. Now, you think that the only question you require to address yourself to is this. Suppose we take as one-fourth the portions of estates that are not congested and take them over to the other side, what reduction then could you make on your 17 per cent. Within the 75 per cent. you have nothing but land requiring extensive remedial treatment. Suppose you take over to the same side of the line the purchase of estates that don't require remedial treatment, what are your deductions on the 17 per cent?—I am not satisfied that the problem is before you in the way in which it appears to me at all. I must ask you to let me try to explain it again.

59672. Mr. BRYCE.—Take the case of the Dillon Estate, you did that without loss?—Yes.

59673. If you had bought it since the passing of the 1903 Act or just before it, when prices were rising a bit, you would have lost about 11 or 12 per cent. Suppose the Dillon estate had not been sold and you had got to buy it now and treat it, what would be your loss on that particular estate?—I daresay we would lose 10 per cent. now.

59673A. Going into the market to buy the Dillon estate at the rate of prices now existing and under the circumstances now existing, what would you calculate you would probably lose in the treatment of it to-day?—I think about 10 per cent.

59674. No more than that?—No, if we only dealt with the estate as we have done.

59675. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—That is under the 17 per cent. Surely the Dillon estate is as bad an estate as you could treat?—We have not put it into a satisfactory condition. More than half the holdings on the Dillon estate are uneconomic holdings. We could not get the land for them. We made the best job we could within the boundaries.

59676. If you were treating it in the way you would treat it now if you had sufficient untenanted land, what would it cost you more than 10 per cent.?—It would cost at least 20 per cent. to put it into what I could call a satisfactory state.

59677. Lord Dudley's question is this. The Dillon estate was as bad as you could have: are you not likely to have in your 75 per cent. certain estates not requiring much treatment, the average loss then being very much less than 17 per cent.?—Yes. I have some on the list of A estates I am submitting to you. For instance, I will give you a case to the point that appears here. The Colles-Sandes estate cost £71,000, and the loss on it was only 2·8 per cent.

59678. CHAIRMAN.—Are not you likely to have estates of that sort?—Yes; and there is a proportion of them on these lists. I think it is a fair proportion. That is what I have meant by saying this group of estates, A, B. C lists, is typical of the volume of the class of estates the Board would deal with within an average year.

59679. And you have taken them into consideration in your 17 per cent.?—Yes. There is £71,000 for the estate mentioned, and there is a loss of 2·8 per cent. That is included in Class A, and helps to keep the average loss low.

59680. Won't you have more of that sort of estate now that your area is going to be enlarged into non-scheduled districts than you had before, when you had only the scheduled districts to deal with?—I am estimating that you would not have a larger proportion than in this list if you do not buy estates or sections of estates that do not need treatment.

59681. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—That list is what has been done already?—Yes, under Act of 1903. I commenced by saying I thought this group of estates fairly typical.

59682. CHAIRMAN.—Your list must be based on the area you have hitherto to deal with, which, being a scheduled area, is a very poor area. You have got a certain proportion of estates on that area which have cost you very little My point is, now that your area is going to be enlarged by the addition of richer territory is not it probable you will find a greater number of estates of that class in that territory. You have just mentioned one estate on which you only lost 2 or 3 per cent.?—Yes.

59683. Therefore won't the average loss be materially reduced?—Yes, if you include all estates in the enlarged area.

59684. These are not estates which you would not deal with. Those would be estates you would treat. They would not be the 25 per cent. that you would pass off and not deal with at all. They would be in the 75 per cent. of estates with which you would have to deal?—If there was a larger proportion of estates, or portions of estates, not needing expensive treatment than in this list, that would reduce the percentage of loss on the entire.

59685. CHAIRMAN.—That is the whole point of the question—how much will it reduce it?——

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Against that would not there be, with enlarged powers, other estates which now, with the area of land available restricted, are not included, and which would cost you very much more than these estates to settle. I agree with Lord Dudley, that such estates as the Colles-Sandes Estate would materially reduce the percentage; but, suppose you have to deal with an estate like Lord Dillon's, under modern conditions, and with enlarged powers, where you would not leave the estate as it is, you would have that estate on the other side of the account, which would cause increased expense, and counterbalance the savings on such estates as the Colles-Sandes Estate. One would be a set-off against the other?—Yes, to some extent.

Jan 22, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

59686. I am arguing against the reduction of the 17 per cent.?—What I am anxious to do is to show you clearly how the figures based on actual experience of 1903 Act cases work out in percentage of loss.

59687. CHAIRMAN.—What we want to arrive at is this: suppose we recommend that you should have a certain amount with which to buy land every year—for the sake of argument, suppose we say a million—what is the correct amount of money that should be given to you to lose on that million?—I think it would be well if you allowed me to read my memorandum, because I deal with those points.

59688. You must have some basis for your figures. 17 per cent. on a million a year would be £170,000?—You have not overlooked the fact that this 17 per cent. is not based on C estates alone, but also on A and B, that is, on two-thirds tenanted lands and one-third untenanted.

59689. It is only another way of saying you want an adequate amount of grass land to deal with the other land?—Yes; but it affects the price and the extent of the loss, the untenanted land being the most expensive to purchase and to treat in preparation for migrants.

59690. But taking your view, that one-third untenanted is the proper amount to have in hands, and if 17 per cent. is the amount of loss on the million, £170,000 a year would have to be given to the Board to treat a million?—Yes.

59691. We have got to show some reason for whatever figure we recommend. There is not the smallest use in saying that £170,000 is the amount, unless we can make it up in some way. We have got to give some reasons for that?—Yes. I am giving you the best proof in the results of actual transactions completed.

59692. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You work out all these things later on?—Yes. The loss on the Board's dealing with this one-third of a million probably is only 12 per cent., but the Board's treatment of these estates is unsafe, because they had not sufficient untenanted land, and I suggest, therefore, that the untenanted land should be increased from 8 per cent., which it is actually in the group of estates submitted, to 33 per cent., which it ought to be if the tenanted holdings are made economic, and the loss by that change alone is raised from 12 to 17 per cent. I may observe that the tenants of these groups all paid at least two years' full rent, and that the untenanted land was sold at the average price which all the untenanted land purchased by the Board cost, namely, twenty-seven years' purchase of the estimated fair annual value, consequently, in making an estimate of the average loss in future transactions on the basis indicated by these figures—*i.e.*, 17·2 per cent., it is very important to bear in mind that if the untenanted lands are not purchased at the prices at which they can be sold at, on an average, a further loss will be entailed in excess of the 17·2 per cent. The bulk of the holdings on the estates in Class A have not been enlarged to any appreciable extent, and on sale were largely composed of uneconomic holdings. The chief improvements effected through the loss of 9·4 per cent. being the re-arrangement of scattered or rundale holdings, improvement of dwellings, construction of drains, fences, and roads. Although these estates have been appreciably benefited by the Board's treatment, the results cannot be considered altogether satisfactory. While a large proportion of the holdings disposed of cannot be classed as economic.

59693. Mr. BRYCE.—In what class do you class the Dillon Estate?—In Class A. Class B comprised poorer estates than those in Class A. A larger number of the holdings needed re-arrangement, and where, as a rule, owing to the poor character of the land, the works carried out in connection with re-arrangement, drainage, and road-making were not considered to be sufficiently directly reproductive to charge any appreciable portion of the outlay to the sale prices of the holdings, a large percentage of loss has consequently occurred, with results that are even less satisfactory than in the case of holdings comprised in Class A.

59694. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Could you give me the names of any estates in Class B?—The Carna Estate would be included in Class B, and the estates about Mallaranny, the Connemara and Erris Estates. I have here a list of the estates and the expenditure. They include the Bandon Estate, in the County Cork; the Gethings Estate, near Lissadell; Hazell Estate, near Carna; the Foley Estate, and other estates. The estates included in Classes A and B may be taken as fair types of poor estates in congested districts, but it will be observed that the proportion of Class B, which comprises very poor estates, is small compared with Class A. That is 15 per cent. against 75. The estates in Class C are wholly or mainly untenanted estates used for migration and form only 8·3 per cent. of the gross. In considering the suggestion to fix a percentage of loss which the Board may incur in dealing with the year's output of estates, it is of importance to study the proportions which the values of Classes A, B, and C respectively bear to the gross value of the three classes grouped together, for it is manifest that if the Board are limited to an average percentage of loss in the year's output, they must arrange to group for treatment the Classes A, B, and C in such proportions as will bring out the average percentage of loss allowed. To illustrate this, if they confined themselves during the year in dealing with estates in Class A, these would involve an average loss of 9·4 per cent.

59695. Mr. BRYCE.—You say that the Dillon Estate was in Class A?—Yes, but these lists only include estates purchased under Act of 1903.

59696. You say that in dealing with the Dillon Estate now there would be a loss of 20 per cent.?—Yes, if we were to put it into a satisfactory condition by extensive migration. The Dillon Estate, treated as it has been, would not cost more, but providing land elsewhere to remove a sufficient number of tenants to make the holdings of those who remain economic would involve a loss of 20 per cent.

59697. CHAIRMAN.—The Dillon Estate itself might cost more?—What I mean is apart from the probable difference in the price of it owing to altered conditions.

59698. You might not be able to hold it as you did; you might not be able to get the same revenue out of it as you did then?—I meant in the cost of works and anything that we have done on the Dillon Estate.

59699. But then you were helped by a number of favourable circumstances?—Yes.

CHAIRMAN.—If those favourable circumstances did not exist then as they might not exist now you would not have been able to deal with the Dillon Estate without migration for a loss of 9·4 per cent.

59700. Mr. BRYCE.—On the Dillon Estate actually you lost nothing. I don't think Mr. Doran made it quite clear whether he was dealing with future conditions in that 9 per cent. and whether he included the loss that is going to be caused by a complete system of migration?—No; I am merely giving you what actually happened on the estates named in the lists submitted, but I tell you that these are, as they are grouped, fair types of estates that will be purchased by Board in future operations.

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It would be very difficult to say what loss would be incurred on such properties, enormous properties, as the Dillon Estate, in two or three different contingencies: first, the migration of all the people you desire to migrate, and in the next place in the conditions of sale being altogether changed. I don't think Mr. Doran could do that without great consideration.

Mr. BRYCE.—Is it not essential that we should know that? How can we ask for a definite sum unless we know what it is going to cost to migrate the people?

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—The Dillon Estate was bought cheap and before the Act of 1903. He has given us examples of purchase under the Act of 1903 which therefore are a much better guide to us with reference to future purchases.

59704. Mr. BRYCE.—Have you given us any complete case of an estate, in any one or other of these classes, in which you migrated on a sufficiently large scale all the people you wanted to migrate so that you will know what with increased powers it will cost you when you are going to migrate all the people whom you require to migrate?—No, but I can give an estate where there was migration alone carried out, and I will tell you what it cost—untenanted land alone to which a certain number of persons were migrated. The case you ask for is an ideal one, where you provide all the tenants on the estate with economic holdings. I don't believe we will be able to approach that perfect ideal in practice.

59705. That is Utopia: it would not be possible to provide for it, but you must have in your mind for our purpose some kind of an estate, what you are likely to be able to do, and what it is likely to cost. I think this memorandum gives you that, if I may read it. It gives the proportion of tenant land,

A and B in this list. Then I state what it actually cost to treat these estates. At the same time I tell you that we had not enough of untenanted land, and that instead of having only 8·3 per cent we should have 33 per cent., and if we had 33 per cent. we should be able to have more migrants, and enlarge more uneconomic holdings, and then the estimated loss of 14 per cent. is based on the assumption that we would be able to get the 33 per cent. of untenanted land under the new conditions, and if so we could bring these classes, A and B, as near the ideal suggested of an average £10 rateable value the loss would be about 18 per cent. The percentages of loss on individual estates in Class A, 7·7, 25·4, 15, 24, 11·9, 6·3, 12·9, 20·3, 10·6, 3·6, 8, 18·7 2·8. These are the varying rates of which the average comes out at 9·4 per cent. I have pointed out that if the Board confined themselves during the year to dealing with estates in Class A these would involve an average loss of 9·4 per cent. If, on the other hand, they deal only with the poorest estates, Class B, the loss will be 21·6 per cent., and if they confine themselves solely to migration, the loss would be at least 30 per cent.; so that in fixing the average net loss to be incurred on estates dealt with in the year, it would always be necessary to so arrange the proportions of the different classes sold each year as would bring out the average loss at the percentage allowed. I have endeavoured to do this as far as possible with the limited opportunities for grouping the estates that the small extent of purchases by the Board have hitherto afforded. An examination of the past records of the Board's work, as well as a reference to the estates now classed under B, make it clear that the poor and less resourceful estates cannot be dealt with, with a less loss than 20 per cent. of the cost price. On a few of these estates the loss even exceeded 100 per cent. of the cost price. It may be taken for certain that extensive migration of small landholders cannot be safely carried out at a less loss than 30 per cent. of the cost price of the land, and this on the assumption that the land can be sold to the migrants at the price paid for it.

59709. That is of the untenanted land. You buy an estate to migrate these people from, and you buy an untenanted estate to migrate them to?—That is Class C.

59710. You are looking at that quite independently?—For this purpose I have taken it that every holding you carve out involves a certain loss. I afterwards merge that into the general group. The average price paid by the Board for all untenanted land acquired was, as given in my evidence, 27 years' purchase of an estimated fair rent, the annuity on which would be equivalent to 12½ per cent. reduction in the rent. In my opinion the annuity of a migrant's holding ought not at the outside exceed 85 per cent. of the estimated fair letting value of the holding including buildings, and even this rate seems to leave rather too small a margin of security for the payment of the annuity for such a long period as 68½ years, and I would much prefer, if it was possible to finance it, that the annuity on the holding should not exceed 85 per cent. of the fair rent of the land excluding the buildings. It would be quite possible to do this if migrants could be found who would surrender fairly substantial holdings, for the occupation interest in the holdings they surrender would in all cases be deducted from the cost price of the land in the new holding, but in the case of small holdings this occupation interest is not sufficient to cover the sum added to the value of the land in respect of the necessary buildings erected upon it. So that if the Board continue to acquire untenanted land at 27 years' purchase of an estimated fair rent, and that the migrants to these lands are persons who surrender very small holdings, it will not be possible to let them have the new holdings at an annuity representing 85 per cent. of the fair rent of the land alone without incurring a larger loss than 30 per cent. I should also point out that it appears probable that the Board will seek to acquire a much larger proportion of non-residential tenanted holdings than they have hitherto acquired, and if they are obliged to pay more for such holdings than for land in the owner's possession they will be unable to sell the new holdings created out of such land at annuities which do not exceed 85 per cent. of the fair rent, without incurring a much larger loss than 30 per cent. on the cost price of the land alone of the migrant's holdings. Personally I see no reason why a larger price should be paid for land jointly owned by two persons (tenant and landlord) than if it were occupied by only one of these persons. The price charged the migrant should not be affected by the number of persons who previously had ownership or claims on the land he gets.

59711. CHAIRMAN.—Would you reverse that. Do you see any reason why a larger price should be paid for land held or owned by one person than for land held or owned by two?—No. I think the same price should be paid in both cases.

59712. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You are speaking irrespective of buildings and equipments?—The land includes those. They should be taken into account in valuing it, a separate valuation being placed upon the buildings.

59713. Mr. KAVANAGH.—The occupation interest?—It is there in both cases.

59714. It might be divided among two persons or it might be altogether in one?—Yes, and if a man is owner in fee-simple and also the occupier that is no reason why he should not get the value of his occupation interest.

59715. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Would you say you would pay the same if the land is occupied by the owner? You would suppose in that case that the holdings would have the buildings and equipments which it would have in case it were in the possession of a different occupier?—It does not affect it. I propose to buy a tract of land, and if I buy I get everything that is on it, buildings and all. Before I arrive at a decision as to what it is worth I must value it. I value the land as I see it on an estimate of the revenue the land is capable of yielding when managed in a husbandlike manner, and I also value the buildings. It does not matter who the owners are, or how many there are, the productiveness of the land and its value, including building and other improvements, remain the same.

59716. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Or how many there are?—Or how many there are. You have put a full value on what you are going to buy irrespective of how many owners, and the price which you are putting upon it of course will have to be fixed, having regard to what you can sell it at, and what it is really worth. Then it is a question when you come to apportion the price afterwards. You give to the landlord his share, whatever it is, and to the occupier the other share. If the landlord is the occupier you give him both shares.

59717. CHAIRMAN.—But there is a difference in the case in which the land is in the hands of the two people, landlord and tenant. The price which the land represents to the landlord is so many years' purchase of the rent. That is what it is worth to him?—Yes; that is what it is worth to him where there is a permanent tenant on it. He has only the revenue to sell. He cannot give possession of the land.

59718. He has got so many years' purchase of the revenue? The revenue has been fixed by the State and what he has got to sell is that revenue so fixed?—Yes.

59719. In the case of untenanted land he has got to sell so many years' purchase of rent not fixed by the State, but which he could obtain for himself by open competition?—He has the land to sell, and can give possession of it, and the value of it is to be measured by its productiveness, its gross yield, when managed in a husbandlike manner, after deducting all necessary outgoings incidental to its management.

59720. Its gross yield can only be measured either by what he makes out of it by farming it himself or what somebody will give him for it?—Yes.

59721. If it is measured by what somebody will give him for it in the open market, unfettered by any action of the State it is measured by what you can get for it?—If land were bought in the open market, without any financial aid from the State to purchase the fee-simple of it, it would not bring an excessive price.

59722. There is not State interference with the owner of untenanted land. He can put it up in the market for open competition, which will bid up the price of the land to a certain figure, and then he can sell that for so many years' purchase—is not that so?—In that case the price the owner gets is enhanced, and usually excessive, by reason of the State financing the buyer to purchase the fee-simple.

59724. In one case the market is open and free; in the other case it is limited by the action of the State

Jan. 22, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

—I am not arguing whether action is right or wrong. Therefore there is a difference where the land is in the hands of one man—the landlord?—The intrinsic value of the land is not affected by the number of the owners.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—It appears to me in two ways. In one case it is income from the land guaranteed him by the State.

CHAIRMAN.—It is fixed, but not guaranteed.

59726. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Is the competition for untenanted land open and free?—Yes; it is quite free, except within the small area of disturbed districts.

Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Can you make land?

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Is the income on a permanent basis?

59727. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Is not it the price of a monopoly he gets?—I don't know that you can put it in that way unless you assume land should be the property of the nation.

59728. CHAIRMAN.—Land is limited and is required, and to that extent, of course, is affected by what you may call a monopoly, but that must apply to land everywhere. But putting aside that and putting aside any question of agitation, cattle driving and anything of that sort, is it not true that land in the hands of a landlord in Ireland, untenanted land, is subject to a perfectly free and competitive rent?—Yes.

59729. You can put that land up in the open market. There is nothing to prevent a man from Scotland coming and taking it?—No.

59730. And the man from Scotland may bid against a man from the locality, and force the price up until one considers that it is not worth it, and drops out?—Yes.

59731. That right and the income thus received is what the landlord has to sell when he is selling his land?—Yes, but a prudent purchaser will have regard to the instability of a competitive rental.

59732. In the other case, where there are two partners in the land, the State has, by Parliamentary action, limited the extent to which the rent can be bid up?—Yes.

59733. Therefore the landlord in that case is selling a property which is subject to that State limit?—Yes.

59734. Therefore he is not in the same position as the man who has got no tenant?—He has not the same ownership in the land.

59735. Therefore there is a difference in the price to be paid to a landlord when the land is in the sole possession of the landlord, another man, the tenant, has an interest in it?—I can see no difference in value, but in one case the value is owned by one person. In the other case the same value is owned by two persons.

59736. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Would you consider that the competitive income from grass land is so secure as the State fixed income from judicial rents?—No. I was going to explain that you cannot put the capitalising of the two incomes on the same basis. One is not so secure as the other.

59737. There is no margin of security in the one case?—Not for the same price.

59738. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Why not?—One is up to its competition value. The revenue varies according to competition from year to year. The other revenue is what a Land Commissioner, Mr. Justice O'Hagan, defined as a live and thrive rent, an easy annual assessment made on the products of the land which the tenant is supposed to pay year in and year out easily and to live and thrive. A man getting possession of a tract of land subject to the payment of that easy rent every year has a saleable interest in the land subject to that rent, because it affords him or persons equally desirous of pursuing farming as an industry the opportunity of making a living out of it. Such persons could not make their living from the profits of the land after paying a competitive or accommodation rent.

59739. Mr. BRYCE.—You are now talking of the tenant's interest?—Yes, incidentally.

59740. We are talking of it from the point of view of the landlord?—The Board want to get a tract of land which is very necessary for the poor tenants adjoining. The value of that land is not regulated or should not be affected by the number of persons who claim ownership in it.

59741. Look at it from the landlord's point of view. We have evidence that the letting value of the untenanted lands has practically not changed for fifteen years. On the other hand, the experience has been that every fifteen years the other rent does go down. Therefore, looking at it from the point of view of history, the undivided interest in the untenanted land is of more value and of more stable value than the other is?—I can give you figures to show that grazing rents in Roscommon and Mayo have fallen considerably during the past twenty years.

59742. CHAIRMAN.—We need not go into that at present?—I submit a list showing the prices paid by the Board for a number of tenanted holdings which they acquired,* classified as follows:—First Term Tenants—Acquired by voluntary agreement without initiation of any legal proceedings. First Term Tenants—Acquired by pre-emption proceedings. First Term Tenants—Acquired by resumption proceedings. Second Term Tenants—Acquired by voluntary agreement without initiation of any legal proceedings. Second Term Tenants—Acquired by pre-emption proceedings. Second Term Tenants—Acquired by resumption proceedings. Future Tenancies—Acquired by Notices to Quit. In some of these cases the Board acquired the land by voluntary agreement without initiating any legal proceedings. In other cases on receipt of notice from tenants of their intention to sell at a price named, the Board serve notice to pre-empt, and in several cases were advised to pay the excessive prices offered, when after making inquiries they were satisfied that the intending purchaser was a *bona fide* one and desired to carry out the bargain. The Board served notices to resume possession of several holdings, and the prices paid were, in most cases, settled by agreement before the hearing of the case by the Land Commission. In a few cases the prices were fixed by the Land Commission after hearing all parties. In many cases notices to quit were served to determine future tenancies and the prices paid were in accordance with the scale laid down by the Act.

59743. I don't know whether you could very shortly run over the different procedure. If the Board has acquired an estate and hears that a tenant wishes to sell, and serves a notice of pre-emption, how is the price fixed then?—A tenant holding under a judicial tenancy cannot complete the sale of his tenant-right in his holding without first serving the landlord with notice of his intention to sell, setting out in his notice the terms on which he has arranged to sell his holding.

59744. Is not it sold by auction?—Sometimes, but not often. Sometimes he serves notice of his intention to sell by auction, or sometimes he serves notice that he intends to sell to, say, John Jones for £150.

59745. Where he says he is going to sell by auction?—First of all the landlord comes into communication with him, and makes an offer, and if they cannot agree the landlord serves him with a cross-notice that—"Having failed to come to terms with you for the purchase of your holding, I give you notice that I will apply to the Land Commission to fix the true value." The Land Commission hear both parties, and fix the price at which the landlord pre-empts.

59746. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The landlord is obliged to accept that price no matter whether he considers it fair or not?—Yes.

59747. CHAIRMAN.—You say that in several cases where the man served notice that he was going to sell the Board served notice to pre-empt, and were advised to pay the excessive prices offered when after inquiry they were satisfied that the intending purchaser was a *bona fide* one, and intended to carry out the bargain?—Yes. In one case we had to pay up to forty-seven years, which included buildings and improvements not included in the rent. As regards resumption proceedings, under Section 83 of the Act of 1903 the Board have power to resume possession of a holding held under a judicial tenancy for the purpose of striping or migration, or the enlargement of holdings. They did not have that power before the Act of 1903, and the Board have in a great many cases exercised that power within the last fifteen months. In the case of all such holdings in which they have done so they have served the occupier with notice to resume possession; and the occupier then having consulted his lawyer, and finding the Board were empowered to resume, would negotiate with them. We have agreed in all cases, except a few, where we had to go to court, and got the Land Commission to fix the price.

59748. The hearing is carried on in the same way as under pre-emption?—Yes.

59749. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Is it the Land Commission in that case?—In both cases.

* See p. 47.

59750. CHAIRMAN.—An ordinary landlord has the same power of pre-emption as you have?—Yes.

59751. He has no power of resumption?—He has, but only for purposes specified, for the enlargement of his demesne or taking sites for the extension of a town, as specified in Section 5 of the Act of 1881. Section 83 of the Act of 1903 says that the Congested Districts Board is empowered to resume possession of a holding, during the continuance of a statutory term, for the purpose of migration and the enlargement of holdings, and also for all the purposes named in Section 5 of the Act of 1881.

59752. As regards future tenants there is a notice to quit?—Any landlord may determine a future tenancy by serving notice to quit.

59753. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Not unless there are arrears?—Yes; whether there are arrears or not, and the Board have precisely the same powers as any landlord, namely, to determine future tenancies by notice to quit; but they are obliged to pay compensation in accordance with the scale laid down in the Act of 1881, which is fixed according to the rent payable and the number of years' purchase he is to get for disturbance, and in addition to that number of years' purchase, he has to be also paid for the unexhausted value of his improvements.

59754. Does that go before the County Court Judge?—Yes. It is settled by him.

59755. With regard to resumption, have the Estates Commissioners the same power of resumption as you have?—I don't think they have.

59756. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—It requires a year's notice for resumption?—No; they may serve notice for resumption any time.

59757. It cannot be operative for a year?—It may take less than a year.

59758. If the Congested Districts Board wish to obtain possession of a future tenancy is it not bound by a year's notice?—Yes. That is done by notice to quit under which they must usually give a year's notice. Although the Board have that power of resuming possession of a judicial holding, there was evidently some mistake in the drafting of the Act, for they have no power to resume possession of a present yearly tenancy, and when we desire to obtain possession of a holding held under a yearly tenancy we must first serve notice on the tenant to have a fair rent fixed, and then, having done that, we have to serve the resumption notice. We have had several cases of that lately.

59759. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—How does that arise? Do they not come under the Act of 1881?—They did not have a fair rent fixed. The Board have power to resume possession of a holding held under a judicial tenancy, while they have no power to resume possession of a holding held under a yearly present tenancy.

59760. How did that yearly present tenancy arise?—The yearly present tenancy is one subsisting at the passing of the Act of 1881, but the occupier has not since then had a rent judicially fixed. He might have had his rent reduced by agreement, not filed, or he might have considered that if he went into court he would not get any reduction, or he might have held as yearly tenant a large grass farm, and was afraid to try to have a judicial rent fixed, lest it might be declared to be a non-agricultural holding. At any rate, we now find him as a yearly tenant, and cannot put him out before we have a fair rent fixed.

59761. He never took advantage of the Act of 1881: that is what it means?—Yes. In a few cases the price was fixed by the Land Commission—that is, in resumption cases—but in cases in which notice to quit was served to determine future tenancies, the prices paid were in accordance with the scale laid down. In proof that migration cannot be safely carried out at a less loss than thirty per cent., I submit the following particulars:—Take a £15 holding. The cost price at twenty-seven years is £405.

59762. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You mean of the estimated fair rent or the actual fair rent?—£15—the estimated fair rent. At 27 years' purchase the price of the holding at that rent is £405. The cost of building is increasing, and I put down the cost at £130. Roads cost £20 and fences £20.

59763. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—Have not you spoken of that £130 as £120 during the day?—I did in the last case; and I gave you particulars of holdings where the cost was £108. But they are costing more where we are getting into the open areas, and where there are few labourers to be got. For instance, at present we have fifty men housed in temporary houses. We had to import them from the congested districts to put up houses on holdings formed on the grass ranches of Roscommon. We had to import those workers, as there were so few labourers living in the neighbourhood of those grass areas. They had to be paid more wages, and the operations are more expensive. The cost of buildings has risen to £130, the cost of roads £20, and of fences £20. The total cost of a £15 holding is thus £575. If the sale price be calculated on an annuity of 85 per cent. of the £15, annual value, that is £12 16s., the total is £394, and there is thus a loss of £181. From this loss of £181 you have to deduct the occupation interest in the holding vacated by the migrant who will come to it.

59764. And the worse off the migrant and the smaller his holding the larger the loss?—Yes. From this I submit the following deductions:—1. If the occupation interest of the surrendered holding were only £35 (which was the average value of the occupation interest of the first 207 migrants dealt with), the loss would be £181 *less* £35, *i.e.*, £146 per holding, equal to 36 per cent. of the cost price of the land alone. This loss, in the case of the 207 migrants referred to, would have been 37·3 per cent. if the buildings had cost £130, and the roads and fences £40, but in these cases the average expenditure per holding on the buildings was £108, fences £20, and the roads and other improvements £16—that is an expenditure per holding of £26 less than the amount given above. The fee-simple of the land in the 207 migrants' holdings, referred to in the Fourteenth Annual Report (page 121), cost £66,452, which would be an average cost of £321 for the land. The migrants dealt with in the succeeding year, as given in the Fifteenth Report (page 132), involved a loss of £87 per holding (page 13). I am comparing the actual cases. The average loss was only about 26 per cent., but I believe they will cost more in future, and that the average loss will not be less than 30 per cent.

59765. That loss will fall not upon the Irish Land Stock, but upon the State?—That is what we want, but up to the present the only portion of the Board's funds which are not derived from Irish sources is the Parliamentary grant of £20,000 a year.

59766. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—So it will not be a loss against the Irish ratepayers?—It will fall on the Exchequer if given as a special grant to meet these losses.

59767. CHAIRMAN.—On the income of the Board?—What I would like to emphasise is that the more migration work the Board do the more radical and effective their treatment is. The country is really getting good value for it, as compared with one-fourth of the loss in dealing with estates, which are not substantially improved.

59768. That is to say, in your opinion, it is better to incur even 30 per cent. loss and do the thing thoroughly than to have a loss of, say, 15 per cent. on an estate like the Dillon Estate, and leave the thing in a half-completed condition?—Yes. You leave the estate improved, but with a large number of the holdings uneconomic. A very large number of the holdings there are uneconomic. Then I go on to my second example. 2. If the occupation interest of the surrendered holding were £50, the loss would be £181, less £50, equal to £131, or 32·3 per cent. loss on the cost price of the land (£405.) 3. If the occupation interest of the surrendered holding were £85, the loss would be £181, less £85, equal to £96, or 23·7 per cent. loss on the cost price of the land alone (£405). That shows that if you could get a substantial class of migrants you would be able to carry out the migration schemes with very much less loss. Moreover, the more the loss you incur by reason of having to deal with small landholders as migrants the less satisfactory is the work you are doing, because you are getting the least suitable class of migrants, and each small holding vacated permits but a small enlargement of adjacent small holdings.

59769. Mr. BRYCE.—What do you do with the occupation interest on passing the vacated land to the man whose holding you enlarge?—We charge him the fee-simple value as well as the occupation interest allowed to the migrant.

59770. You charge it to the annuity?—Yes. Suppose there is a man with a £4 holding adjacent, and the price paid for this class of holding on the estate is twenty years' purchase, we charge him that rate for his own holding. We give him £2 worth

Jan. 22, 1908.

Mr Henry Doran.

of the vacated land, and we charge him twenty-seven years' purchase of the £2 worth.

59771. You recover from the enlarged man the whole of the surrender value of the piece in occupation of the man who goes out?—Yes, usually.

59772. You make no loss under that heading at all?—No. Our estimate of occupation interest is such a sum as can be recovered from the persons who get the vacated land and no more. If we are apparently not allowing the man enough for the holding he surrenders it must be borne in mind that he gets an equivalent value of land in the new holding in exchange for his old holding.

59773. The man who is put into the new holding takes not the £5 but the £7?—Yes. We charge the enlarged man at the same rate as we charge the migrant on the value of the additional land he gets, and in that way we make one balance the other, and give each equal value. We lose when the price paid exceeds twenty-seven years' purchase of an estimated fair rent.

59774. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—In this case, Number 3, you lose 23·7 per cent., and the man can then sell the interest in his new holding, and you cannot prevent him?—No; but he is probably replaced by a better man.

59775. But he gets the benefit?—Yes; but the State has no concern with the individuals. Its main concern is in having the new holding occupied by an industrious member of the community, and to have it of sufficient size to maintain such a man and his family according to a fair standard of comfort. If the man the Board placed on the holding fails from any cause, he has to sell his interest, and he is replaced by another man, who puts solid cash into it, and thus increases the security.

59776. The tenant you migrate is in possession of a holding which represents less than the value of the holding?—Yes.

59777. Less by so much, by £181 in this case, and if he sells when he comes in he walks off with the money, because you buy the thing as it stands?—You did not arrange to lose that £181 in order to help the individual you put into the place first. You were justified in losing that £181 in order to have a holding formed which was to be occupied by an industrious family for the benefit of the country, and to relieve congestion by the addition of the migrants' vacated land to adjacent holdings.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—The man Number 1 has done the man Number 2 out of something; but you are not concerned with that.

59778. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The man can sell the holding, but the State loses?—The State never get the money back. If they did all that for farmers, and did not put migrants into them, but put these places and buildings up for auction, they would get wholly different men, men with capital; but the object was to relieve the poor and destitute; but if the object was merely to get industrious tenants on the land, I think the State could very well split up these lands and sell them.

59779. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—Surely the man who sells out—the poor tenant to whom you allude, is covered pretty well, because he has got the value of his holding, the money paid for it by the other man. The latter may have bought it for too much, if you like, but at the same time that does not affect the State?—The man to whom you give it is removed from the congested area, and it is nothing to the State, from my point of view, if he sells it in a month.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—You get the same annuity from the second man as the first.

59781. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You would lose £181. If you went into a congested area and said, "I will give you so much to clear out and go where you like," they would do it probably for £50?—A great many of them would emigrate on these terms, but nobody advocates wholesale emigration as a desirable remedy for relief of congestion. What I propose is to transfer the best men you can get into the open areas, losing a certain amount of money, in order to provide economic holdings for them and their successors. I don't believe the migrants will sell unless they fail from ill-health or other cause. None of our migrants have sold. If the migrant's annuity was to be kept at 85 per cent. of the fair rent of the new holding, including buildings, I would say a fair rent for such buildings as we erect on a £15 holding would be £2, making the gross fair rent £17, which, multiplied by 26½, would leave the gross price of the holding £446, and the annuity on this would be £14 10*s*. Fifteen per cent. off the gross rent of £17 would be £14 9*s*., and the loss in the cases cited would be reduced to the following:—For case I. the loss would be £94, equal to 23·2 per cent. on the cost price of the land alone (£405); for case II. the loss would be £79, equal to 19·5 per cent. on the cost price of the land alone; for case III. the loss would be £44, equal to 10·9 per cent. on the cost price of the land alone. These figures are very important in connection with the lists of A, B, C estates, which I have submitted to you with the intention of showing that unless the Board go in for acquiring untenanted land, which is the most costly operation in connection with the settlement of estates, to the extent of one-third, they will not be able to alter materially the conditions of any large proportion of the congested districts by the enlargement of holdings, and that if they do incur a very large loss on one-third of the estates dealt with they should be placed in a position to lose about 17 per cent. on the year's output; but, as I have explained, if they buy a larger proportion of property on which they will have a small loss, the percentage of loss can be kept lower, but the estates most in need of improvement must be taken in hand slowly.

59782. Mr. BRYCE.—In that table* you give a case where it would have cost 37·3 per cent. Don't you think, bearing in mind that that might occur in a great many cases, and also that you might not be able to get this untenanted land at 27 years' purchase, that the average of 30 per cent. loss on cases in Class C is insufficient?—I have repeated more than once that my percentage of loss throughout is based on the assumption that the Board won't pay for the land more than they can re-sell it at, and you cannot safely sell to migrants at an annuity that would be higher than 85 per cent. of a fair rent after allowing for occupation interest.

59783. CHAIRMAN.—Up to the present you have an average of twenty-seven years for untenanted land? For all the untenanted land that was bought.

59784. Speaking roughly, suppose you proceed to purchase that land on a basis of net income, do you think the basis of twenty-seven years would provide the net income from that land?—It would depend on the rate of interest.

59785. Say 3½?—It would come to more than twenty-seven years' purchase on 3½ per cent.

59786. Twenty-seven and a-half years' purchase would not give him his net income?—No. In addition to the 27½ years' purchase, he has got the bonus, so that, roughly, would be thirty years' purchase.

59787. Don't you think that thirty years' purchase invested at 3½ per cent. would provide him with his net income?—In many cases it would not.

59788. What would?—In the case of very good grazing lands it would not, because there is such a high rent obtainable for them for accommodation purposes, which is far above their value, taken by themselves, or for permanent agricultural lettings

59789. What do you think would?—It varies greatly.

59790. Would it go as high as thirty-five years' purchase?—I believe in some cases it would, that is, 35 years' purchase of the agricultural rent. Very good grass land sometimes, especially when there is a small proportion of it in a district, brings, for accommodation purposes, a rent much in excess of its agricultural value. A man has, say, a rough farm of 150 to 200 acres—a well-sheltered farm that he can keep cattle on in the winter very cheaply; then, if he can get a good grass farm to turn them on to for the summer to fatten, he will probably be able to pay from thirty to fifty per cent. more than the agricultural value of the good grazing farm if it were taken by itself.

59791. That is the sort of land you would not acquire?—That sort of land is the last we would seek to acquire, or if we did acquire it we would keep it for grazing purposes, which is much needed for poor districts.

59792. Then it would return you what you gave for it?—It probabaly would in grass.

59793. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Take Connaught as the area of the Board, the more you take away that land and sub-divide it the higher must be the price of the remainder, because you reduce the supply and do not diminish the demand.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—I thought it was part of our case that you were diminishing the demand.

* See p. 46

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—That is a very important point. As conditions now exist there is this value for accommodation land?—To a limited extent, and merely in respect of the best class of land.

59794. You diminish that land by the operations of the Board?—Yes.

59795. Do you diminish the demand in a corresponding degree?—You do, to some extent; because the people who now pay these high prices for these good grass farms are graziers who have tracts of poor land, and if you take away the poorer land from them they will no longer be seeking to obtain the richer land for their accommodation purposes. If I have a rough farm that can feed stock cheaply in the winter I can pay more for a good grass farm to fatten these stock in summer than an agricultural tenant could pay, and more than I could pay if I did not require it as a supplemental farm to my rough farm on which I feed the cattle and sheep during the winter.

59796. CHAIRMAN.—You have said that the Board have given an average of 27 years' purchase?—For all the land that they have bought.

59797. Twenty-seven years' purchase of what?—Of the estimated fair rent.

59798. Taking the poor law valuation, what was it?—It was, I believe 29·5.

59799. CHAIRMAN.—Is not the proper way to put it to say that the average price paid for grass land was 29·5 years' purchase of the poor law valuation?—That has been argued ever since I gave my evidence. That is not a standard of value I would adopt.

59800. The landlord knows nothing about your estimated fair rent?—No, but the land comprises arable land, plantations, and bogs. The average price paid for all our untenanted land was 29·5 years' purchase of the poor law valuation. When I was giving my evidence we were not able to give you the valuation of the untenanted land which we had bought, because we attached no importance to the poor law valuation. The Estates Commissioners, however, kept the poor law valuation record. You required us to supply our figures on the same basis for the purposes of comparison, showing what the poor law valuation of the land we bought was. We got the information at considerable expense, but when you have it now it is very misleading, because I could show you several cases there where there was a valuable tract of bog for which we paid about 300 years' purchase of the poor law valuation, and got it cheap. That is to say if a bog has a poor law valuation of threepence an acre, and is near a densely populated area where bog is scarce, it would be cheap at £4 an acre, although its poor law valuation is only threepence. If we paid £3 15*s.* an acre for it, that would be 300 years' purchase of the poor law valuation. At £5 an acre it would be 400 years' purchase. When you introduce price of turbary, plantations, and buildings into our figures and bring out an average, it is quite misleading as to the price paid for the agricultural land. In the same way with a plantation for which we may pay £20 an acre for the timber on land with a poor law valuation of four or five shillings.

59801. You say the 29 years' purchase includes bogs, plantations, and everything else?—Yes, and my way of putting it is to say 27 years' purchase of an estimated fair rent is the price paid for the agricultural land in our purchases.

59802. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Yes, but take since the Land Act of 1903, you know the land you bought, the arable land you bought, you can describe it?—Yes.

59803. Can you give us the poor law valuation for that?—I do not know if that has been ascertained for you.

Mr. Callan.—There is no distinction made in the statistics submitted by the Board between the different classes of land, and it has not been found possible to get further information.

Witness.—If the tenement valuation is not assessed upon it you cannot get it. You can only get it in the gross.

59804. CHAIRMAN.—Taking the grass land you have bought since 1903?—We paid 27 2/3rds years' purchase since 1903.

59805. Take that grass land which you have bought. Do you think that at 27 years' purchase, plus the bonus, it would not give a man his net income?—Not on the 3½ per cent. basis—his past net income.

59806. Not on the actual class of land you have bought?—No.

59807. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—But that is by voluntary agreement?—Yes.

59808. The landlords sold at a loss on their net income?—There is no landlord I know who would not be prepared to exchange his income from untenanted land to an investment at 4 per cent. If you were given an opportunity of inspecting the rentals you would find that the income from grazing rents in most instances within the last twenty years is considerably reduced.

59809. Mr. BRYCE.—Our evidence is to the contrary?—I am afraid that that is not so, except in a very few places, and that you did not get reliable evidence or proofs. I am speaking of what I know from my investigation of rentals. We bought an estate near Tulsk the other day, and the figures given for the past twenty years as to the rental of the grass farms were entirely reliable, and the rental showed a considerable shrinkage. This is the case in the great majority of rentals of grazing farms submitted to me.

59810. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—That is so extremely important that I should be glad if you could suggest any way in which we could arrive at the exact facts of the case, and the extent of the fall in the rents from grass lands in Connaught?—I think that landlords are quite conscious that evidence of the kind would be against their interests, and if the facts were not as I state they would have come forward with their rentals to prove that those rents had not fallen.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The present feeling about grass lands is that a landlord would not come forward and say anything about them one way or another.

59811. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—Have you any means you can suggest to us of ascertaining whether the rents of grazing lands in Ireland have been practically maintained during the last twenty years; you say not as far as your experience goes?—Not in the West of Ireland; but I say that the very best land has suffered least, but that all kinds of grass lands have depreciated for the last twenty years very much, for the last ten years not so much, and for the last five years still less.

59812. Mr. BRYCE.—You think it has nothing to do with the land falling off owing to not having been tilled and owing to nothing having been put into it?—I think that has a great deal to do with the falling off in the productivity of inferior land. Store cattle have been continuously fed on it and no manure has been put into it, and I know men who would have to prove by their books that their rental from grass lands has fallen considerably in the last twenty years, and I do not believe that there is a single landlord in Connaught, except in the case of a few very good grass farms well situated, who is not getting a lower rental from his grass farms than he has received previous to fifteen years ago.

59813. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—As I understand, you compare the present day with twenty years ago and say that there has been a great fall?—Yes.

59814. But you say that in the first ten years of that period the fall was more considerable?—Yes.

59815. And since then it has been righting itself?—No; it has not gone up, but the fall has not been so great.

59816. The diminution in letting value has been inconsiderable; it has not yet recovered the standard of twenty years ago, but the tendency is to increase?—No. What I meant to say is there has been a substantial fall in the rental of the grass farms in the West of Ireland during the last twenty years, that the fall was greater up to ten years ago than it has been for the last ten years, but that it has been falling and not appreciating all the time. The fall has been less considerable for the last five years, and in several places I know the grazing rental has been stationary for a few years past.

59817. Mr. BRYCE.—In other words, I suppose you would put it in this way, that a rental of £100 came down to £80 in the first ten years, to £70 in the five years following the first ten years, and to £65 in the last five years?—Yes; to illustrate it——

59818. CHAIRMAN.—If, during the last five years, the rents have been stable, a retrospect of the income derived for the last five years ought to show you fairly what the letting value of these lands is?—The last five years would be a truer test than the last ten years.

The Commission adjourned.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH PUBLIC SITTING.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23RD, 1908.

AT 11.0 O'CLOCK, A.M.

In Westminster Palace Hotel, London.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (Chairman); The Right Hon. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL, G.C.S.I.; The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; JOHN ANNAN BRYCE Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.; ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esq.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Mr. HENRY DORAN further examined.

Jan. 23, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

59819. CHAIRMAN.—Mr. Doran, will you continue your statement?—If the annual grant to be made to the Board for the improvement of estates is to be based on an average net loss, it will be necessary to leave the Board free to exercise reasonable discretion in the selection and grouping together for each year of estates that will involve a large loss, a small loss, and an intermediate loss, and it will rest with the Board to exclude from purchase estates or portions of estates which they consider may be sold without special treatment. The percentage of loss incurred in the treatment of the estates purchased and prepared for sale under the Act of 1903, may be stated in round figures as:—9 per cent. loss on Class A:—Tenanted estates, which comprised 76 per cent. of the cost price of all the estates dealt with. 20 per cent. on Class B:—Tenanted estates which comprised 15½ per cent. of cost price of all the estates dealt with. 30 per cent. on Class C:—Untenanted lands, which comprised 8½ per cent. of cost price of all the estates dealt with. If the Board dealt with one-third of a million worth of untenanted lands, the loss at 30 per cent. would be on £333,333, equal to £100,000. If 10 per cent. of the tenanted lands were of B class £20,000 would be necessary to cover the loss in dealing with them. These losses for Class C and Class B estates together, which only make up 43 per cent. of the million's worth of property, would amount to £120,000, or 12 per cent., on the £1,000,000; so that if the average loss permitted be 12 per cent. on one million's worth of property, 33 per cent. of C and 10 per cent. of B estates would involve a loss of £120,000, and 57 per cent. of the A, tenanted estates, should be dealt with without loss.

59820. You say that the loss on B and C would be £120,000 a year?—That is, if the proportion of these estates I have indicated be under treatment. Suppose the output is a million a year, and one-third of that is untenanted land, on which you must lose 30 per cent., that will cost you £100.000. If you also deal with 10 per cent. of the poorest class of estates you cannot deal with those at less than 20 per cent. of loss, and then 57 per cent. of the entire volume of estates should be dealt with without any loss if the loss per million be limited to £120,000.

59821. I don't understand how you are going to do that. You lost 9 per cent. on them in the past, how are you going to do what you propose in the future?—I was just going to explain if you only allow 12 per cent. on a million, that is £120,000, you would not be able to deal satisfactorily with a million's worth of property in a year, because you would have to pass more than half of it through without any loss. You cannot deal with migration on an enlarged scale at a less loss than 30 per cent. You cannot deal with the very poor estates with a less loss than 20 per cent. You may be able to deal with the better class of the A estates at, perhaps, 5 or 6 per cent. on the enlarged area. It will, I think, be admitted that the class of estates most in need of attention are the poorest tenanted estates and the untenanted land, and the loss on these would be at least 20 per cent. and 30 per cent. respectively, while it would not be possible for the Board to pass through their hands such a large proportion as 57 per cent. of the estates dealt with each year without incurring a loss. For these reasons, with others, I consider that at least 15 per cent. should be allowed on each million's worth of land dealt with, and *for the purposes of an estimate* it might be apportioned as follows:—33 per cent. of C equal to £333,333, at 30 per cent. loss, £100,000; 10 per cent. of B, equal to £100,000, at 20 per cent. loss, £20,000; 57 per cent. of A, equal to £566,667, at 5·3 per cent. loss, £30,000, so that on the £1,000,000 the loss would be £150.000.

59822. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—The B estates are the poorest?—The estates that are in the worst condition, the least resourceful, and the most difficult to improve.

59823. Will there be only 10 per cent. of the total land bought?—I don't think you can deal with a larger proportion in a million's worth each year. The area of these estates is not indicated by the percentage. Take, for instance, the Berridge Estate, in Connemara. It covers a huge area, but its value is not much, comparatively.

59824. That is altogether an exceptional estate—practically the worst. Take the lands that you have got down in Connemara and Mayo, very thickly inhabited, congested estates. These are the places that you want to improve. They are the great bulk of the thing you want to deal with. Do you say that they will be only 10 per cent. of the million?—Only 10 per cent. of the value is represented by the worst estates in my proposal.

59825. Your object is to improve this B class of land, and the C class of land is merely for the purpose of improving the B class of land. A is comparatively good?—Yes.

59826. And you contemplate that 57 per cent. of what you pass through must be comparatively good?—A great deal of B is land that although you lose 20 per cent. on it you are able to deal in a less satisfactory way with it than you would with A, because it is less resourceful. It is land like the Carna Estate, the Berridge Estate, and Inniskea Island; and these are estates which, although you spend a large sum of money on, you cannot very much improve, and they will not be much relieved by migration. They are more remote from the open areas. They are the worst class, and will, I believe, remain bad, no matter what the Board does for them.

59827. So B is not the class of estates to direct attention to?—B is the class of estate of which the poorest districts are wholly or mainly congested, and in which you must look to other means, such as industries, to benefit the condition of the people. Personally, I have no hope that you will be able, through land alone, to improve the condition of the congested districts so as to appreciably improve the standard of comfort of one-half the people in it. I don't think it is possible, in the absence of industrial employment. All you can do is to ameliorate the conditions of life of the population on Class B.

59828. CHAIRMAN.—Your estimate, after all, can only be a very rough estimate, because there must be a great many estates in Class A which, if you had them in hands, would require a considerable amount of treatment. A, I understand, are the estates which are better than B, and have a little untenanted land on them?—The description I give of A is estates on which there was more or less agricultural land

available for migration and enlargement of holdings. They are poor estates, that are mainly tenanted. Then my description of B is very poor estates, on which there is little or no agricultural land available for migration or the enlargement of holdings. Where such an estate is remote from the open areas, from the grass lands, I have all along told you I don't believe that migration can be looked upon as a practical remedy for their relief. I don't believe it is a practicable proposal to transfer from these areas a sufficient proportion of the occupiers to the open areas to relieve the congestion in B. Consequently, no matter what you do with the land, the population of B will remain poor, unless other sources of revenue than the land are made available, such as the establishment of industries, and development of fishing, where the B class is maritime, and all the maritime districts are of the B class. Unless you can provide other means of income for the inhabitants of these areas than from the land alone, they must remain poor; but even if this cannot be done to a satisfactory extent, the condition of the people would be much ameliorated if the lands are striped and their houses improved, so that they may have decent, comfortable homes for their families, even though the able-bodied men had to migrate to other parts of Ireland or Great Britain for portions of the year for remunerative employment.

59829. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—My point is sufficiently made. You say that the loss of 30 per cent. on C and 20 per cent. on B comes to £120,000. You think the price of the B would be only one-tenth of the million?—I mentioned that proportion for the purpose of making an estimate. In practice it will not be possible for the Board to preserve these exact proportions of A, B, and C estates. The Board may have a smaller proportion of untenanted land and a larger proportion of bad estates that they should deal with. I don't believe they can get untenanted land in the proportion of one-third of the whole, and they may have a larger proportion of bad estates, that is B, that they could deal with. If they cannot buy one-third of C estates they can buy more of B, because C and B are the two that involve the largest loss, and in that way they may be able to keep the loss on the gross annual output within a fixed average. Having regard to the difficulty of securing fixed proportions of the different classes of estates for each year's operations I have come to the conclusion that the proposal to fix the grant to be given to the Board at a percentage of the value of estates sold each year is objectionable, and that it would be preferable to have an annual grant placed at the Board's disposal, to be applied at the Board's discretion, to meet the loss incurred in the treatment of estates purchased by them subject to the general understanding that they would sell each year about one million's worth of estates. The Board must be trusted to exercise discrimination in the selection of estates for purchase, and to avoid the purchase of any estates that they are not justified in buying. If it is a Board that cannot be trusted to do that, or will not do it if trusted, it will undoubtedly fail to discharge its functions efficiently.

59830. Does not that entirely conflict with your previous statement, that what you wanted to buy was whole blocks of country, consecutive blocks of country, and not to choose and pick here and there; that if you want to deal with congestion as a whole in the West of Ireland you must abandon the practice which you have hitherto followed, of picking and choosing estates because of their inferiority? That was quite right up to the present, but for the future you would have to buy whole blocks of country, and proceed geographically?—That is not in conflict with my proposals.

59831. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Is not that, as Sir Antony has pointed out, the very basis of the claim for compulsion?—Yes. That ought to be done.

59832. Therefore, you would have to proceed by blocks, and no longer get an estate here and an estate there?—Yes. Consequently, with that procedure actually in my mind, I tell you that, in practice, it may not be possible to get the proportions which we have in the list, A, B, and C, submitted to you.

59833. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You have a proportion of 57 per cent. of A, equal to £566,000. What is the relative value of land in A as compared with land in B? Why have you given to A £566,000 and only £100,000 to B? You say you buy a million's worth of land, which will be distributed in classes A, B and C; and of that land Class A will represent 57 per cent.?—No: that is the proportion that A forms of the estates we have dealt with under the Act of 1903 and have sold or are ready for sale. 76 per cent. is the actual figure for the estates that were purchased under the Act of 1903, and are either sold or ready for sale, and I use these figures to make an estimate.

59834. Then this is no indication of the future?—It is, to this extent—that it shows you what loss you will have to incur in future in the treatment of A estates and in the treatment of B and C estates respectively.

59835. That would be true if your purchase of land in A was appropriate to the amount you had bought in B and C, but under the Act of 1903 is not it a fact that you have been buying a lot of C land, keeping it up your sleeve, as it were, for the purpose of improving B?—Yes; we bought a great deal of A land in the hope of improving it by the addition of C land, but we have rather avoided the purchase of B land in remote districts, because we had neither the money nor other means to substantially improve it.

59836. Then this is not a very clear indication of the future. But my point is this. I want some information. You say that you ought to appropriate 33 per cent. of the million to the purchase of C land and 10 per cent. to the purchase of B. B is the thing you want to improve. You ought not to buy more of C land than is necessary for the improvement of B?—And of A.

59837. You say A will be passed through without any loss, as a rule?—No. My point is, we shall be able to do very little good for B by migration. Consequently A and C go more together. B stands almost alone for treatment, and the value of these figures is this: that these bad estates which we have dealt with under the Act of 1903 are, in my opinion, fair types of bad estates in the congested districts, and the loss which we sustained in treating them is very much the same loss as we would have to incur in dealing with similar estates in the future; and I tell you that we have been unable to do anything substantial in the way of migration from B, and have not put these estates into a satisfactory condition; but in the case of A we have done comparatively well for a great deal of A, but we would do a great deal better if we were able to get untenanted land to the proportion of one-third, and especially untenanted land more adjacent to A than we have been able to get it under our present powers; and I explained yesterday that we were obliged to sell some A estates although quite near untenanted land, simply because we could not acquire the untenanted land required to enlarge small holdings.

59838. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—With regard to Class B, leaving them, as you say, in an unsatisfactory condition, was not that due to the fact that you had neither power nor money enough to acquire land to enable migration to be carried out from B, and that, therefore, you were not in the position in which you would be if you were given increased power and increased means of acquiring land?—Not so much with respect to B estates, for the reason that the majority of them are situated in places remote from the grass areas, and the fact that a considerable number of the occupiers of land there will not migrate.

59839. Mr. BRYCE.—And would not be fit for it if they did?—At present they would be the least fit.

59840. CHAIRMAN.—That, to my mind, is one of the chief difficulties in the plan on which you propose to proceed. The B estates are the estates in the worst condition?—They are.

59841. And where congestion and poverty are greatest, and where really a radical cure is the most necessary. If you put on one side any possibility of creating industries then the only real remedy or cure for those estates is to remove a large section of the population, supposing they would go?—You have to assume that they would go, and that you could get the land, and that you could plant them under conditions in which they would be likely to succeed.

59842. The only radical cure for these estates is to remove a large section of the population. I quite understand that at present that is difficult, first because the people have not realised the advantages of migration, and, secondly, because they are too backward to succeed always on the land on which you put them; but if you buy any large proportion of those estates at present, and re-stripe them and resell them, you make it impossible in the future to deal with them when perhaps a more enlightened spirit might be abroad. Would not it be better to leave those estates for the present, and confine your

Jan. 23, 1908. Mr. Henry Doran.

attention more to A and C, and allow time to elapse, in the hope that as regards those on B estates agricultural instruction may benefit the people, and may educate them, and that they may be more willing in a few years to follow the example of people from A, and migrate. But the more you deal with B estates now the more you make it difficult to deal satisfactorily with them afterwards?—No; I think that is a fallacy, if you will excuse me for saying so. I think our treatment of B estates will make it much more easy to deal with the landholders in the future if they are willing to migrate, because it is mainly these estates that are held very much in mixed or rundale plots. We give a landholder in two, or sometimes three, parcels an equivalent value of land to that now held in, perhaps, twenty or more plots. Then we improve the houses, or get the occupiers to improve them themselves. We never build a house for landholders, we do not remove in the striping, but we have a Houses Improvement Scheme in operation, under which they get free grants, usually from £7 to £10, for building a new house, or smaller sums for substantial improvements to existing houses carried out in accordance with our specifications, and we also, where we consider that the holding would be security for it, add a sum to the sale price of the holding up to £25, which we give the landholder as an advance, to be repaid in the annuity. When we have striped the B estate and had many of the houses greatly improved, if half the people leave afterwards all that would have to be done would be to add the vacated stripes to the stripes of those who remain, and to do this little or no fencing or expenditure would be necessary.

59843. Then you don't think that buying an estate and re-striping and re-selling it to the tenants will render more difficult future migration operations?—By no means. It is only a stage towards progress. On the Dillon estate, if we can get suitable land, I know many tenant-purchasers who will migrate, and there will be no trouble in amalgamating the vacated holdings with the adjoining striped holdings.

59844. Will that entail pulling down a lot of houses that have been improved?—There are many bad houses there yet.

59845. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—In the event of joining two holdings you would select the better house?—Yes; the better house always.

59846. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Carrying out that policy involves this, that you are using up C for the amelioration of A?—Yes.

59847. Therefore, when you come in the process of time to tackle B you have used up the means of doing it because you are restricted within a given area, and there is only a certain amount of land available?—Then if we have done that we have utilised it for the people who are more suitable than B, and who are most convenient to the C area. There is no reason why B should have priority over A in the distribution of the grass lands.

59848. But it does involve the outlook of B, beyond amelioration in its internal conditions, being stereotyped as it is?—Yes, and B will be more or less stereotyped no matter what you do.

59849. Have you thought of how you can justify a large expenditure of public money that is going to leave the worst places practically untouched. We want so many millions for the work of improvement. How do you justify, in your own mind, a deliberate policy of leaving the poorest estates with only a minor amount of amelioration?—You would be perfectly satisfied with the results, in my opinion, when you consider the only other alternatives. The only other alternatives are migration or emigration. The migration of any considerable number of the B occupiers is out of the question. It cannot be done at present. If the first and only object to be secured was to provide economic holdings for the number of landholders who could obtain a fair living from B, the surplus population would, I believe, emigrate, if they got liberal assistance, and this would be less costly than the substantial amelioration of their condition if they remain where they are. I think, however, very few people will argue that emigration, even from B estates, ought to be facilitated. In those poor areas if you can settle a peasant in an allotment, using the English word, where he has a home affording decent accommodation for his family—turbary for fuel, the grazing of a couple of cows to give milk to his children, and where they can keep fowl also—the great bulk of them, although poor, will lead happy, contented, and good lives, and will always be a very valuable asset to Ireland if it can employ them as labourers, and when Ireland cannot employ them they are a valuable asset to England as migratory labourers.

59850. Then it might be asked why spend all this money on A when you are not spending any on B?—In Class A the remedy is in the neighbourhood of the landholders' homes, and in B the same remedy is not at hand, and you must either improve them in other ways, or facilitate them in clearing out of the country altogether.

59851. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—What you propose to do for B is this. You propose to put the farmers into the very best condition to receive the advantages from the Department of Agriculture, to make them ready for intensive cultivation: you cannot extend the area?—Yes; to spend money freely in assisting to provide decent houses to live in, in fact, I would spend more money on the houses than on the land. Nothing appears to have a more stimulating or elevating effect on the habits of a peasant's family than a good house, when the members of the family feel proud of it, and take a pleasure in keeping it and the surroundings of their home clean, tidy, and cheerful.

59852. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—How were the houses in Carna built?—The landholders built most of them themselves. We only build new houses for persons we move in striping, and the people put up four times as many houses themselves under our House Improvements Scheme and parish committee grants, which are very small. I would aim at having B the part of Ireland containing our reserve of surplus labour, and have the people decently housed. If they have to go to England as migratory labourers the conditions under which they travel to and fro and are housed in England should be supervised, and made as less irksome as possible.

59853. I think you made a remark that you were not able to deal satisfactorily with the migrants whom you had dealt with already; does not that mean you had not been able to do enough for them in starting them on their own holdings?—That was not to-day.

59854. In answer to Sir John?—I don't think so.

59855. Is it the case you would like to be in a position to do more for the class you migrate before you leave them to their own resources?—No. I think we have done enough for them; but I think after we put them on the land they should get assistance in the way of agricultural education and direction. That is the further aid that I would ask for them. The Board must be trusted to exercise discretion in the selection of estates for purchase, and to avoid the purchase of estates that they are not justified in buying; for if they do not do this, and that their output be confined to estates worth one million a year, the length of time which would be required to deal with all unsold properties in the counties containing congested districts would be very long. I anticipate that there will be very great dissatisfaction at the delay necessarily incurred in the transfer of the ownership of holdings on poor estates in the counties containing districts when the output is confined to one million a year, and it occurs to me that legislation should provide for dealing if necessary with a larger output of estates needing treatment when the owners willing to sell and the tenants willing to buy represent property of value in excess of the million a year.

59856. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—There will be no legislation at all, as I understand, but an executive order allocating a certain amount of money to the Congested Districts Board?—The untenanted lands dealt with were sold at the prices paid for them. The tenanted estates paid at least two years' rent, and some of them three or more.

59857. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Before they got the vesting order they were tenants of the Board for two or three years: is that what it means?—Yes; we got two or three years' full rent. I mention this in connection with the loss. That was a source of revenue. It is hardly necessary to point out that a similar class of estates cannot be similarly dealt with at the same loss if the untenanted land is not purchased at a price at which it can be sold, or if the revenue from the land while on hands be substantially reduced.

59858. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—But it never has been yet?—No; but I am anticipating that you may yield to the demand that the Board should only charge interest the same as the Estates Commissioners.

59859. Then the loss would be more?—Yes. I may, however, point out that the loss on the estates purchased under the Act of 1903 includes cost of surveyors, paymasters, and clerks of works, which ought properly be charged to administration. I am informed that the Estates Commissioners do not charge to any estate the cost of surveying, valuing, management, or engineering expenses, in fact, none of the expenses incidental to the supervision of the improvement or resettlement of estates, except the wages of gangers, who superintend the workmen.

59860. What are they charged to?—They are charged to administration.

59861. Is it in the votes?—Yes; in the votes of the Land Commission. All the office charges are in the vote for the Land Commission. To sum up now quite shortly, what I want to impress upon the Commission is that the estates we have dealt with under Class A are typical, so that you may take it for granted that the loss to be incurred on the A estates will not be much less than it has been in these estates if the same amount of work is done. It will be no less for B, and it will certainly be no less for C. So if the Board have to proceed geographically, as Sir Antony MacDonnell said, in the purchase of an area of a county, we may have an excess of A over B, or of C over the others. If we cannot preserve the proportions which are indicated by the results of the estates in the list, I submit that it would be objectionable to fix the revenue of the Board on a varying percentage of loss, and that you ought to suggest, "We shall give you £150,000 or £170,000, and you are expected to turn out a million's worth of property per year." If, on the other hand, you allow the whole of a county to be purchased and sold by the Board, as was suggested yesterday, the percentage of loss would be lower on the output.

59863. Do you think that would be a practicable thing, to spread the percentage of loss on improving estates over the price of estates which don't want any improvement, and on which no improvement is effected? What you want to know is how much it costs you to improve these estates; what percentage of the purchase money does it cost you to improve these estates? Why, in order to have the fictitious appearance of a small percentage of loss, should you bring in estates which are not improved at all?—I don't argue in favour of it at all, but what I say is that the percentage of loss will vary if estates are purchased of which a large part do not need treatment, and also with the proportions which A, B, and C form in the volume dealt with.

59864. But what I thought you were coming at was to indicate or suggest to the Commission a percentage of loss which would take count of the varying losses incurred on these different classes of land, and that then you would be able to suggest to us a percentage of loss which we should be safe in adopting?—I am in a difficulty, as you have not settled whether the Board shall purchase portions of estates not needing treatment. I was asked yesterday what suggestion I had to make with regard to an estate, portion of which was congested and needed treatment, and ought not to be sold without treatment while the remaining portion was of a character that did not need treatment. My suggestion was that the Board should divide the property into two sections, scheduling one as a separate estate to be sold direct to the Board, that is, the part needing treatment, and informing the owner that they were prepared to declare the other portion to be a separate estate for direct sale. The difficulties in that were fully discussed, but I have thought over it since, and I have now to make this proposal: that in all cases where the Board find that portion of an estate needs treatment they shall signify to the owner their willingness to buy the entire estate, that having arranged with the owner a price for the entire estate, they will then divide the estate into two sections, one being the part needing treatment, and the other being the holdings that may be sold direct, and they will get each of the tenants occupying the holdings which they do not desire to purchase to sign an agreement to buy his holding at a specified price, provided the sale to the vendor is completed.

59865. There is no difficulty in that. That is the universal practice of the Estates Commissioners?—And the Board would not get any of the other tenants to sign agreements. That is where the Estates Commissioners' procedure would not suit us.

59866. It would suit us; but, however, go on?—We would not get anyone whose holding we were going to alter, enlarge, or interfere with in any way, with regard to turbary or anything else, to sign an agreement, but we would agree with the landlord for the bulk price. We would get all the tenants whose holdings we proposed selling at once to sign agreements, and the week after the estate was vested in the Board they could get each of these persons to sign agreements, and that portion of the estate would be dealt with without any loss.

59867. Mr. KAVANAGH.—If the tenants would agree?—They will agree before we purchase.

59868. Before you have made your offer to the owner?—Yes. We value the estate. We get into touch with the tenants. We ascertain what the tenants on one section of the estate would be prepared to pay, and what on another, and all that. We have always to do that in estimating the price of an estate. After negotiations with the tenants we make up the gross price, which we ask the landlord to accept, subject to the condition that three-fourths of the tenants on the portion to be sold direct will sign undertakings to purchase at the prices making up the offer. Then we go back to those tenants whose holdings we do not propose to alter, and we say to them, "We are willing to sell your holding to you for twenty-two years' purchase, or whatever it is, provided the sale goes through. If you sign an undertaking now we will put you on interest at once, and ask you for no rent." They will always be prepared to do that, because tenants whose holdings are not to be improved are willing to buy without delay, and there will be no difficulty in practice in arranging that.

59869. Take the case where the landlord will not take your price?—He holds on as landlord, or the Board buys the whole estate by compulsion.

59870 Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Take an estate on which a portion needs improvement and another portion does not, and on which the grass land is in the owner's possession, and unless you can agree to a price for the grass land it is obvious that the thing must fall through?—Yes, unless you agree as to the gross price.

59871. That is so?—Yes.

59872. But meantime you must have the grass land. What are you going to do? Are you then going to apply compulsion in order to get the grass land?—In that case it would be the duty of the Board to apply compulsion for the entire estate.

59873. That is, the landlord having had the desire to sell his estate, and contemplating selling it direct, has come to the Board. Then the Board takes up your procedure, and the landlord finds that he has drawn upon himself all the powers of compulsion by his own act; and because he intimated that he thought he could agree with his tenants and get a certificate, that is the result?—No. It would be only in cases where the entire or any portion of an estate needed treatment that the Board would make an offer of it. If the entire of an estate is one that the Board do not desire to purchase, that does not need treatment, they immediately notify the owner that they are prepared to certify it to be a separate estate, and he can deal with his tenants himself.

59874. Take the case of an estate on which the tenanted land does not need treatment, but on which there is grass land in the landlord's own possession?—I call that an estate needing treatment. If an estate contains a substantial area of grass land for division I would call that treatment. I would say that estate should not be sold direct. I think everybody agrees it is not desirable to facilitate direct sale on estates with untenanted land.

59875. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—There is an estate, 80 per cent. of which needs no treatment and 20 per cent. needs treatment. You get agreements from the tenants of the 80 per cent. before the thing is declared an estate and passed through. That is an easy matter, as you say?—Yes.

59876. Because if the holdings do not want improvement the tenants will naturally jump at not only the reduction of price on sale, but also at being put on interest instead of paying rent. That is the universal practice of the Estates Commissioners in operations under Section 6; but there is, furthermore,

Jan 23, 1908.
Mr. Henry Doran.

the practice in regard to the 20 per cent. that needs treatment, because if it be treatment of a very detailed kind, migration, and so on that you refer to, perhaps there might be difficulties in some cases, not in all; but, as a rule, the Estates Commissioners indicate to these tenants, this 20 per cent., what method of treatment they propose to apply to their holdings, striping, re-arranging, and so on. They make out a scheme—I am not talking of what I do not know—and the whole thing goes through, for the 20 per cent. as well as for the 80 per cent. When the whole thing goes through they set to work to carry out the scheme, but the thing is settled beforehand?—That is to say, they get all these tenants to sign.

59877. Yes. They get the twenty tenants to sign for the improved holdings?—The result is that the Estates Commissioners have declared that the procedure is so difficult that they have not dealt with congested estates.

59878. I don't know anything of the sort. They stated they have not bought congested estates for an entirely different reason, connected not with the tenants but with the price payable to the landlord?—I won't attempt to argue it, Sir Antony.

59879. I know what I am talking about, because I have made it my special object within the last three weeks to look into it?—Then there can be no objection to my proposal at all.

59880. None at all?—Except this, I am sure you agree with this, that you should not allow the people whose holdings you are going to alter next week to enter into agreements to buy their holdings at a specified price.

59881. I don't object to that. I don't object to your leaving them out?—The Board have found it impossible in many cases. For instance, where a man's holding has surplus turbary. His rent may be £3, and he might have 100 acres of bog. If he signs an agreement to buy his holding without any reservation, he will not permit the turbary to be allotted to other tenants.

59881A. I don't object to your reserving it; but there are very many cases in which you can do it before the sale?—There would be difficulty if agreements were signed.

59882. Not at all; it is the common practice?—We don't enter into agreements to buy before the holdings are rearranged.

59883. Mr. BRYCE.—You say you think that fixing the revenue of the Board on a percentage of the loss would be altogether objectionable, and that you would prefer an annual grant. You mean an annual grant of a varying amount should be stated each year on an estimate?—I think it would be better to name an amount. Allow them, say, £150,000 or £170,000 to lose on the treatment of estates.

59884. You mean that you would put in a new Act a certain annual sum, or would you allow it to be fixed each year on an estimate?—I think it would be better to put a sum in.

59885. In the Act?—In the Act. If you have to apply for it annually it must be on the basis of a percentage or it must be to cover your loss.

59886. It is a matter of great importance, because it is the kind of thing you cannot change if it is in an Act without another Act?—Yes. I have come to the conclusion that the proposal to fix the grant to be given to the Board at a percentage of the value of the estates sold each year is objectionable, and that it is preferable to have an annual grant placed at the Board's disposal, to be applied at the Board's discretion.

59887. CHAIRMAN.—You must base your grant on something?—On the output, which involves a loss of from 14 to 18 per cent. per million output of mixed estates.

CHAIRMAN.—You must base it on the percentage of loss, I think.

Mr. BRYCE.—That is what Mr. Doran says he does not like.

59888. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Mr. Doran does not object to the percentage being based on the annual grant, but the Board being tied down in its application in a particular year to a particular estimate for a particular year?—Yes; on the ground of insisting that they are to turn out a million's worth to be allowed so much.

59889. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—If you got whatever percentage emerges from all these calculations you submit to us the Board shall be at liberty in any year of its operations to lose 17 per cent., leaving to them the allocation of the loss, 100 per cent. in one case, nothing in another, 5 per cent. in another, and so on—would not that meet it?—I would like it were made perfectly clear in making their recommendation that the Commission had come to the conclusion that very variable losses were necessarily incurred in dealing with different classes of estates, and that the percentage named by them was the average for all classes of estates, so as to prevent people from clamouring for the average percentage of loss in the treatment of each estate.

59890. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—How would that prevent them?—You would have that answer.

59891. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You must trust to the Board to arrange that?—Yes.

59892. Mr. BRYCE.—If that is the actual method by which things are arranged by the Estates Commissioners it amounts to the same thing as you ask for; because you take your output, you allocate certain grants that amount to the percentage, you are not bound in each particular estate as to the percentage. There is nothing objectionable in the other method?—If it is clearly stated that on some estates there will be a very small loss and on others a very large loss, and that the average would work out at a certain amount, I would consider it far more satisfactory; but I may remind you that the Estates Commissioners' section is in doubt.

59893. You mean the interpretation. It is working all right, but the working of the Act is doubtful?—I am informed it is not being worked. It is 10 per cent. on congested estates, and they have only purchased a few congested estates.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—They have only bought four on account of the use of the words, "with the consent of the owner," in section 6 (4).

59895. CHAIRMAN.—To turn to another subject—the parish committees. We have been told that the parish committees are doing good work, principally with regard to the improvement of houses, the removal of manure heaps, and so on. If you have a sufficient sum of money to enable you to buy blocks of land geographically, as has been suggested, does not it seem to you that on those blocks which are bought there is no longer any need for a parish committee?—No. I don't take that view at all, because you want to deal with the blocks of land rapidly, in two or three years. During that time the landholders are in the Board's employment carrying out estates improvement works, and comparatively few of them do anything on their own holdings or to their houses, before the estate is settled, and we cease employing them. In the idle time of the year they do the work under the parish committee schemes; and the house improvement scheme in most of these poor districts is too slow to permit of its being withdrawn on sale of the estate.

59896. Yes; but my point is while the property is in your possession cannot you take steps to insure that these houses will be improved?—It would be too big a job altogether, and too slow. You could not get them to do it quickly enough. It would enormously increase the loss, because you cannot force the people to get the houses improved in that interval while we have so many of these men employed. Much more liberal assistance is given to tenants under the Estate Improvement Schemes than under the Parish Committee Schemes.

59897. It seems ludicrous that you are able to buy an estate, with all the powers of a landlord, unfettered by Acts of Parliament of all sorts, and with an enormous sum to lose on the improvement of the estate, and that at the same time it should be necessary to have another organisation so largely financed?—While an estate is in hands we only aim at carrying out the works that are absolutely necessary. A great deal remains in the way of improvement of buildings and other works that are very desirable.

59898. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Don't you already overlap the work that the parish committee does?—No.

59899. The parish committee has been largely concerned up to the present with the improvement of houses?—The scheme extends over the entire congested districts, it is not confined to estates purchased by the Board.

59900. I know that, but you give advances for the improvement of houses; you have regular schemes for the improvement of houses?—We have.

59901. So far as that scheme operates, and so far as the parish committee schemes are restricted to the improvement of houses there is overlapping?—No; because it is not possible for a man to get a grant under a parish committee scheme and a grant under the houses improvement scheme, when we are dealing with the estate on which the holding is.

59902. You take steps to prevent overlapping?—Yes. The conditions which we offer for the improvement of their houses while we are dealing with the estate are much more favourable than the conditions under the parish committee schemes. A fair number take advantage of the better conditions when we are dealing with the estate, but a great many cannot be induced to carry out desirable improvements while we have employment for them at full wages.

59903. CHAIRMAN.—You keep an estate, as a rule, two or three years?—Yes.

59904. In three years don't you think that everything that could be done reasonably in the way of the improvement of houses and so on could be done?—No; very often we have every man on the estate who is willing to work employed for two years, road-making, and at drainage and fencing.

59905. They are not engaged all the year round. They are only engaged in the winter, and can work at their houses the rest of the year. They are not always away?—When they are at home we employ them at road-making and drainage in the summer and fencing in the winter, and other things. We do everything we can to take advantage of our house improvement schemes in every way we can, yet a very large proportion of bad houses remains on many estates.

59906. Then the parish committee extends beyond the Board's work?—Yes. It extends to the whole congested districts.

59907. Even to estates that the Board don't intend to deal with?—Yes. If they are within the congested area.

59908. Is it within your experience that since the Act of 1903, since the creation of the Estates Commissioners and the granting to them of powers to create tenancies among sons of tenants that the work of migration has become more difficult?—Much more difficult, because before then there was none of this agitation in the neighbourhood of grass farms that is now so serious. There was no cattle driving nor active hostility against what are called "strangers" getting holdings on the grass farms.

59909. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You say that that has arisen since the Act of 1903?—Yes.

59910. Cattle-driving and all that agitation to prevent the letting of grazing farms have been known long before 1903. The same object was taken up by the Plan of Campaign in 1888, when the new League was organised?—I can only speak from my own knowledge of cattle-driving, and I don't know any place where it was practised before 1903.

59911. CHAIRMAN.—Have there not been a good many new tenancies created for sons of tenants around Castlerea?—Yes. In fact the seventeen new holdings in the neighbourhood of Castlerea have been given to sons of tenants, except two.

59912. By the Estates Commissioners?—Yes.

59913. The Estates Commissioners have created tenancies in that locality among sons of tenants, and have made the work of migration on adjacent lands more difficult?—Much more difficult for us, and for themselves, too; because now what happens is the smallholders adjacent or in the neighbourhood of those grass lands who have one or more sons openly state that their sons have a prior claim to any stranger for a holding. We have had a very strong letter from a man near one of these grass farms who has four fine young fellows, sons. He declares that nobody will be allowed to take an acre of the land adjoining his farm until his four sons get four holdings. That is only a threat, but still the agitation is very effective at present in the way of frightening people away.

59914. I don't want to ask a question which in any way makes your position difficult or will create any friction between departments, but don't you think that the Estates Commissioners having, perhaps, been forced to create tenancies among sons of tenants, having become committed to that policy, to a certain extent, it would be very difficult for them if they were charged with the work of migration in Connaught to concentrate sufficiently upon the relief of congestion? Would not they be continually hampered by what they have already done, and would not they be continually hampered by claims from the sons of tenants for land?—I don't think so, if the law were altered. Nobody finds fault with the Estates Commissioners in the matter, and I consider that it was their function and duty to provide these holdings under the administration of the Act of 1903.

Jan. 23, 1908 — Mr. Henry Doran.

59915. That is not my point. What I mean is: unless you could put back the clock and take away from them the duty of giving land to sons of tenants, which, personally, I don't believe for a moment you could do, would not you be very much hampered in dealing with grass lands?—Unless you could do that you certainly would; but I would like to say this, that, in my opinion, unless the power is taken away from the Board also of giving holdings to sons of tenants, even the limited power they now have, they will find it impossible to carry out migration on a large scale.

59916. You have not given any holdings to sons of tenants?—No; except four, in the County Galway.

59917. My point is, there is a difference between you and the Estates Commissioners in this way—although you may have the power to do it you have not, as a matter of fact, done it?—No.

59918. And you are regarded by public opinion as the authority principally concerned with congests?—Yes.

59919. Whereas the Estates Commissioners have given, perhaps, perfectly rightly, under the Act, land to sons of tenants much more largely?—Yes.

59920. And are regarded by public opinion as the body who will give land to such people?—And whose duty it is to plant the lands with such persons.

59921. If you put the responsibility on them of carrying out migration in Connaught won't you find that their history in the matter handicaps them in dealing with congests?—They cannot do it satisfactorily if the law remains as it is.

59922. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—I deem it my duty to call attention to the terms of Section 2 of the Land Purchase Act of 1903. It runs in those terms: "In the case of the sale of an estate advances under the Land Purchase Acts may be made for the purchase of parcels thereof by the following persons—(*a.*) A person being the tenant of a holding on the estate; (*b.*) a person being the son of a tenant of a holding on the estate." That is the second duty of the Estates Commissioners: first to give land to tenants of holdings on the estate, and next to give it to the son of the tenants of a holding on the estate?—They don't confine themselves to sons of tenants on the estate. They have given holdings near Castlerea to sons of tenants on the Dillon and De Freyne estates purchased by the Board.

59923. The Estates Commissioners are appointed to carry out a certain duty under this Act, and are fulfilling their duty by giving holdings to sons of tenants. They would not be fulfilling their duty unless they did do that?—No.

59924. You are appointed a body for the relief of congestion. You have no power under your law to give a new holding to anybody who is not a congest?—You have.

59925. You have no power under the law to give a holding, where it is possible to relieve congestion by giving a holding, to a man who is not a congest, and thereby deprive a congest of the land?—But you have power to give the surplus land to sons of tenants.

59926. You have power to apply the remnant. If any remnant is over you can apply it?—Yes.

59927. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—What I wish to point out in reference to the remarks of Lord Dudley is that the Estates Commissioners appointed to perform a duty have performed that duty. If the law is changed, and imposes another duty on them they will perform that other duty, and their method of performing their former duty will not in any way militate against the effective performance of their duty if their duty is altered.

59928. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—At all events, you individually knowing the work of the Board, do think that this Commission should express its strong opinion that in no case in a congested district should any untenanted land whatever be appropriated to anybody but congests, for congestion cannot be relieved if the sons of tenants are to have any of that land?—Most emphatically, I am of that opinion—not only in the congested districts, but in all the counties containing them.

Jan. 23, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

59929. Suppose the whole of Connaught—we will take Connaught alone—were handed over to the Congested Districts Board, then you consider it would be most desirable that the Commission should express a strong opinion that sons of tenants should be ruled out; I mean to say that there should be no claim, or that if appropriations of any of this available land are to be given to sons of tenants, it means that congestion cannot be relieved?—Yes, and that agitation will continue.

59930. You want to be backed, so that you can dismiss the claim by saying: "We cannot do it; there is the law based upon the Commission report; it is not our fault; don't blame us; you must get the law altered if you want us to do it"?—Yes.

59931. But so long as there is a doubt about it, so long as there is this vague idea that it is within your power, your work is blocked?—Yes; blocked mainly by the young people in the neighbourhood of the lands.

59932. Mr. BRYCE.—Suppose you buy these blocks of land, and find that owing to agitation you cannot migrate your people, on account of scrimmages arising and so on, what are you going to do?—I would not buy huge blocks of land in that way without feeling I was on safe ground, and knowing that the land acquired was passing satisfactorily to persons who had surrendered land for the relief of congestion.

59933. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—In any case you have no power to give any land except to congests?—We have.

59934. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—You have given us in your memorandum your experience of estates dealt with since 1903, and of course it is valuable as far as it goes as an indication. Can you suggest to the Commission any possible way of arriving at a conclusion as to what is the distribution of these estates within the area, that is, what proportion of the estates in Connaught, say, are A, what proportion are B, and what proportion of the estates are C?—I have not material from which I could supply a correct classification.

59935. Is there any machinery or means by which within a reasonable time an approximate idea can be formed by the Commission as to what is the real condition of distribution of these estates within the area that is proposed to be handed over to the Congested Districts Board. Can you give us a clue to find that out?

Mr. KAVANAGH.—Don't limit the question to Connaught.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Take the eight counties. Can you give us any information enabling the Commission to estimate approximately what is the proportion of A, B, and C in that district?

59936. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You ought to be able, having regard to the valuation. You know how many under £4, how many between £4 and £10, and how many over £10?—That would not separate A and B.

59937. All C would be over £10?—Yes.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—That would only give you holdings, but not estates.

59938. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You could get an indication by looking through the valuations of estates?—The only way in which you could get anything like an indication would be from the Valuation Office; or you might get it by communicating with the owners who have not sold their estates in the counties containing congested districts.

59939. There is no means of getting that in time at our disposal?—The only other way would be from the General Valuation Office Returns. If you don't get it fairly accurate it might be misleading. It would take a long time.

59940. CHAIRMAN.—As it is, all your calculation here is hypothetical?—The figures of the properties A and B that I have given you are from actual experience, but I have added one-third proportion of C land. That is the only hypothetical element in the figures supplied.

59941. You tell us that from your experience you have lost 9·4 per cent. on Class A?—Yes, and 21 per cent. on B. That is the average of all estates in each class.

59942. You estimate now you are going to lose 5 per cent. How do you estimate you are going to get down from 9 to 5?—Because in dealing with the whole county there would be a larger percentage of A of better quality than the estates dealt with in my schedule A.

59943. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—You draw an inference of the whole state of the country you are going to cover from these examples. If these examples had been taken geographically you might have been able to draw an inference of the sort; but these examples have been taken chequer board all over the country, and you have taken up the worst estates?—I would ask you to accept my statement that the estates are types of the estates A, B, and C that you have to deal with, but we would be likely to have a larger proportion of better class A estates than those in my list.

59944. I admit that, but what I want to know is the distribution: how are those estates typical of the whole state of the country?—I am not able to tell you in what proportions.

59945. How can you say so many estates of the A type in those counties?—I have told you I cannot say that, but I think that all the estates to be dealt with, excluding the good estates that would be allowed to be sold by direct sale in the way I suggested yesterday or this morning, will be of the types A, B, and C.

59946. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—It would be all the same for your purpose if you had only three estates? It was only for the purpose of comparison of classes?—If I am sure they are fair types, if you adopt the suggestion made this morning of allowing the Board to buy an estate, selling directly the holdings not needing treatment, you will only have included in your output of a million entire classes of estates similar to those I have given, and your percentage of loss will not be less than these figures, except to the extent to which a better class of A estates will come in.

59947. CHAIRMAN.—You explained that in future the loss on Class A will be less than it has been, because you will find better estates of Class A in the wider area?—Yes, in a larger proportion.

59948. By Class C you say you have lost 25 per cent.?—That is an easy case to estimate. There is no doubt about that at all.

59949. Why do you put it down at 30 per cent. now?—Because you are coming into the open areas, with a small population, where labour is much dearer, and the cost per holding will be more. I instance an estate where we had to import thirty labourers to a grass farm near Castlerea, and to provide special accommodation for them in an out-building, and we have them there still. They are costing us at the rate of 3*s.* a day. Each has a payment of 3*s.* a day, besides finding them in milk and fuel. In other places the wages is 2*s.* per day.

59950. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—The ground for the claim of compulsory powers to the Board is based upon the necessity of the Board dealing with large blocks of districts?—Yes.

59951. That is the whole ground of contention, that compulsory powers are necessary. Can you tell me this: what is your view, assuming you got these powers, and that you had the increased money and increased powers, as to how you are going to select one district and exclude others? Can you give me any notion of the principle to determine the action of the Board? In selecting the districts in order of precedence, what claims would you take into consideration?—I would consider that they should operate in all the counties at the same time. As to the mode of starting, that would be regulated by the particular district in which they start, and by the estates offered to them at the beginning of their operations.

59952. Then your determination of a district to be operated upon would depend upon the voluntary offer of the landlords to sell?—Yes, in the first instance. I would begin with the voluntary purchases certainly. I would extend from the first centre. I would have several districts. Just take the County Mayo. I would, say, have a list of ten centres in Mayo scattered over the county, with ten resident officers, and each of them would begin with one estate, and they would widen out their field of operations until the ten met, working in different directions.

59953. And the selection of the ten centres would depend upon a particular landlord offering to sell?—It would, at the outset; and then, when you establish yourself in a centre, where the landlord has offered to sell, and you come in there under favourable conditions, without making any trouble, the adjoining landlord will probably offer. That is our [illegible]

experience. Whenever we get an estate we are almost invariably offered adjacent estates. We gradually enlarge our area. We are not in a hurry to apply compulsion at all, and we ought not to be. It would be only when a landlord does not offer an estate that it is desirable to acquire, either tenanted or untenanted, that you should apply compulsion.

59954. But you may take it that the centres have been established by existing operations?—Probably that would be, to some extent.

59955. You take one of these as a centre, and say, "We are going to enlarge this area." Do you suggest your first duty would be to approach the next landlord?—Yes. We have no trouble in doing that. Landlords very rarely make objection to a discreet inquiry as to their willingness to sell. If we get to Belmullet, or any other centre you like, the first thing we do would be to inquire from the agent or owner of desirable estates in the neighbourhood if he could see his way to offer the estate to the Board, as we were operating in the district; and I believe that by proceeding quietly like that we would make satisfactory progress in our negotiations.

59956. Suppose the landlord says no, do you suggest going off somewhere else, where the landlord says yes, or do you proceed to enlarge the district by exercising your compulsory powers?—If he says no, and the estate needed treatment, I would recommend the Board to apply compulsory powers.

59957. Mr. Bryce.—Don't you think your estimate would be very seriously out if you cannot make an estimate of the distribution of the A, B, and C estates? You may try to arrange it in the proportion which you have estimated by buying a certain number of estates of each class, but if, coming towards the end of your operations, you find an accumulation of B estates your estimate will be utterly out?—We would have to abandon the purchase of the others for the time and lose all we had on the B estates, and the output would be less.

59958. In the long run, if the percentages are not in accordance with the experience you have already had of the percentage of A, B, and C you will come to a time when you cannot get it right, even by delaying your purchases?—It would be regulated by the Board.

59959. You may work it from year to year during a great many years but you will come to a time when the accumulation of estates will leave them nothing to average it with. The classification of holdings is no guide, because it depends on the nature of the estate?—I don't see how that would come.

59960. It must come if you don't know the proportion?—We do know when we inspect an estate.

59961. But if you don't know the total number of A estates you are going to deal with? Suppose you are going to settle the question of congestion, you may find that the total number of B estates is much greater than you imagine, how are you going to do it; for if you endeavour to arrange it by the proportions A, B, and C you will come to a moment when nothing but B is left?—If that were to happen then I would cease buying C and apply my whole revenue to the treatment of B. I should say migration; and migration cannot be used much in connection with B. That is much on the seaboard. I think when you limit your output to a million or a million and a half I think you should be always able to so group your estates that you could keep them within the estimate.

59962. Yes, if you are perfectly certain that there is a certain number of A and B estates to be sold and a certain number of C lands to be still available; but if you find that you have been seriously out in your experience, and that this output you have had is not representative of the total number, you will come to a particular moment when you will find that you can no longer maintain that proportion of that particular class?—I feel quite certain as to the existence of Class B and the certainty of being able to buy them, but as to the certainty of acquiring one-third in value of Class C I am doubtful. If the proportion of B or C estates as compared to A estates was higher in any year than the proportion I suggested the output would be correspondingly reduced.

59963 Sir John Colomb.—Does that mean if you got a million a year for the purchase of land you could only buy in a year one-third of a million of Class C?—I would not say in any one year, but I could not have more than a million's worth of Class C in hands at any time. We are empowered to have that

59964. Mr. Bryce.—You are doubtful of getting the proportion of C so long as you are restricted to Connaught. If you were enabled to go out to Westmeath there would be no difficulty in getting enough of C?—You would have the further difficulty of the people.

59965. Chairman.—I want to ask you whether you think you have made a sufficient allowance in estimating the loss on Class C, for the fact that with compulsion you will have a large amount of grass land, at least an adequate amount of grass land, and, therefore, you will be able to offer a substantial inducement to large people to migrate. You told us yesterday that one of the reasons why dealing with land in Class C was so expensive was that you had not been able to move the larger men. You had to remove the small men, which entailed two sorts of expenditure—one, a considerable number of extra houses, fencing, and soforth; and the other, that the occupation interest of the people moved was not very great, and, therefore, you were not able to recover that?—If we can get larger people to go our loss will be less.

59966. If you have an adequate amount, one-third of grass land, and a good deal of that land lying in proximity to the estate that you are treating your difficulties in that respect will be lessened?—They will.

59967. Won't your loss, therefore, be considerably lessened?—It would be.

59968. You have actually put the figure in Class C higher for the reasons assigned—the wages of labourers are higher than they have been. You have increased the figure from 28 to 30 per cent., and you say that is because of the increased cost of labour, and so on?—That is my reason.

59969. Have you, as a set-off against that, made sufficient allowance for the advantage of being able to move bigger men?—No; I have not, perhaps, made sufficient allowance, because I am doubtful if they will go; and again, there is a very small proportion of big men even on the A estates in the congested districts, and there are none at all in B practically. You may remember I informed you when giving my evidence on the Dillon Estate, on which there were 4,300 tenants, with a poor law valuation of £20,000 a year, that there were only 254 tenants of £10 valuation and over. They were the only big men there who would come out. Within the last three weeks we migrated about twenty men from the De Freyne Estate on to grass lands near Castlerea, and they were nearly all men with small holdings. We gave them from £16 to £25 holdings.

59970. You don't believe you will get any substantial relief?—We will get more than we did, but we will not get a sufficient number to seriously affect the proportion of loss.

59971. Therefore, you don't consider that the fact that you will have more grass land in proximity to the estates you are treating will have a very great effect?—It will have some effect, as I have mentioned several times, if we can get the larger men out.

59972. At any rate according to the estimate you have given us it will be a smaller effect than the opposite effect resulting from the increased cost of labour?—I am afraid it will.

59973. Sir John Colomb.—I asked just now if you could give us any clue to ascertain the probable proportion of these three classes. I ask another question now. Can you give us any approximate idea or tell us how to get it, as to what is the amount of the untenanted grass lands in the eight counties in acreage or valuation that are available for the purpose of the Congested Districts Board for migration?—The best information you have on that is that already furnished to the Commission under the heading "non-residential holdings." That is the only information available of any value.

Sir John Colomb.—Does that give us the information, because although they are non-residential holdings they are not all suited for migration.

Sir Antony MacDonnell.—It has to be taken with many reservations.

59974. Sir John Colomb.—Assume we spend a million a year in taking up land, and spend one-third of that on the acquirement of this land, I want to know roughly or approximately how many years it would take to absorb all the grazing lands of the eight counties?—The best estimate you would have for that would be from this return of non-residential tenements in all the counties containing congested districts.

Jan. 23, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

59975. Do you mean Mr. Ginnell's?—No. The one I supplied.

59976. That is the maximum amount of information you can give us to enable us to form an idea of what quantity of land will have to be dealt with?—That gives you full information. It is the outside estimate, with the poor law valuation given as well as the acreage.

59977. Mr. Bryce.—Since you gave your evidence in the autumn of 1906 in Dublin have you changed your opinion? You said at that time you thought the willingness to migrate would increase. Since that time have you found that that is so?—The desire to migrate has unquestionably increased; only for the agitation in connection with the lands to be divided

59978. You mean that if it were not for that agitation you could see your way to getting migration done on something like the scale you would like to see?—Yes; on a much larger scale. In fact, in face of the agitation the desire to migrate has increased.

59979. There is another point I would like to hear your views about: that is whether the Commission should give any recommendation with regard to the maintenance of improvements. There are already signs that all these things which you have done on the Dillon Estate, with regard to the improvement of drainage, the clearing of land, and so on, are going back, and it is quite evident that they must go back when your controlling hand is taken away. The whole object and purpose of your work will be largely defeated if these improvements are not maintained and cease to be operative, and the security of the State will be affected also?—That is so.

59980. Have you any suggestions to make with regard to the means of maintaining those improvements?—I would like to say that a great deal of most useful work was carried out by the Board, namely, arterial or main drainage and accommodation roads. On these, especially the drainage, they have made a very large outlay with most satisfactory results; but there is no provision made for the maintenance of these drains and roads, and probably before twenty years they will be nearly as bad as they were, as the people will not maintain them themselves.

59981. At least at present; eventually they might get into the state of realising the necessity of doing it, but at present they won't?—I believe so.

59982. We found on Clare Island a main drain stopped up already?—Yes; that requires annual maintenance. As regards the maintenance of drainage generally, my idea is it should be all put under the district or county to deal with, with power to levy a rate on the holdings benefited for the maintenance.

59983. Mr. Kavanagh.—Main drains?—All main or arterial drains.

59984. Not field drains?—No. Arterial drains. We have never made any drain on a tenant's holding. We always say, "Our business is to give you a chance of improving your holding, and we are willing to make a main drain, which is outlet for the drainage of several holdings." We never make a drain for the benefit of one holding. Neither do we ever make a road for the benefit of one tenant. We do make it when it will serve a number. We always act on that principle. I think the drainage so important that the maintenance of all drains should be placed under the control of the county authority, and the area within each drainage district should be subject to a levy for maintenance.

59985. There was a subject to which Sir John Colomb devoted a good deal of attention in connection with the Parish Committee schemes. He constantly pointed out that a good deal of the work done by the Parish Committees should be done by the local sanitary officers. It was not done by the sanitary officers, and the Congested Districts Board subscribe funds towards assisting the Parish Committees to get these very things done which the sanitary officers ought to have done. Now you propose that this maintenance of drainage should be put into the hands of the local authorities. What security is there that the local authority will do any better than the sanitary authority now does?—I gave evidence before the Arterial Drainage Commission, in which I suggested that the county or district authorities should maintain the drainage systems under the supervision of a central official authority, which I called a Public Works Department. I think this very important, because if no provision be made for the maintenance of these very useful works the security will be seriously impaired, and the tenants will not be able——

59987. I quite approve of your plan. What I want to get at is this—don't you think that putting the County Councils in action will be the business of a central authority?—Yes. That is why I mentioned it.

59988. And a central authority like the Local Government Board can come down on the County Councils, and make them do a thing. There ought to be some body who ought to be able to make the County Councils work?—Yes. That is why I went back on my evidence, and explained to you that I had suggested such an authority, and that it should be the duty of such authority to see that the drainage system of the country was properly maintained, and that a rate should be levied from the lands benefited to cover the maintenance.

59989. That ought to apply to the roads also?—It would be more difficult to make it apply to the roads.

59990. But you have just said that if the roads are not maintained in twenty years they will be as bad as before you made them?—That is so.

Mr. Bryce.—How are you going to secure that that is to be done?

59991. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—If you get them under the county scheme they will be looked after?—A great many of the roads the Board have to make are accommodation roads, and will not be taken over by the county because they only affect a limited number of people who want access to a bog or a village; and the difficulty of getting the maintenance of these roads thrown on the county authority is very great, because only those who use the roads ought to be required to pay for them. That is the general feeling. I will submit my suggestions for the maintenance of these roads later on.*

59992. Mr. Sutherland.—I may point out how they do it in Scotland. We make no new road or give no grant for a road unless it comes to us through the road authority?—Then you would have no, what we call, accommodation roads, for access to detached parts of holdings, or to bogs or villages on your estates.

59993. We get applications from townships in the West of Scotland to get a road made. We write back—"You have your own County Council. It is the road authority. Put it through them, and we will enter into an arrangement with them." That is the way it is done. We say to the County Council—"We will give you a grant towards the road on condition that you hold it." There are hundreds of miles of road done in this way?—The Board have contributed thousands of pounds to roads of that class—that is, roads that can be dealt with by the county. A road running to a bog is disqualified by law, unless it connects two public thoroughfares.

59994. Mr. Kavanagh.—Unless the County Surveyor certifies that it is of public utility?—Yes. It occurs to me at this moment from what Lord Dudley said yesterday about the Congested Districts Board making a contribution in connection with agricultural developments through the Department of Agriculture, that it might be possible for the Department of Agriculture to make some small contribution from that fund towards the upkeep of these roads in the interests of agricultural development.

59995. Mr. Bryce.—It is a case where a stitch in time saves nine. If there was somebody whose business it was to go about and see that these roads were all right the probability is that the people at the time, if it was pointed out to them, would with a little combined attention, do what was required?—Yes.

59996. But as it is nobody's business it is not done?—Yes. The road may be impassable in five years.

59997. All the people in the county should get accommodation. These people are paying *pro rata* for the roads of the county, and they have no roads: is that fair?—It is not.

59998. Mr. Kavanagh.—To put it on the county you would have to strain the law, which says that until the County Surveyor certifies it to be a work of public utility there cannot be a new road.

* See p. 45.

59999. Mr. BRYCE.—Just one point in connection with that. It applies also to the maintenance of the other works on which the Board has spent money. I don't see how you are going to get a public authority in there at all. My own notion about it was, so long as the Board exists in its operations, for twenty years or any time you like, that it should be given by the new legislation, control over all the work that it did, and all the money it has expended in the past and is going to expend in the future; that, in other words, the Board should have a certain continuing power in certain officers to see that all the money it spent on roads and drains has not been expended uselessly, and that if these works are not put into the hands of another authority—as there is in everything else a certain authority to see to their maintenance—then the Board should have a certain power of control over these works in some way or another, and a power to keep up the improvements, and to see that the houses are kept slated and thatched rightly, and so on; otherwise the expenditure that has been incurred is useless?—I don't think there is so much danger of allowing houses to go out of repair.

60000. You think that the individual comfort of the people would come in there?—Yes. I think that there is not the same necessity as there is in the case of the roads.

60001. I don't think there is?—But I think the new Board should have compulsory powers to call on the people who were accommodated by a particular road to improve it if it needed repair, and in the event of their failing to do so, to put it into proper condition, and make a levy for the cost.

60002. I would like to know whether you have any suggestion to make with regard to a clause in a bill restricting the occupier from mortgaging his holding with a view to preventing the land from getting into the hands of a gombeen man. You expressed a desire to have such a provision before. Have you thought what form that provision should take, and whether it would affect the credit of the people with the shopkeepers and their general credit, so as to interfere with the development of their land?—?—I don't think it would interfere with their credit. The credit of a small landholder is largely regulated by his personal character and reputation. The proportion of small holdings sold for debts is very small.

Mr. SUTHERLAND.—What is the practice under the Homestead Acts?

Mr. BRYCE.—We can get particulars of that by applying to the Foreign Office and the Colonial Office.

60003. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—What is your view of this suggestion? In creating these new holdings there is a certain loss incurred which the State would have to pay. What do you think of the proposal to exercise pre-emption when the occupier of that holding wishes to sell, at all events, pre-emption to the extent of the loss incurred by the State? Take one of these cases that you gave us yesterday, of a holding created at a net loss to the State of £181. That holder wants to sell. Do you not think that the Imperial Exchequer has the right to say, "We will exercise this sort of pre-emption; before we will sanction that we must be paid £181"?—I think it would not be unfair, but it would minimise the inducement to migrate. I should remind you that the gross loss was £169, and not the net, after deducting value of occupation interest of the surrendered holding

60004. Here is a return of non-residential land *produced*).* The upper part relates to congested districts. That is untenanted land, non-residential. If add up to the total of the acreage at the foot of the column, of all those columns, will that give me the acreage and extent of the non-residential lands within the congested area?—Yes. Within the counties containing congested districts.

60005. If I add up the rateable values it will produce a corresponding result, and will give the total rateable value of untenanted land?—Yes.

60006. If I take that, roughly, as a mere approximation, and multiply it by thirty, I get the purchase value of the untenanted land in the counties containing congested districts?—Yes; of the non-residential holdings.

60007. If I then divide that by three, as the one-third of a million, it will give me a rough, glimmering of an idea how long it would take to absorb all the untenanted land in the congested district counties if £300,000 a year were appropriated for the purpose? It would.

60008. CHAIRMAN.—Take the question of the cost of land staff. If the Board is to turn out a million's worth of land a year, how much land do you think would it be necessary for them to hold?—I would think they ought to hold about three millions worth.

60009. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—How long would the million's worth of land be under treatment?—On an average, the tenanted land two years. As regards the untenanted land, my idea is the Board ought to have about a million as stock in hands, if they can, so as to give a larger field of selection to migrants, selling one-third of that each year, and only buying one-third.

60010. Then you would want to hold three millions worth of land?—Nearly.

60011. CHAIRMAN.—There seems to be some difference of opinion between Father O'Hara and Mr. Mitchell and yourself with regard to the capabilities of the present staff. Mr. Mitchell told us in his evidence that the present staff could turn out £400,000 worth of land annually. Father O'Hara said he thought it could deal with considerably more land than it had been dealing with—that is, an average of £200,000 a year. Do you agree with that?—No. I understand that Father O'Hara and Mr. Mitchell meant the capabilities of the full establishment as provided for, but which was not then brought up to its full strength.

60012. Is it up to its full strength now?—Yes; but in any case the present staff, which is up to its full strength as agreed to by the Board, would not, in my opinion, be able to turn out more than £300,000 a year, one year with another.

60013. That is what it was formed for?—Yes.

60014. This present staff, as brought up to its full strength, costs more than £30,000?—It costs about £31,000 or £32,000.

60015. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—That includes the office?—Yes. That includes the office.

60016. I got the figures from Mr. O'Brien the other day. He told me it was between £18,000 and £20,000 for the outdoor staff?—Yes.

60017. Does your indoor staff cost £9,000 or £10,000?—Yes.

60018. If the £30,000 includes office staff as well as outdoor staff, to increase the staff to a size that would turn out a million you would not want a very large increase in the indoor staff?—Not a proportionate increase.

60019. You say the present cost of the outdoor staff is £20,000?—Yes.

60020. To turn out a million, what increase would be required in the outdoor staff?—I would say it would have to be two-and-a-half to three times what it is at present; three times I would say, because I would like to turn it out more rapidly, and a great deal of time will be taken up inspecting estates and negotiating for purchase—from £50,000 to £60,000, including clerks of works, surveyors, and paymasters, which are now charged to estates.

60021. Have you made out a statement of the number of inspectors and various other officers?—I have a list of them here.

60022. CHAIRMAN.—Can you make out in detail exactly what the cost of a staff would be to turn out a million's worth of land in the year?—Yes. It will be based largely on what we are doing.

60023. You can do that and tell the number of inspectors you would want and everything else?—Yes.

Mr. Mitchell.—I have asked for some more figures, which I shall have to-morrow. It will be about £60,000. That is including both indoor and outdoor.

CHAIRMAN.—That would cover everything, to turn out a million's worth of land—the whole thing would cost only £60,000?

Mr. Mitchell.—I shall know a little more correctly to-morrow. It will be about £60,000. I am not including clerks of works, surveyors, and paymasters.

CHAIRMAN.—That is not an increase of £60,000?

Mr. Mitchell.—The present cost of administration in connection with estates is about £25,000.

CHAIRMAN.—Indoor and outdoor?

Mr. Mitchell.—Yes. I am assuming an increase of two-thirds on that. Assuming that that is the expense of putting through £330,000 worth of land, that is, one-third of the whole, I am assuming that the other two-thirds, that is the increase, would not cost at quite

* See pp. 48-9.

Jan. 23, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

the same rate. If they did it would be £75,000. The increase that I estimate is £35,000; that is, in connection with estates.

CHAIRMAN.—Can you give us a regular statement on that?

Sir ANTHONY MACDONNELL.—Showing on one side the existing staff and on the other the proposed staff?

Mr. Mitchell.—Perhaps I can give you the particulars I have with a view to your criticism.

Mr. SUTHERLAND.—You can only give the outdoor staff?—(*Witness*)—That is all.

60024. CHAIRMAN.—Can you and Mr. Mitchell give us a detailed statement, showing on the one side the present staff, and, in your opinion, the amount of land that the staff can turn out?—I am prepared to do that now.

60025. And in the next column you would detail the number of people who would have to be employed?—I have done that for the outdoor staff. If you wish to have it with the other I could put them together to-night and submit it to-morrow.

60026. Mr. BRYCE.—Those figures given by Mr. Mitchell do not include the industries business, only the administration of estates. We want it for everything?—(*Witness*)—I have all the figures for my own department (*produces papers*). You will pardon me for reminding you that I made no provision at all for paying more for land than the Board could sell it at, and I believe that that is likely to happen. I have prepared particulars here of the prices paid by the Board for tenants' interest, and they had to pay rather more for the land than they would be able to re-sell it at, and the Board would have to lose that difference. In the same way, if they had to pay more for untenanted land than twenty-seven years' purchase the loss would have to come out of the Board's fund or some special fund.

60027. CHAIRMAN.—That is with regard to the percentage of loss?—Yes. I forgot to mention that the idea I had was that, to begin with, we should have an inspector for each county, and one chief inspector who would constantly supervise the inspectors.

60028. How many counties would you allow for?—Nine.

60029. Would you want one in every county?—No at the beginning. In some counties we might want two inspectors. The inspector in charge of a county would have under him men to carry out the detailed work. It is not possible to get men competent to discharge the duties that we have to carry out without some training. They are not to be had, because, outside the Estates Commissioners' staff or my staff, you cannot find men who have had experience of this work. I propose to place the new men under the direction of the officers who have had some experience.

60030. Mr. BRYCE.—Have you got any suggestion to make with regard to the prevention of the amalgamation and the prevention of the sub-division of holdings. The amalgamation of holdings is more or less connected with the question of mortgaging and alienation. I think it would be desirable that you should send in a memorandum on that?—Perhaps it would be better, and on the question, maintenance of drainage and roads.*

60030A. Sub-division, amalgamation, alienation, mortgaging, and also maintenance?—Very well.

60031. Mr. KAVANAGH.—Would not you give a power of pre-emption to the State?—When holdings in counties containing congested districts are put up for sale the Board should have the right of pre-emption.

* See p. 45.

Commission adjourns.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH PUBLIC SITTING.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24TH, 1908,

AT 11.0 O'CLOCK, A.M.

In Westminster Palace Hotel, London.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of DUDLEY, G.C.V.O. (Chairman); The Right. Hon. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL, G.C.S.I.; The Right Hon. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT, G.C.B.; The Right Hon. Sir JOHN COLOMB, K.C.M.G.; Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL; JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esq., M.P.; WALTER KAVANAGH, Esq., D.L.; ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esq.;

and WALTER CALLAN, Esq., Secretary.

Mr. HENRY DORAN further examined.

60032 Sir FRANCIS MOWATT (*in the Chair*).—You have prepared, I understand, a statement of your present staff and of the increased staff which you believe would be necessary for the increased land work, which has been discussed by the Commission?—Yes.

60033. Perhaps it would be better to get on paper a slight statement of the different stages of the work that you do now, and then we will compare the different conditions?—Yes.

60034. The purchase of land is really initiated by correspondence between yourself, as chief land inspector, and the owners?—Yes.

60035. As a matter of fact, do they address their original application to you or does the original letter come first before the Board?—As a matter of procedure, I always arrange that they should send their proposal through the secretary. Having arranged with an owner that he will offer his estate to the Board, I suggest to him to send a proposal on the prescribed form to the Board. I either send him the forms myself or request him to apply to the secretary for them.

60036. The original negotiation does not therefore, in point of fact, concern the Board. It comes to you, and you put it in form before it reaches the Board—is not that so?—Yes; as far as the mere offer is concerned; but I never open negotiations for an estate without getting the authority of the Board. The procedure followed is, that when the vendor makes an offer, through the secretary, of his estate, before I take any further action in the matter, I submit a short report to the Board as to the advisability or otherwise of the purchase of the estate, chiefly from the particulars supplied by the vendor, when I have no personal knowledge of the estate. If it is an estate apparently suitable, I ask the Board's authority to be allowed to inspect it. Then, having inspected it, I make an estimate of its value, go into full details, classifying the rental first term, judicial, second term, and so on. I also value separately the land, if any, in the owner's hands, and I furnish to the Board a report as to the maximum price which I could recommend the Board to offer. I also furnish at the same time an approximate estimate of the cost of re-arranging the estate, and the Board, having considered my report, decide upon the offer to be made.

60037. That being still in the affirmative? The offer then issues. It is prepared by the solicitor, and is issued by the secretary, and signed by him at the time.

60038. Then you resume the negotiations with that authority?—As a rule, we don't make a second offer. It has not been the practice of the Board to attempt anything like haggling in the matter.

60039. But when you have sent in your report to the Board, they accept your recommendation that a certain price be offered? Yes. I take no further action.

60040. If the owner declines, so far you are stopped?—Yes.

60041. You take no further steps?—Not usually.

60042. If he makes an offer or suggestion, that again is carried out by the chief land inspector, under the authority of the Board?—Yes.

60043. That is, so far as the purchase of an estate is concerned?—There is some further procedure. The Board's offer is always conditional on verification of the particulars supplied; and when the owner accepts, the next step is to get all the tenants together, inspect their last receipts, and verify the rental.

60044. Is that done by one of the five assistant inspectors, referred to here?—Yes. It is done by one of those. Then, if there is a discrepancy, as very frequently arises, that is to say, if the rent and arrears in rental are not identical with the rent which we find from the receipts has been collected by the owners, we communicate with the owner, and arrange for the re-adjustment of the purchase price.

60045. I won't take you through steps so detailed as that, but the subsequent negotiations, up to the stage of purchase, when that is carried out, are in the hands of yourself, the staff of assistant land inspectors, and assistant inspectors?—Yes.

60046. Then the legal steps of the purchase are carried out under your solicitor?—Yes; the completion of the purchase. The originating request has to be prepared by the vendor's solicitor, in communication with the Board's solicitor, and is lodged with the Land Commission.

60047. Your next appearance on the scene is when the purchase is effected?—Yes.

60048. It then falls back into your department, and you consider the question of re-settlement and re-arrangement?—In the meantime I submit to the Board a detailed estimate of the receipts and expenditure for the period from purchase to re-sale. In the first instance I only submit an approximate estimate. After it has been arranged to purchase we have to go into all the details the roads to be made, the holdings to be striped, and the houses to be built, and all that; and we supply a detailed estimate of the future receipts and expenditure on such estate from the time of purchase to the time of re-sale; and the Board having approved of that, I am allowed to go ahead, and complete the works within the limits of the approved expenditure, but I cannot exceed that expenditure without an authority from the Board.

60049. Those works are carried out by your clerk of works, I suppose, and superintended generally by your inspectors and assistant inspectors?—Yes.

60050. As regards that particular estate, you hold, so to speak, a watching brief throughout?—Yes.

60051. When the different improvements, re-settlement, and re-arrangements are carried out, the thing passes into the hands of the tenants, and, so far, your function finishes?—Yes. We have a great deal of detailed work in connection with the striping in getting tenants to surrender to us their old holdings and enter into tenancies of new; a great deal of legal work also is incidental to these arrangements.

60052. I need not carry you into these details. There are at present one chief land inspector, one assistant, four inspectors, and five assistant inspectors—that is eleven altogether. What do you consider the amount of land or the value of land which those eleven men at present are capable of dealing with?—With the assistants, I estimate that the present staff could deal

Jan. 24, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran.

with about £300,000 worth of property per year, if we were allowed to proceed without interruption, which we have not been permitted to do for the past three or four years. We have been frequently asked to reduce expenditure and delay works owing to possibility of funds running short. Then we have great delay owing to the legal difficulties you heard so much about. If we could proceed systematically and without interruption I believe my staff could turn out about £300,000 worth of property in the year of the average class we have dealt with.

60053. Speaking very roughly, I think you have heard that the suggestion before the Commission now is that you should deal with something like £1,000,000 worth of land a year?—Yes.

60054. That is apparently three times as much land as you are dealing with now?—Yes.

60055. Should you say that the extent of additional land with which you would deal would, in equal proportion, increase the amount of work?—Not as regards the duties of the superior officers. I propose reorganising the staff, and having nine inspectors

60056. You have got four at present?—Yes; and five assistant inspectors. My view is to have an inspector in each county; or in a county in which there would be a great deal of work to do, we would probably have two inspectors. We would require one superior officer in each county or other defined area whose duty it would be to attend to the work of that district, very much as I try to do over the whole area, and to report as to the suitability of estates offered, and all other matters that the Board's ruling was required upon.

60233. CHAIRMAN.—There is one point of some difficulty on which you have given us a memorandum. It is a question of uncompleted sales where bargains for the sale of holdings have been entered into within the congested area but not completed, and you foresee difficulty about arranging for them with the Estates Commissioners. Suppose the Estates Commissioners no longer operate in this area and the Board take it entirely in hands, how are these cases which have been negotiated through the medium of the Estates Commissioners to be settled?—My suggestion was that where they did not declare properties, the terms of purchase of which were arranged, to be "estates," the matter was not finally closed, and I thought the simplest way was that the Estates Commissioners should hand over all the originating requests and originating applications in respect of these estates and let the new Board be empowered to deal with them, and decide whether they would certify them to be estates to be sold by direct sale.

60234. Would that create any difficulty among the landlords who had agreed to sell to the Estates Commissioners?—It might. A landlord might reasonably object, as he had arranged for the sale knowing the procedure to be followed as regards the completion of the matter, namely, that the sale was to go through the Estates Commissioners, and that now a new body was empowered to review and reject or accept his proposals. I think perhaps there is an objection in that way.

60235. Mr. KAVANAGH.—And the Estates Commissioners will have settled with the tenants, too?—In these cases they would not have settled with the tenants if they did not reach the point of their procedure when they declare it to be an estate.

60236. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—But the bargain with the landlord as to price would have been complete?—Not completed where it is not declared to be an estate after inspection.

60237. What then would be the landlord's objection that you would anticipate?—It is completed so far as the prices arranged are within the zones, but with regard to the holdings that did not come within the zone conditions, the prices are subject to alteration after inspection. It frequently happens that the Estates Commissioners will say, "We cannot advance quite as much as you have arranged with your tenants for these holdings, and will only give you so much." If they had inspected and had conveyed their decision to the vendor and that he agreed to their terms in the ordinary procedure the property would be declared to be an estate on the adjusted price. The objection the landlord will have is this "Your Board is coming in to review the price proposed for the holdings that are not within the zone conditions; a new body is coming in to review the bargain; I don't think that is fair, and I won't approve of them."

60238. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—Why won't it be fair to him?—Because he lodges an agreement on the understanding that the Estates Commissioners only could fulfil that function.

60239. He might think your Board might fix it higher than the Estates Commissioners?—He may or may not think so. It is a new condition introduced which he did not contemplate when arranging the sale.

60240. Mr. KAVANAGH.—He has been to all the expense and trouble of stating his case, and the new Board then steps in?

60241. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—The new Board would step in and buy *in globo* all these estates for which agreements have been come to between landlord and tenant?—Yes, *in globo*, if portions of them required treatment.

60242. In any case you would buy *in globo*?—We would not buy an estate that does not require treatment.

60243. You would allow that to pass through, and then you would proceed to differentiate the part that needed treatment and the part that did not. Would not that require an enormous staff, to distinguish, to draw up new agreements, new maps and so on?—No. I would not think so.

60244. If you divide an estate which was a single estate, and declare it to be two estates, you will have to prepare a map?—That is a very small matter.

60245. I think that will be a very protracted matter and a very expensive matter, and it will require a large establishment for these 30,000 holdings?—No, that is not a matter involving much trouble, because the holdings being in a condition in which they might pass without treatment, the mapping is not difficult.

60246. You would have to make out very many maps?—Under the new rules we would oblige every vendor to lodge a map showing the holdings to facilitate us in deciding whether the estate needed treatment or not. At present we only require a vendor to lodge a map showing the boundary of his tenanted land and his untenanted land. He has not to show the separate holdings at all. We would require that now, and consequently the checking or revision of maps for the good portion of the estate would be a small matter.

60247. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—These difficulties arise with reference to estates in an incomplete condition. I know owners are now anxious to negotiate with the Estates Commissioners, as they anticipate that there may be a change in the arrangements with regard to the bonus in the near future?—They tell me that that is their chief reason for now desiring to sell, and also to get on the list for payment of purchase money. Some of the largest owners in Mayo have approached me within the last two months, and asked me if they offered their estates to the Board would the Board purchase, and I had to give them an evasive reply until the last Board meeting, and since then I told those who communicated with me that the Board were debarred from purchasing for the present.

60248. I want Mr. Doran just to state to the Commission whether this factor would not within the next couple of months probably very seriously enlarge the difficulty of dealing with land in an uncompleted condition as regards transfer, from the circumstances that many landlords in the West, fearing that the change in the bonus would not be favourable to their interests, would hurry during these months to try to arrange for a sale to the Estates Commissioners?—I look upon it as a very serious matter, mainly for this reason, that according to the figures prepared by Mr. Callan nearly half the holdings in the counties containing congested districts are either sold or have been offered for sale, so that only rather more than half remains open yet, and I believe that a very large proportion of the owners of the remaining half will within the next three or four months offer their estates to the Estates Commissioners, because they anticipate a change in the conditions of the bonus.

60249. If those agreements went through and were completed a very large number of holdings would be vested in the tenants without being raised to anything like an economic condition?—You would then have to deal with what I have described in a memorandum I have handed in as vested congestion.* A considerable area of the non-economic and intermixed holdings will be vested, and the problem of dealing with vested congestion will be much enlarged.

* See p. 45.

60250. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—That would be the case if the Estates Commissioners did not exercise their functions of relieving congestion, because they exercise these functions on estates which they don't purchase as congested estates?—Would they exercise these functions in respect of estates purchased by direct sale?

60251. They don't exercise their functions I suppose with the particularity that you do, but that they do relieve congestion on estates passing from landlord to tenant is a fact?—Then I think that the field for the Board's future operations would be very much reduced, and it would seem to me likely to alter the whole problem as discussed by the Commission if they are allowed to go on.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—They will be allowed to go on until some change takes place in the law.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—What Mr. Doran suggested was that there ought to be an executive order issued by the Irish Government prohibiting the Estates Commissioners from going on with those estates. I have been thinking over that, and I think it is a matter upon which you ought to have opinion. So far as I have been able to understand it I don't think it is in the power of the Irish Government to issue such an order. Mr. Callan reminds me that it appears from a judicial decision in the Downes-Martin case that such an order would be *ultra vires*.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—What court was that before?

Mr. Callan.—The Estates Commissioners. They offered to state an appeal for the Judicial Commissioner, but an appeal was not taken.

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—The difficulty is obviously increased from the fact that owners will now hasten to make their bargains with their tenants in view of the rearrangement of the bonus. That is only one side of it Th more serious side is that if the owners of these estates were anxious to sell them to the Congested Districts Board, the Congested Districts Board has been told that it is not in a position to buy them pending the report of this Commission. That is the crux. If the Congested Districts Board were in a position to buy these estates it would not be necessary to issue such an order.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—The Congested Districts Board has been unable to purchase because it had no means at its disposal?

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Yes; they say, "You shall not purchase any estates with which you have not means to deal." Our income of £86,000 is fixed by legislation. We got the last £20,000 under the Act of 1903.

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—Two or three months ago, with the Chief Secretary in the chair, we agreed to go on purchasing a fair number of tenanted estates on the ground that the expenditure on improvements necessary would not be an immediate thing at all, and that there would be sufficient income in years to come to meet the improvements on these estates.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—At the last meeting, at which your lordship was not present, that was reconsidered. The whole thing was gone into, and it was considered that in view of the distinct orders from the Treasury we ought not to carry out further purchases.

Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—The expenditure on these estates will not come on immediately. You cannot do anything to bring it on until next winter even if you bought them. The arrangement was made that the Congested Districts Board should go on buying these estates now because otherwise they will get very much out of hand. They will be sold through the Estates Commissioners and they will be in an incomplete condition when legislation that we anticipate is passed.

Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—I think we were rather impressed by this fact, that we should only be in the position of the receivers for the landlords on these estates. If we had not money to purchase these estates the estates would not be vested in us; we should not be the owners and we should not be able to realise the rents otherwise than as the attorneys of the owners.

Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Another important matter is that if a vast number of estates pass now because of apprehensions about the bonus on those estates, where there is untenanted land you will have farmers' sons in discharge of the obligation on the Estates Commissioners planted on the land, which will make the position of the Congested Districts Board hopeless.

60252. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—What is your recommendation with reference to estates containing grass lands, in large proportion, in the hands of the Estates Commissioners when the Congested Districts Board comes into authority: you would not like that the grass lands should pass away from the relief of congestion?—What I think is this. If the Estates Commissioners proceed with the purchase now, knowing that a large number of vendors were anxious to sell. I think it is not at all improbable that one-half of the remaining half of the unsold estates will be arranged for before next November. That being so, and purchase agreements being entered into between tenants and landlords which destroy the relations of landlord and tenant, there would be such a small and scattered area free for the new Board to deal with they would have no chance of dealing with congestion in the comprehensive manner discussed by the Commission. I don't think the Board should be continued at all in that event, for I do not believe they could do satisfactory work, and it would be better to allow the Estates Commissioners to complete the small remnant that will be left.

60253. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Unless additional powers were given to the Board to interfere with these people?—It would seem to me if the Estates Commissioners do that you ought to let the Estates Commissioners complete the work, because if they get control of a large portion of what now remains unsold, and binding legal agreements have been entered into with respect to the tenanted and untenanted lands, then the new Congested Districts Board will have to deal with the remaining congestion in very detached areas, and they could not do it satisfactorily, or with any credit to themselves.

60253. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—Why not? The thing would be only in agreements that are deposited with the Estates Commissioners. Now they have to take their turn on the *rota*, with a delay of several years. With the £36,000,000 to be dealt with, there is five years' work for the Estates Commissioners now. If they buy now they will have to wait five years. Where the Estates Commissioners have within the scheduled districts any untenanted land if it were arranged that that land should be held for the purposes of the Congested Districts Board except in so far as it is necessary for relief of congestion on bad estates which they bought, there you have met all the evils which the Bishop refers to?—It won't be practicable. What is happening is this. I will take Lord A——'s estate. He approached me through his agent to know if the Board would buy. I told him ten or twelve days ago that the Board could not buy. His agent then went straight away from the Claremorris office and arranged terms with the tenants; and the terms are these—all the untenanted land on the estate must be given to tenants or sons of tenants on the estate, and they won't have it otherwise. Other estates where there is untenanted land will be sold only on the same condition—namely, that the tenants will refuse to buy their holdings at all unless with the condition that all the untenanted land on the estate is to be given to them.

60254. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—And their sons?—Yes.

60255. Sir ANTONY MACDONNELL.—That is perfectly easily met. Under the Act of 1903 the owner has a statutory right to come to an agreement with his tenants for the purchase of their holdings, but he has not a statutory right to come to agreements with his tenants as to land not on their holdings: at least he has not such a right as to force it on the Estates Commissioners?—He has not.

60256. If he has not there is ground for an executive instruction to the Estates Commissioners, so that they could do it? But the tenants feel that they have a very considerable power themselves, perhaps more than the Government think. They say, "that may be the law, but we are going to have the land."

60257. Of course if that is to be regarded as being the rule, there is no use in saying that we are going to keep the land for the relief of congestion if we anticipate we will have to yield to the claims of sons of tenants?- The estates that will be bought at once are the estates with a considerable amount of untenanted land upon them, because these are the estates on which the owners will get near their own price from the tenants when they are prepared to make the condition that all the untenanted land is to pass for their advantage. The situation is as plain as A, B, C.

Jan. 24, 1908.

Mr. Henry Doran

60258. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—If that be so would it be a matter of great urgency that the Congested Districts Board should be enabled now, if it can be done, to go on with the purchase of these estates?—I say deliberately this: if the sales of the estates go on, and the Board are prevented from purchasing, you should abandon the idea of forming a new Congested Districts Board. It would not be able to do effective work and would fail; and it should not be appointed if it does not get a fair chance of succeeding.

Mr. F. W. D. Mitchell.

Mr. F. W. D. Mitchell re-examined.*

60259. Sir Francis Mowatt.—I think you heard Mr. Doran give his evidence as to the increase in cost and numbers of the staff under himself as chief inspector for the land service on the larger scope which the Commission propose to entrust to the Congested Districts Board; but there will no doubt be an addition necessary to the secretarial staff, and we understand you are prepared to give us some evidence about that. Have you prepared a table, as Mr. Doran did?—I have here a general statement comparing the manner in which the income of the Board is now expended, the expenditure under each head at present, and roughly as it may be in the future under some of Mr. Doran's proposals.†

60260. Outdoor staff and expenses—that Mr. Doran has dealt with?—Yes.

60264. Mr. Doran gave us some information about the cost of the outdoor staff, which at present is £9,900, and for which the figure suggested is £32,800. Take your second item, indoor staff and office maintenance, £12,100; proposed, £26,700. Explain to us how the £12,000 is expended and what increase in numbers and salaries you contemplate in giving the increased amount of £26,000?—At present the cost of administration amounts in all for the present year to £36,000, including estates, fisheries, and everything. Out of that the share attributable to the estates business is £24,800, say, £25,000.

60265. Where do we get the £25,000?—It is the proportion of the cost of administration attributable to estates work.

60266. Outdoor staff and expenses in connection with estates work are put down at £9,900, that is to say, £10,000?—Yes. The portion of the office expenditure, the indoor expenditure, which is attributable to estates, is arrived at by a rough estimate.

60267. What was your rough estimate?—£12,100 with the office maintenance.

60268. And the law staff and expenses?—The law staff and expenses are about £4,000 this year. That is a little abnormal on account of the arrears due to Mr. Fottrell, the Board's late solicitor, having been paid this year.

60269. It is greater than it used to be?—Yes. Some of the charges for previous years have been paid this year. The normal amount would be more like £3,000, which I have given separately. Then I have an estimate of the increase which would be required if the estates business were trebled.

60270. The indoor staff and expenses now stand at £12,000?—Yes.

60271. How many clerks are there now in the estates branch?—In the estates branch there are now sixteen, exclusive of the head of the branch.

60272. Are they on different scales of salary or on the same scale?—They are all on different scales. The head of the branch is the only permanent civil servant. He is chief clerk and senior man in the office, next the assistant secretary and myself. His salary at present is £500 a year. His men are all temporary clerks, with salaries varying from 25 shillings a week to £200 a year. One of them has £200 a year. The majority have about 30 shillings a week. There are sixteen of them. Then it is proposed to add sixteen. That is double the staff for treble the work.

60273. When you say treble the work you mean treble the amount of land, but it does not follow that the work would be trebled?—As far as I can see it would be. There is nothing to show that the other estates would be less troublesome than those already treated.

60274. Then the estates which pass without treatment?—They are over and above the purchases of one million a year, on which the expenditure is to be calculated, I believe.

60275. You double the number of that staff—you add sixteen more?—Yes. That is, the estates branch which is entirely occupied with estates work.

60276. Mr. Sutherland.—Do you propose to leave the salaries the same as they are now—the thirty-two?—Yes. I estimate the salary at £100 a year, which would allow for some increments. For the first couple of months they have 25 shillings a week under the Board's regulations, and then if they are found to be efficient their salary is increased to 30 shillings, or £78 a year. It remains at that for three years. Then if they are doing good work and are thoroughly efficient their salary is increased to 35 shillings After they have been a year at that rate the Board may, if they are still giving approved service, increase their salaries further, gradually.

60277. Sir Francis Mowatt.—To any maximum?—Not to any fixed maximum.

60278. What is the highest a man is receiving?—As a general rule the maximum is about £150, but there are one or two temporary clerks in the office who have been there twelve years or more who go up to £200. But I may say that the clerical staff of the office is paid at a lower rate in the aggregate than any department of the Civil Service in Ireland.

60279. I believe that that is so?—I have the figures.

60280. You need not labour that point. I know that?—The next branch is Collection of Rents. I have treated that in the same way, assuming there would be a corresponding increase in the collection of rents.

60281. Sir John Colomb.—I understood from Mr. Doran that the collection was done by the Land Commission?—After the holdings are sold the Land Commission collect the annuities, but while the estate is in the Board's hands the Board collect the rent.

60282. When a property is acquired by the Congested Districts Board and the people continue under rent you collect the rents?—Yes.

60283. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Mr. Doran was speaking of the outdoor staff?—Yes. In the rent branch there is an officer in charge with a salary of from £300 to £400, and there is a third-class clerk whose salary is £172 a year. There are eleven temporary clerks.

60284. That is there are now thirteen clerks?—Altogether.

60285. You propose to double that?—Yes.

60286. Mr. Sutherland.—You will only have one chief clerk all the same?—Yes.

60287. You will double the eleven?—Yes. Then the accounts branch is very mixed. The work includes other work in addition to the estates. The present staff consists of a book-keeper at from £350 to £400. Two third-class clerks, one with £180 and one with £95, and eleven clerks. I suggest adding twelve men, temporary clerks, to cost £1,200. That is, I propose that their salaries as temporary clerks would, roughly, average £100. Then the correspondence branch and the stores branch would also be considerably increased. The principal part of the work is in connection with estates, which would be increased. The correspondence branch is chiefly employed on estates work; so that the aggregate increase would be £14,600. That is including also the cost of office maintenance, printing, stationary, postage and telegrams.

60288. Sir Francis Mowatt.—I do not know how the figures were arrived at, but they are more than double the present amount?—I am giving you the figures for treble the work. That is the way I work it out. I am asking for £14,600 in addition to £12,100.

60290. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—You ask for £14,600?—Yes, in addition to the £12,100.

60291. Sir Francis Mowatt.—In addition to the £14,600 I should like to know what addition you have proposed to the salaries of the men holding office now, because of the increase of the staff under them?—I have not included that in the £14,600; something must be added for such increments.

* For former examination see Appendix to the First Report of the Commission [Cd. 3267, 1906], p. 22.

† See p. 52.

60292. This really represents the same rates of alary, but the additional number which you consider ecessary for dealing with three times the existing mount of work?—Yes.

60293. The existing amount of work, as I under- and it, is about £400,000 a year?—I am treating it, ughly, as a turnover of £330,000 a year; that is e-third of a million.

60294. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—At the same me the staff have been anxious, I suppose, to put eir case before the Commission for improved con- tions of employment?—The temporary clerks have nt a petition to the Commission, I believe, asking r some change of status. That is, they would like be placed permanently in the Civil Service and ven the right to pensions; and I should perhaps ve made some estimate for increase of salary of heads of branches. If the work is trebled they ill have far more men to look after, and if not im- ediately they would probably after a time naturally pect to have some increase of salary.

60295. Sir Francis Mowatt.—How many officers uld you say would come under that category? e greater number there are only doing strictly erical work. How many men have you alluded to the heads of offices?—There are five principal ads of branches, and one or two smaller ones. e stores branch consists of three men, for in- ance. You might say half a dozen.

60296. Now, as to the law officers' expenditure?— have consulted Mr. O'Connor about that, and he rees with the estimate I have made about in- easing the present cost, which is at least £3,000, to £6,500.

60297. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—What are the ms of the increase?—I have a rough memorandum the salaries here.

60299. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—You have esti- ated that the £4,000 would be rather exceptional this year?—Yes.

60300. What would be the normal corresponding th that?—I think at present if there are no arrears be paid this year that the normal expenditure uld be about £3,000.

60301. Therefore, the expense is not trebled, but it more than doubled?—Yes.

60302. The normal expenditure is in the proposi- n not quite trebled?—Yes. I have put on £500 his estimate. He asks for £6,000 I think.

60303. Sir Francis Mowatt.—What led you to in- ase it?—I thought it a very doubtful item. It s generally been more than we expected each year, d it would be better to make it a rather liberal imate.

60304. Well, I daresay there is a point of view m which that is desirable, but there is also the nt of view in which one ought not to increase the imate?—If you add £500 to head number 2 for ssible increases of salaries, and take off £500 for solicitor's branch, it will make the two even.

60305. Then there is the item of interest borrowed money?—The amount the Board ve to pay at present is abnormal. One son is they have not repaid to the Board Works nearly £50,000 which was borrowed the old estates, and therefore they are still pay- interest on that, and they are also paying in- lments as well as interest this year. We are ying £9,000 at the present moment on the Board's imate for the current year.

60306. What is this borrowed money?—It is money rowed with the consent of the Treasury from the ard of Works out of the local loans fund on the urity of the Church Surplus Grant.

60307. For what purpose?—For the improvements estates, and to some small extent for other pur- es, such as Raiffeisen banks, agricultural loans, ns to tenants.

60308. And you are comparing that with the pro- ble indebtedness on borrowing three millions?— , I estimate that, but I know from facts, und o from Mr. Doran's estimates, that if the Board d three millions worth of land in hands it would fair to assume that the amount that the Board uld borrow from the Board of Works under the ent Treasury regulations would be £200,000, that £200,000 would be the enhanced value recoverable the three millions worth of land in hands at any time.

60309. They would be always that amount out of ck for the moment?—Yes, three millions would be the total value of estates in hands at any time, but the £200,000 is the enhanced value up to which the Board could borrow. Under the Treasury rules it cannot borrow more than it will probably recover out of the expenditure. Therefore, I have not assumed that the Board will borrow more than they will probably recover from the tenants on resale, judging by estates that the Board have already bought under this Act.

60310. But what amount do you assume, under those circumstances they would borrow?—£200,000.

60311. Mr. Sutherland.—What would be the necessity for borrowing any additional sum?—While the estate is in hands the Board have to spend a very large sum on the estate, and they have no fund out of which they can pay the expenditure during the interval between purchase and resale. When they resell they can only recover a small portion of the outlay. They lose the balance.

60312. They lose the interest too that they pay for it?—Yes.

60313. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—If an arrangement could be made by which the Board would be able to draw upon its capital for this purpose it would make a saving, would not it?—In cases of emergency the Board have a statutory right under the Act of 1891 to draw, with the consent of the Treasury, a portion of the Church Surplus Grant of £1,500,000. That would cost in interest 2¾ per cent. When they borrow from the Board of Works it would be 3½.

60314. With the consent of the Treasury there is no legal difficulty?—There is no legal difficulty. It simply depends on the will of the Treasury.

60315. Is not the only difficulty that the capital of the Congested Districts Board is, so to say, used as a guarantee covering the purchase by tenant-purchasers in the Board's area?—Yes. There is a considerable sum now guaranteed.

60316. Sir Antony MacDonnell.—Is not the whole of the sum in the contingent guarantee?—No. It has been taken out of it by the last Act. The only burden on it now is the guarantees that the Board give upon it.

60317. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—It is no longer in the guarantee fund?—No.

60318. Is not it a fact that the guarantee for the tenant-purchasers is not fixed on the capital alone but on the whole income of the Congested Districts Board?—The Board give the guarantee on the security of the Church Surplus Grant.

60319. Is it on all their funds?—It is on all their funds.

60320. Would not it be a useful inquiry whether it could be shown that it would be sound finance from the Treasury point of view to allow some of that million and a half of money to be used as working capital?—A portion of it no doubt available for an emergency like the present would be very useful, but to borrow any large part of it would perhaps be objectionable, because the Board have given it as security.

60321. You think there is an emergency now that will require special provision?—Yes, a very great emergency. If it were known that the Treasury would not advance this £25,000 the Board should immediately wire Mr. Doran to stop all the work on the estates because the Board would be bankrupt at the end of this month.

60322. And you say if the Treasury saw its way there is no legal prohibition to the use of £25,000 out of the original capital of the Board?—The Act states that it is dependent on the will of the Treasury. It can be done with the consent of the Treasury.

60323. Mr. Sutherland.—It practically amounts to this that your expenditure costs you 2¾ per cent. more than it otherwise would if you did not borrow?—The difference between 2¾ and 3½ per cent.

60324. You always borrow money and pay interest for it, and the interest has to be added to the cost of administration?—Yes. It comes out of the Board's income.

60326. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—The money borrowed at present costs the Board 3½ per cent. interest. If it were allowed to use as capital any portion of its endowment then that would cost the Board 2¾ per cent. interest?—Yes.

60327. Mr. Bryce.—The security that has been given has been given over the whole of the fund. Therefore there is a technical difficulty in borrowing any of

Jan. 24, 1908

Mr. F. W. D. Mitchell.

it?—When the Act said it was dependent on the will of the Treasury they meant, I suppose, that it was to be considered on its merits; that is, that it was to be considered in relation to the amount of charge on it. The amount of charge on it is comparatively small.

60328. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—Is not the necessity for Treasury approval merely to enable the Treasury to prevent you from destroying your own security?—Certainly.

60329. As long as you have got a sum of money, big or little, and give it as security for a loan, big or little, every portion of the former sum becomes pledged to the loan, and neither the Treasury nor anybody else can enable you to withdraw any portion of that money except to the damage of your credit; therefore, when it says that it must be subject to the consent of the Treasury it means that the Treasury——?—It meant that the Treasury had the option.

Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—The Treasury have it fully before them now.

60330. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—I am only anxious to say with reference to Mr. Bryce's point that it seems to be optional with the Treasury under the statute to consider that portion of the capital free which is not required for the purpose of the guarantee. That would allow a discretion?—Yes. Sir Francis appeared to think that if it was given at all as security that would prevent any part of it from being lent; but one section of the Act says with the consent of the Treasury the Board can draw part of the fund, and another section says the Board may borrow from the Board of Works upon the security of this fund. So if it were intended that if the Board borrowed at all under one section they could not employ any portion of the fund under the other——

60331. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—This is what the Treasury has power to do, "As may not in the opinion of the Treasury or the Lord Lieutenant be required for the contingent portion of the guarantee fund"?—That is out of it now. That does not apply.

60332. The whole case is now before the Treasury, and without in the least questioning the value of your opinion they will decide it on the law officer's opinion?—Yes, but that is not the only head under which the Treasury could assist the Board. They could give them a loan from the Board of Works.

60333. That I believe the Treasury is considering. There is some doubt about it. For that reason, I think, we should be taking up your time uselessly if we argued it. What is £50,000 floating capital, the next item?—Mr. Doran mentions in that memorandum which he read to you the day before yesterday that there would be in future, as there have been in the past, no doubt, delays in recovering the proceeds of estates on re-sale. There always has been more delay than has been expected, and the Board would require some floating capital to tide them over the interval.

60334. But I see at present they want none?—There is no floating capital now except what the Board can find out of their own funds. They have hitherto been saving, that is by investing money in estates and getting it back gradually they had accumulated a certain amount of floating capital, but it has been insufficient, and at the end of the present year the Board will be about £40,000 to the bad.

60335. This £1,750 represents 3½ per cent. on £50,000?—Yes. Such a loan may not be necessary for this reason. It occurred to me that if Parliament gave the Board a very much larger income, such as could not be all expended the first year, the savings of it during the first year would provide a floating capital.

60336. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—Have you to surrender the savings now?—No.

60337. Is not that a fund for you to have a floating capital?—There is a deficiency at present. There is no surplus.

60338. Don't you contemplate you may have a surplus something like other departments?—No. The Board's work has been increasing too fast for their means.

60339. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—You say there might be a surplus the first year?—Yes, if the Government gave the Board a liberal grant during the first year the machinery would not be in order for spending it all.

60340. Mr. SUTHERLAND.—My point is this: under your Act you are not obliged to surrender any surplus?—No.

60341. Have not you got the nucleus of your fu for floating capital?—No; the Board has not be able to save spare capital. It has not been able to p its way.

60342. Have you never had a surplus?—The Boa have had a surplus every year on their estimates. Th never exceed their income, but in order to prevent deficit at the end of the year they have several tim stopped Mr. Doran's work and delayed the work portions of the estates.

60343. Look over the estimates of almost every d partment of the public service and you will see th one year with another there is a large surplus whi they have to surrender to the Treasury?—The Boa is not like other public departments in which the su plus would be surrendered to the Government. T fund is entrusted to the Board to be expended at discretion.

60344. But you have to make a balance every ye and submit it to the Treasury?—That is for t formal sanction of the Treasury.

60345. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—The loss on estat you say, is now £11,000—it jumps up to £125,00 what percentage are you counting at?—Mr. Dor wanted £150,000, as you are aware, for the loss on million, but I have had to reduce that by making t adjustment which would follow from his propos that the cost of clerks of works and surveyors inste of being charged to administration should come o of the Board's income. It would come under the he of administration and not that of loss on estates; I have taken off roughly what that would amount from the £150,000.

60346. What does that £125,000 represent in way of percentage?—It is 12½ per cent.

60347. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—That does not agr with the prospective loss estimated by Mr. Dora you put it at 12½?—Yes, but you have to make adjustment for the clerks of works and cost of su veyors.

60348. You start with Mr. Doran's figure of 17 p cent.?—No, I start with 15 per cent.

60349. You start with 2 per cent. less than M Doran before you begin your reductions?—It com down to 15.

CHAIRMAN.—Mr. Doran said 15 per cent.

Mr. KAVANAGH.—15 on the enlarged area.

60356. We are dealing only with the land part the expenditure now. Therefore perhaps you wo tell us on what grounds you raise the expenditure Parish Committees from £12,000 to £20,000?—It i suggestion that has been made that the Congest Districts Board would like to increase the Par Committees from £12,000 to £20,000.

60357. Sir JOHN COLOMB.—Do you mean an incre in the number, or in the grants, or both?—Both.

60358. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—It arises in t way, that in a county like Leitrim they are compla ing they have not Parish Committees all over county; also in a county like Kerry, even if you l only at the area which has been scheduled. Does it occur to you that if the area is enlarged there w be some parishes at all events in which the new Bo may establish Parish Committees?—It did occur me, and I thought yesterday when I heard of proposal to schedule Connaught that the Board wo be besieged with applications from twice as m parishes as now get grants, and they would have refuse to listen to most of these applications.

60359. Sir FRANCIS MOWATT.—But of course t is an estimate or proposal for increased work. have no figures which would enable you to test 12 against the 20, except that that is the additio amount which the Board propose to ask for?—Yes. should explain I have no authority whatever for estimate, except that I wish to endeavour to give Commission the means of judging how Mr. Dor proposals would work in with the income.

60364. CHAIRMAN.—You have not made any al ance for agricultural development, of course?— These figures from item No. 7 downwards,* as I h stated, are a very rough guess of my own so as to s gest an inquiry as to what income would cover expenditure.

60365. Mr. BRYCE.—You made no provision fo dustrial development?—Very little, but I have a 50 per cent.; but that is a mere guess.

60366. Most Rev. Dr. O'DONNELL.—If the are so much enlarged it would require a great dea Yes. We had no means of arriving at any de figures.

* See p. 52.

60367. You are aware that in parts of the area om which we took evidence the people alluded to oxford, and said that the Board should try some- ning of that kind in their districts?—Yes.

60368. But without funds that could not be done, f course?—No. When the Board assisted Foxford so berally they had a great deal of ready money. here was £50,000, which formed part of the old shery funds, that was drawn from those funds with ie consent of the Treasury, and we also had savings f income. The work had not overtaken the income, s it did very shortly afterwards.

60369. After that it would have been difficult for ie Congested Districts Board to encourage any such roject?—They have never had the means.

60370. Are not you aware that the Department of griculture has been complaining that the small sum anded over to them by the Congested Districts Board the year did not enable them to do the amount of gricultural work in the districts that they desire?— es, I understood that when they took over from the oard for £2,000 work which had cost the Board 11,000, it was a bargain that they would do that ork, but directly after it was taken over they com- lained that the money was insufficient.

60371. You thought it was understood that there ould not be much diminution in the work?—Yes, I ought that was understood; that they were very nxious to get the work and would do it for £2,000.

60372. Mr. Bryce.—You mean do for £2,000 all at the Board did?—No; they intended to make p the deficiency.

60373. That they would spend on this work £9,000 ore than they got?—Yes.

60374. They did not promise that absolutely?—If ie Board were under the impression that the work hich they had been carrying on at a cost of £11,000 as to be practically extinguished by being reduced to 2,000 they would never have consented.

60375. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—But latterly the epartment has been expending a great deal more an that sum in these areas?—Yes. I believe that ey are expending up to £10,000.

60376. You are aware that they expect that for the rpose of relieving congestion a good deal of that oney should be provided?—Of course it is a fact at their income did not include money for the con- sted districts, and Parliament should have given em a further grant.

60377. Mr. Kavanagh.—Their income was based on e assumption that they would not have the con- sted districts?—Yes.

60378. They were actually excluded from them?— s, but they accepted a transfer of the work before they got the income from Parliament. That is really the position.

60379. Mr. Sutherland.—Does not there seem a disproportion between the amount spent on general industries and fishing?—Do you think that £3,000 is an adequate expenditure on the fisheries of Ireland?—Taking last year, which was normal, the gross expenditure on fishing was £40,000, that is for expenditure direct and indirect for the benefit of fisheries—for instruction in fishery, providing piers, new boats, and making loans. They recovered £26.000 out of the £40,000. Therefore the net expenditure, direct and indirect, is £14,000.

60380. Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell.—Don't you think we have had sufficient indication at the Congested Districts Board that in developing the fisheries a much bigger sum than you have contemplated would be required annually?—I think that more piers are required at a good many places around the coast. The Board have always had a large number of cases of marine works that have been asked for and inquired into, but which they are unable to execute.

60381. Would not you want officers, practical fishermen, who will have the confidence of the people and know their business, stationed at various parts of the coast?—There should be more officers, and the Board ought to spend more on piers, and perhaps more on boats. The money available for new boats has been too limited.

60382. Sir John Colomb.—In some cases the Board gave bounties in some form or another for accelerating communication?—For steamer services the Board are now paying £3,900.

60383. Does the steamer service include subsidies for means of communication and the maintenance of the *Granuaile*?—Yes. There are only two subsidies at present.

60384. Do you leave that at the same figure, although you are going to deal with a very much larger area?—Yes, the Board have withdrawn their subsidies and I have heard of no intention of renewing them. Of course if the Board had means very likely they would do so.

60385. The £3,900 includes the cost of the Granuaile, and all such subsidies?—Yes. The net cost of the Granuaile is £3,000 and there is an additional £900, which makes up a total of £3,900 at present.

60386. You took it as settled that the Board were not going to subsidise any more?—I had no reason to suppose that the Board would revive subsidies which have ceased. I am sorry to say that these figures, as you understand, were made up rather hastily. I had to wait until Mr. Doran's programme was out, and then I had to do it in haste.

The Commission adjourned.

INDEX TO APPENDICES.

Page

Appendix I.—Documents put in by Mr. H. Doran.

A. Notes of Evidence, ... 42

B. Memorandum on Vested Congestion, ... 45

C. Notes on Maintenance of Improvements, ... 45

D. Table showing Loss on Estates, ... 46

E. Table showing Tenancy Interests acquired by the Congested Districts Board, . 47

F. Return of Non-residential Holdings over £25 Poor Law Valuation, . . . 48

Appendix II.—Statement put in by the Secretary, Irish Land Commission.

Return showing since 1869, the Number and Amount of Advances made (and Applications pending), to enable Tenants and Others to Purchase Holdings or Parcels of Land, ... 50

Appendix III.—Documents put in by Mr. F. W. D. Mitchell.

A. Table showing Appropriation of Board's Income, ... 52

B. Tables showing Expenditure on Schemes undertaken by the Board, . . . 53

Appendix IV.—Documents and Statistics put in by the Secretary of the Commission.

A. Memorandum and Statistics relating to Crops grown and Cattle carried on different classes of Holdings, with Summaries as regards Holdings under and over 50 acres, and under 30 acres, between 30 and 200 acres, and over 200 acres, ... 55

B. Tables showing Total Number of Agricultural Holdings in certain Counties of Ireland, in 1841 and subsequent years, ... 88

C. Memorandum on Relief of Distress, ... 91

D. Table showing for Ten Years, 1891–1901, the Number, in Ireland, of Marriages, Births, Deaths, the Excess of Births over Deaths, Decrease in Population, and the Emigration, ... 98

E. Statistics as to the Number, Valuation, Acreage, and Population of Holdings in those Districts which are Scheduled as Congested—

(i.) Table showing Total Number of Holdings, and Number of each of Eleven Classes, 100

(ii.) Table showing Area occupied by each Class of Holdings, ... 100

(iii.) Table showing total Valuation of each class of holding, ... 101

(iv.) Table showing total Population on each class of holding, . . . 101

F. Similar Statistics (as those in E) for the whole of Donegal, Connaught, Kerry, Clare, and Four Unions in County Cork—

(i.) Table showing Total Number of Holdings, and Number of each of Eleven Classes, 102

(ii.) Table showing Area occupied by each Class of Holdings, ... 102

(iii.) Table showing total Valuation of each class of holding, ... 103

(iv.) Table showing total Population on each class of holding, ... 103

INDEX TO APPENDICES—*continued.*

Page

Appendix IV.—Documents put in by the Secretary of the Commission—*continued.*

G. Returns showing Number and Valuation of certain Holdings (*a*) not exceeding £10 Valuation, and the Valuation of Land required to bring Small Holdings up to a uniform Rateable Valuation of £10, and (*b*) over £100 Rateable Valuation, . 104

H. Tables showing for certain Maritime Counties of Ireland the Number of Fishermen who are engaged in other pursuits besides that of Fishing, . . . 105

I. Rulings of Mr. Commissioner O'Brien on the Dillon Estate, ... 106

J. Correspondence with the Secretary of the Congested Districts Board for Scotland, . 107

K. Report of Conference between Board of National Education and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction as to School Gardens, . . . 110

L. Statistics as to Expenditure on Labourers' Cottages, ... 111

Appendix V.—Correspondence between the Congested Districts Board and the Irish Government, ... 112

APPENDIX I.

APPENDIX I.

DOCUMENTS PUT IN BY MR. DORAN IN CONNECTION WITH THE EVIDENCE GIVEN BY HIM BEFORE THE COMMISSION.

A.—NOTES OF EVIDENCE.

Mr. Callan having informed me that the Commission desired to obtain some further evidence from me as to the probable loss that would be incurred in dealing with estates which needed treatment in the counties containing Congested Districts, I have prepared particulars of the actual loss incurred by the Board in the treatment of estates purchased under the Irish Land Act, 1903, and which since then have either been sold or are now ready for sale. They are classified as follows:—

Class A.—Poor tenanted estates on some of which there was a certain proportion of untenanted agricultural land available for migration and the enlargement of small holdings.

Class B.—Very poor tenanted estates on which there was practically no agricultural land available for migration and enlargement of holdings, and upon which the improvements effected were mainly re-arrangement of the holdings, improvement of buildings, road-making, and drainage.

Class C.—Migration estates comprised wholly or mainly of untenanted land used chiefly for migration.

The total purchase price of estates A, B, and C is £317,639, and the total amount spent in improvement works is £81,249, and the total net loss £41,152. The total poor law valuation is £12,457, and the total area is 53,627 acres, of which 10,558 acres were untenanted, and 43,069 acres were tenanted. Of the untenanted land about one-half is turbary, bog, mountain, and waste, having a poor law valuation of about one shilling an acre.

Class A comprises 76·1 per cent. of gross purchase money.

Class B comprises 15·6 per cent. of gross purchase money.

Class C comprises 8·3 per cent. of gross purchase money.

The percentage of loss in the treatment of the estates was as follows:—

Class A, ...	9·4
Class B, ...	21·6
Class C, ...	28·8

and the average loss on A, B, and C together was 12·9 per cent.

As already stated, the estates A and B comprise 91·7 per cent. of the gross cost price, and the untenanted land, Class C, was only 8·3 per cent. of the gross. The value of the untenanted land in A, B, C, including turbary, bog, and mountain, is about 28 per cent. of the entire; but, as will be seen on reference to the summary of A, B, C, this amount of untenanted land was altogether insufficient to bring the holdings to an average of £10 rateable value, as there are 1,770 holdings on the estates, the gross rateable value of which is £12,457.

If, as recommended in my evidence, the estates dealt with each year by the Board should comprise two-thirds tenanted and one-third untenanted land, the loss if calculated for one-third untenanted in the same proportion as it has actually been on the 8·3 per cent. on the gross, would make the loss on the entire group of estates, comprising two-thirds tenanted and one-third untenanted, work out at about 14 per cent., but if all the holdings were to be raised to even an average rateable value of £10 much more untenanted land should be provided, and the loss would then exceed 18 per cent.

I consider that these figures based on actual facts afford te best available guide to what the minimum loss might be in dealing in a similar manner with estates needing treatment in the counties containing congested districts.

I may observe that the tenants of the estates in these groups all paid at least two years' full rent, and that the untenanted land was sold at the average price at which all the untenanted land purchased by the Board cost, namely—twenty-seven years' purchase of the estimated fair annual value, consequently in making an estimate of the average loss in future transactions on the basis indicated by these figures, *i.e.*, 14 per cent., it is very important to bear in mind that if the untenanted lands are not purchased at the prices at which they can be sold at on an average a further loss will be entailed in excess of the 14 per cent.

Most of the holdings on the estates in Class A have not been enlarged to any appreciable extent, and, on sale, were largely composed of uneconomic holdings, 74 per cent. of them being under £10 rateable value. The chief improvements effected through the loss of 9·4 per cent., being the re-arrangement of scattered or rundale holdings, improvement of dwellings, construction of drains, fences and roads. Although these estates have been appreciably benefited by the Board's treatment, the results cannot be considered satisfactory while a large proportion of the holdings disposed of were uneconomic.

Class B comprised poorer estates than those in Class A. A larger number of the holdings needed re-arrangement, and where, as a rule, owing to the poor character of the land, the works carried out in connection with re-arrangement, drainage, and road-making were not considered to be sufficiently directly reproductive to charge any appreciable portion of the outlay to the sale prices of the holdings; consequently a large percentage of loss has occurred with results that are even less satisfactory than in case of the holdings comprised in Class A. Eighty-three per cent. of the holdings sold were under £10 rateable value.

The estates included in Classes A and B may be taken as fair types of poor estates in congested districts, but it will be observed that the proportion of Class B, which comprises very poor estates, is small compared with Class A.

The estates in Class C are almost entirely untenanted estates used for migration, and form only 8·3 per cent. of the gross value.

In considering the suggestion to fix a percentage of loss which the Board may incur in dealing with the year's output of estates, it is of importance to study the proportions which the values of Classes A, B, and C respectively bear to the gross value of the three classes grouped together, for it is manifest that if the Board are limited to an average percentage of loss in the year's output, they must arrange to group for treatment the Classes A, B, and C in such proportions as will bring out the average percentage of loss allowed.

To illustrate this, if they confined themselves during the year to dealing with estates Class A, these would involve an average loss of 9·4 per cent. If, on the other hand, they deal only with the poorest estates, Class B, the loss will be 21·6 per cent.; and, if they confine themselves solely to migration, the loss would be at least 30 per cent.; so that, in fixing the average net loss to be incurred on estates dealt with in the year, it would always be necessary to so arrange the proportions of the different classes sold each year as would bring out the average loss at the percentage allowed. I have endeavoured to do this as far as possible with the limited opportunities for grouping the estates that the small extent of purchases by the Board hitherto offorded.

An examination of the past records of the Board's work, as well as a reference to the estates now classed under B, make it clear that the poor and less resourceful estates cannot be dealt with with a less loss than 20 per cent. of the cost price. On a few of these estates the loss even exceeded 100 per cent. of the cost price.

It may be taken for certain that extensive migration of small landholders cannot be safely carried out at a less loss than 30 per cent. of the cost price of the land, and this on the assumption that the land *can be sold to migrants* at the price paid for it.

The average price paid by the Board for all untenanted land acquired was, as given in my evidence 27 years' purchase of an estimated fair rent, the

annuity on which would be equivalent to 12½ per cent. reduction in the rent. In my opinion, the annuity of a migrant's holding ought not at the outside exceed 85 per cent. of the estimated fair letting value of the holding, including buildings, and even this rate seems rather too small a margin of security for the payment of the annuity for such a long period as 68½ years, and I would much prefer if it was possible to finance it, so that the annuity of the holding should not exceed 85 per cent. of the fair rent of the land, excluding the buildings. It would be quite possible to do this if migrants could be found who would surrender fairly substantial holdings, for the occupation interest in the holdings they surrender would in all cases be deducted from the cost price of the land in the new holding; but in the case of small holdings this occupation interest is not sufficient to cover the sum added to the value of the land in respect of the necessary buildings erected upon it. So that if the Board continue to acquire untenanted land at twenty-seven years' purchase of an estimated fair rent, and if the migrants to these lands are persons who surrender very small holdings, it will not be possible to let them have the new holdings at an annuity representing 85 per cent. of the fair rent of the land alone without incurring a larger loss than 30 per cent.

I should also point out that it appears probable that the Board will seek to acquire a much larger proportion of non-residential tenanted holdings than they have hitherto acquired, and if they are obliged to pay more for such holdings than for land in the owner's possession they will be unable to sell the new holdings created out of such land at annuities which do not exceed 85 per cent. of the fair rent without incurring a much larger loss than 30 per cent. on the cost price of the land alone of the migrants' holdings. Personally I see no reason why a larger price should be paid for land jointly owned by two persons (tenant and landlord) than if it was occupied by only one of these persons.

I submit a list showing the prices paid by the Board for a number of tenanted holdings which they acquired, classified as follows:—

First Term Tenants.—Acquired by voluntary agreement without initiation of any legal proceedings.

First Term Tenants.—Acquired by pre-emption proceedings.

First Term Tenants.—Acquired by resumption proceedings.

Second Term Tenants.—Acquired by voluntary agreement without initiation of any legal proceedings.

Second Term Tenants.—Acquired by pre-emption proceedings.

Second Term Tenants.—Acquired by resumption proceedings.

Future Tenancies.—Acquired by Notices to Quit.

In some of these cases the Board acquired the land by voluntary agreement without initiating any legal proceedings. In other cases on receipt of notice from tenants of their intention to sell at a price named, the Board serve notice to pre-empt, and in several cases were advised to pay the excessive prices offered, when after making inquiries they were satisfied that the intending purchaser was a *bona-fide* one and desired to carry out the bargain. The Board served notices to resume possession of several holdings, and the prices paid were in most cases settled by agreement before the hearing of the case by the Land Commission. In a few cases the prices were fixed by the Land Commission after hearing all parties. In many cases notices to quit were served to determine future tenancies, and the prices paid were in accordance with the scale laid down by the Act.

In proof that migration cannot be safely carried out at a less loss than 30 per cent., I submit the following particulars:—

£15 holding at 27 years' purchase, .	£405
Cost of buildings, ...	130
Roads, ...	20
Fences, ...	20
Total cost of holding, . . .	£575
Sale price of holding if the annuity be £12 15*s.* 0*d.*, that is 85 per cent. of the annual value of the land alone, .	£393
Loss, ...	£181, less by the occupation interest of the surrendered holding.

APPENDIX I.

1. If the occupation interest of the surrendered holding were only £35 (which was the average value of the occupation interest of the first 207 migrants dealt with) the loss would be £146 per holding, equal to 36 per cent. of the cost price of the land alone. This loss, in the case of the 207 migrants referred to, would have been 37·3 if the buildings had cost £130, and the roads and fences £40, but in these cases the average expenditure per holding on the buildings was £108, fences £20, and the roads and other improvements, £16—that is an expenditure per holding of £26 less than the amount given above.

The fee-simple of the land in the 207 migrants' holdings referred to in the Fourteenth Annual Report (page 121) cost £66,452, which would be an average cost of £321 for the land. The migrants dealt with in the succeeding year, as given in the Fifteenth Report (page 132), involved a loss of £87 per holding (page 13).

2. If the occupation interest of the surrendered holding were £50, the loss would be £181 less £50, equal to £131, or 32·3 per cent. loss on the cost price of the land (£405).

3. If the occupation interest of the surrendered holding were £85, the loss would be £181, less by £85, equal to £96, or 23·7 per cent. loss on the cost price of the land alone (£405).

If the migrant's annuity was to be kept at 85 per cent. of the fair rent of the new holding, including buildings, I would say a fair rent for such buildings as we erect on a £15 holding would be £2, making the gross fair rent £17 (which, multiplied by 26¼, would leave the gross price of the holding £446, and the annuity of this would be £14 10*s.*). Fifteen per cent. off the gross rent of £17 would leave £14 9*s.*, which would repay an advance of £445, and the loss in the cases cited would be reduced to the following:—

For case 1, the loss would be £94, equal to 23·2 per cent. on the cost price of the land alone (£405).

For case 2, the loss would be £79, equal to 19·5 per cent. on the cost price of the land alone.

For case 3, the loss would be £44, equal to 10·0 per cent. on the cost price of the land alone.

If the annual grant to be made to the Board for the improvement of estates is to be based on an average net loss, it will be necessary to leave the Board free to exercise reasonable discretion in the selection and grouping together for each year, of estates that will involve a large loss, a small loss, and an intermediate loss, and it will rest with the Board to exclude from purchase estates or portions of estates which they consider may be sold without special treatment.

Take the percentage of loss incurred in the treatment of the estates purchased and prepared for sale under the Act of 1903, which may be stated in round figures as:—

9 per cent. loss on A.—Tenanted estates which comprised 76 per cent. of the entire value of all the estates dealt with.

20 per cent. on B.—Tenanted estates which comprised 15½ per cent. of all the estates dealt with.

30 per cent. on C.—Untenanted lands which comprised 8½ per cent. of all the estates dealt with.

If the Board dealt with one-third of a million worth of untenanted (C) lands, it would be 30 per cent. of a loss on £333,333, equal, . .	£100,000
If ten per cent. of the tenanted lands were B Class necessitating a loss of 20 per cent., that is 20 per cent. on £100,000, . . .	£20,000
Total, . . .	£120,000

so that if the average loss permitted on one million's worth of property 33 per cent. of C. and 10 per cent. would make up £120,000, and 57 per cent of the tenanted estates should be dealt with without loss.

It will, I think, be admitted that the class of estates most in need of attention are the poorest tenanted estates, and the untenanted land, and the loss on those would be at least 20 per cent. and 30 per cent. respectively, while it would not be possible for the Board to pass through their hands such a large proportion as 57 per cent. of the estates dealt with each year without incurring a loss. For these reasons with others I consider that *at least* 15 *per cent.* should be allowed on each million's worth of land dealt with, and for the purposes of an estimate the

APPENDIX I.

proposed fifteen per cent. loss might be apportioned as follows:—

33% of C. = £333,333 @ 30 per cent. loss,		£100,000
10% of B. = £100,000 @ 20 per cent. loss,		£20,000
57% of A. = £566,667 @ 5·3 per cent. loss,		£30,000
	£1,000,000	£150,000

It is doubtful that it will be possible to deal with 57 per cent. of estates at the small loss of 5·3 per cent., but it is certain that classes B and C cannot be satisfactorily dealt with for a less loss than 20 and 30 per cent. respectively.

In practice it will not be possible for the Board to preserve the above proportions of A, B, and C estates. They may have in any year a smaller proportion of untenanted land and a larger proportion of bad estates that they should deal with. Having regard to these difficulties, I have come to the conclusion that the proposal to fix the grant to be given to the Board at a percentage of the value of estates sold each year is objectionable, and that it would be preferable to have an annual grant placed at the Board's disposal to be applied at the Board's discretion to meet the loss incurred in the treatment of estates purchased by them subject to the general understanding that they would sell each year aboout one million's worth of estates. The Board must be trusted to exercise discrimination in the selection of estates for purchase, and to avoid the purchase of any estates that they are not justified in buying; for if they do not do this and that their output be confined to estates worth one million a year, the length of time which would be required to deal with all unsold properties in the counties containing congested districts would be very long. I anticipate that there will be very great dissatisfaction at the delay necessarily incured in the transfer of the ownership of holdings on poor estates in the counties containing congested districts when the output is confined to one million a year, and it occurs to me that legislation should provide for dealing, if necessary, with a larger output of estates needing treatment when and if the owners willing to sell and the tenants willing to buy are in excess of the million a year.

The untenanted lands dealt with were sold at the prices paid for them. The tenanted estates paid at least two years' full rent, and some of them three. It is hardly necessary to point out that a similar class of estates cannot be similarly dealt with at the same loss if the untenanted land is not purchased at a price at which it can be sold, or if the revenue from the lands while on hands be substantially reduced. I may, however, point out that the loss on the estates purchased under the Act of 1903 include cost of surveyors, paymasters, and clerks of works, which ought properly be charged to administration, and is in future to be so charged. I am informed that the Estates Commissioners do not charge to any estate the cost of surveying, valuing, management, or engineering expenses. In fact none of the expenses incidental to the supervision of the improvement of estates except the wages of gangers who superintend the workmen.

The cost of valuing the untenanted land purchased by the Board has not been charged to the estates, as all this work was done by me and two valuers on the permanent staff.

If the entire of the counties containing congested districts be placed under the control of the Board, and that compulsory powers be given to acquire, as recommended in my evidence, non-residential holdings, and portions of residential holdings exceeding a specified valuation; and also tenanted estates for the purchase of which terms could not be voluntarily arranged, I think it of the greatest importance that in the case of untenanted land, and lands not held under judicial rents, it should be the duty of the rent-fixing department of the Land Commission, at the request of the Board, to assess on such lands a rent equivalent to a second term rent for a sitting tenant.

As the purchase and sale prices of tenanted lands are now usually arranged on the basis of second term judicial rents fixed by the Land Commission, it seems very advisable that the same body should assess the estimated fair rent of untenanted land sought to be purchased by the Board, as it is upon that standard of value the land must be subsequently disposed of. For the same reason it appears advisable that in the case of holdings on tenanted estates which are subject to non-judicial rents, that the rent-fixing body of the Land Commission should value these holdings so as to furnish the Board with an estimate of a second term rent or its equivalent.

The same procedure might be followed in making the valuation as at present under Form 49, Act 1896, when the landlord and tenant serve upon the Land Commission a joint application to have a fair rent fixed. In pursuance of this procedure in the case of tenanted holdings a representative of the tenant and landlord would both accompany the Sub-Commissioners over the holdings, who would subsequently furnish what is known as the "Pink Schedule," giving the gross estimate of a fair rent, with such deduction therefrom (if any) in respect of improvement effected upon the tenanted holding which the landlord's representative admitted. If there were improvements of substantial value claimed by a tenant and not admitted by the landlord's representative, they should be set out in a separate schedule. In the case of untenanted land there would, of course, be no deduction in respect of improvements, as the land was in the sole occupation of the landlord.

With a view to securing uniformity of price, it is suggested that the most experienced of the staff of the rent-fixing department of the Land Commission be nominated for this particular work of the valuation of land sought to be acquired both by the Congested Districts Board and by the Estates Commissioners. These men should be engaged for at least three months of each year in fixing judicial rents so as to keep them in close touch with the actual rent fixation.

In the case of untenanted land, I suggest that it should be made the duty of the Land Commission on the requisition of the Board in manner to be prescribed, to cause a detailed valuation to be made of land sought to be acquired equivalent to second term rent for a sitting tenant. At the same time the Board would request the vendors to furnish particulars of his net income, with proofs of the figures supplied, in the form of regularly-kept books or production of contracts of temporary lettings. The Board, having subsequently before them for their consideration the equivalent of a second term fair rent as furnished by the Land Commission (which must be taken as the basis for the disposal of the land), and also particulars of the net income derived from the land by the owner for a specified period, would make an offer to the owner. If the vendor and the Congested Districts Board failed to come to terms, the Board would, if they so desired, serve a notice upon the owner and also upon the Land Commission requiring the latter to fix the price which the Board would pay for the land. This procedure is similar to that now in force under which the Board may serve a tenant on their estate, holding under a judicial tenancy, with notice to resume possession at such price as the Land Commission may fix after hearing the evidence of both parties.

As the Land Commission is the statutory body appointed for the fixing of rents, and as a second term rent is now accepted both by tenant and landlord as the standard of annual value in fixing the number of years' purchase to be paid, I maintain that the rent-fixing department of the Land Commission is the proper body to assess the equivalent of a fair rent.

It is obvious, I submit, that no valuers except those included in the statutory rent-fixing body, and actually engaged at the fixing of rents, are capable of authoritatively fixing a judicial rent, or stating its equivalent. Whether it is too high or too low a rent it is the statutory rent, fixed in the same manner as the bulk of the second term rents accepted throughout the country as the standard for basing the purchase prices of holdings. Even though unofficial valuers should happen to fix substantially the same rents, their valuation would not have the same authority, as their assessment of a fair rent has necessarily to be based on what their individual conception is of the rent which would be fixed on a particular holding or area of land by the statutory body.

I can see no reason why this important public duty when discharged by the Land Commission should be charged to the Board's expenses no more than the services of the Land Commissioners would be charged when they are called upon by the Board at present to exercise their functions of fixing fair rents on the Board's estates, or fixing the resumption price to be paid for holdings which the Board seek to take up under Section 83 of the Act of 1903. The Board have power to obtain the statutory decision of the Sub-Commissioners in relation to these

matters under the existing law without defraying any of the expenses. For the same reason I submit that it should be made a part of the duty of the Land Commission to assess a fair rent or its equivalent on all lands which the Board may request them to fix the rent upon by the service of notice such as is now served when the Land Commission is required to fix a fair rent on any holding held under a present tenancy.

H. DORAN.

B.—MEMORANDUM ON "VESTED CONGESTION."

According to the figures given by Mr. Callan,* about half the holdings in the counties containing congested districts have been either sold, or agreements for sale have been lodged with the Land Commission in respect of them.

It appears to be generally admitted that a considerable number of the holdings already sold are uneconomic, that many of them require re-arrangement and consolidation, and that a number are non-residential holdings which might have been utilized for the enlargement of adjacent small residential holdings.

In view of these facts it will be necessary to give the Board power to apply their remedial measures for the relief of congestion over the entire of the counties placed under their control, irrespective of whether the holdings are occupied by tenant-purchasers, ordinary tenants, leaseholders, or the owners in fee.

When over one-half in number of the tenant-purchasers occupying holdings under £10 rateable value in any townland apply to the Board to re-arrange, improve, or, where possible, enlarge their holdings by the addition of adjacent lands which the Board may be empowered to acquire, the Board may group such holdings and declare them to be an estate of "vested congestion," redeem the purchase annuities, and deal with it as they would with any estate purchased from the landlord.

On the declaration by the Board of any such estate comprising "vested congestion" they shall redeem the outstanding balances of the advances made in respect of each holding, and the relation of tenant and landlord shall be established with all the incidents of judicial holdings between the Board and the occupiers at abated rents equal to their annuities, pending re-sale of the improved or altered holdings, and subject to the condition that on re-sale the price to be charged for that proportion of the new holding which represents the value of the old holding shall be the outstanding balance of the advance in respect of the old holding.

Any additional land in excess of the value of the old holding given in the new holding shall be sold at such price as the occupier of the new holding and the Board may agree, and any advances for buildings or such other improvements as may first be arranged between the occupier and the Board, and provided for in a written agreement, may be added to the sale price of the new or re-arranged holding. In the absence of such agreement, the new or re-arranged holding of equivalent value to the old must be re-vested subject to the same annuity as before.

H. DORAN.

C.—MEMORANDUM ON MAINTENANCE OF ARTERIAL AND MAIN DRAINS, AND OF ACCOMMODATION ROADS CONSTRUCTED BY THE CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD.

Drains.

In the absence of a Public Works Department to undertake the general management and control of arterial and main drainage schemes for the entire of Ireland, as suggested in my evidence before the Arterial Drainage Commissioners, Ireland, 1905, I submit the following suggestions for the maintenance of drains constructed by the Congested Districts Board.

The Board shall prepare a map, with schedule, showing the holdings or portions of holdings improved by their drainage operations. The area so improved in each catchment area to be coloured blue on map, and defined as the drainage district liable to assessment for the maintenance of the drainage system within the catchment area. On schedules accompanying the maps shall be given the name of the rated occupier of each holding, the area improved in each holding by drainage, and also the proportion in which the occupier is to contribute to the cost of maintenance.

The maps, with schedule, for each drainage district are to be deposited with the secretary of the County Council, or County Councils, for the county in which the drainage district is situate, and the County Council shall direct their county surveyor to undertake the duty of providing that the drainage system shall be maintained in an efficient condition.

He shall prepare every year specifications of the work required to be done, and the District Council should invite tenders for the execution of the work in such sections as they may decide. Tenders to be dealt with by them in the same manner as tenders for the maintenance of roads, and the amount required to meet the cost shall be assessed on the lands within the drainage district, and collected with the poor rate in the same manner as assessments now are for malicious injuries or separate charges. The persons liable for the assessment may, by arrangement amongst themselves, nominate one or more of their body to contract to carry out the work for a nominal sum, or for any sum not exceeding the amount estimated by the county surveyor.

Accommodation Roads.

Accommodation roads are usually of two classes:—

(*a*). A road made from a public road to a village or townland for the sole accommodation of the landholders in the townland or townlands through which the road passes.

(*b*.) Road to a bog which may accommodate a number of persons living on and occupying holdings one or more miles distant, but having turbary on the bog, and requiring the road for access thereto.

(*a*.) In these cases the Board shall lodge with the secretary of the County Council a map, showing the road to be maintained and the holdings of the rated occupiers who use the road.

The County Council shall accept a transfer, free of charge, of the road and make it county property, and instruct the county surveyor to place it on the list of roads for permanent maintenance.

He is to invite tenders for one or a period of years in the ordinary way, and the cost of maintenance is to be assessed against the rated occupiers of the holdings accommodated by the road in the proportion that rateable value of each of the holdings accommodated bears to the annual cost.

The persons liable for such assessment may nominate a person or persons to contract to maintain the road in accordance with the county surveyor's specifications, at a nominal sum, or any sum not exceeding the county surveyor's estimate.

(*b*.) Bog roads.

The Board shall lodge with the secretary of the County Council of the county in which the bog road is situate a map, showing site of road, and this map is to be accompanied by a schedule, giving the names, townlands, and poor law valuation of the rated occupiers who use the bog road as a means of access to their turbary supplies, and who are to be liable each for equal parts of the cost of maintenance of the road.

The county surveyor shall arrange for a contract for maintenance, as in the case of (*a*) roads above described.

* See p. 11, q. 59,522.

APPENDIX I.

If it should be decided that the Congested Districts Board's operations were to continue, and that the area under their control was extended to the entire of the counties containing congested districts, it may be considered more feasible to place upon the new Board the duty of securing the maintenance of all roads and drains made by them or their predecessors, instead of requiring the county authorities to undertake such duties. In this event the Congested Districts Board should have the same power of assessment and recovery of the outlay made, as above suggested for the county authorities. Another, and perhaps a more practicable mode of procedure would be:—

1. That the Board would put into what they consider to be a reasonable state of repair all roads and drains constructed by the Board.

2. That they would be empowered by law to schedule the holdings, the occupiers of which would be liable for the maintenance of each of the roads and of the drains, or portions thereof.

3. That they would subsequently, by notice in prescribed form, call upon the landholders liable for the maintenance of each road or drain, to name two or three trustees who would undertake to supervise and be responsible for the maintenance, such persons to have power to call upon all persons liable to assist in putting the road or drain in a proper state of repair at specified times, and in the event of their failure to do so, the trustees would employ other persons to do the work, and have summary powers to recover the cost of same at the local petty sessions court from the occupiers of the holdings who use the road or whose lands are benefited by the drainage.

This procedure would, of course, involve the settlement of a considerable amount of detail, which I do not consider it necessary to enter into here.

H. DORAN.

Pre-emption of Holdings.

The Congested Districts Board to be empowered to pre-empt all holdings offered for sale in the counties containing congested districts after 1st January, 1909, and no such sale to be valid after that date unless with the assent of the Congested Districts Board.

The price to be paid by the Board to be fixed by agreement, or failing agreement, by the tribunal appointed to fix the value of estates to be compulsorily purchased.

In the event of the Board ascertaining that a holding has come into possession of a new occupier in contravention of this enactment, they may serve notice upon the occupier to compulsorily acquire the holding, and thereupon the same procedure shall apply as may be arranged for the compulsory acquisition of holdings.

This to apply to sales by mortgagee or any covert form of alienation, including any case in which a mortgagee goes into possession of a holding.

H. DORAN.

NOTE.—The foregoing proposals would appear to meet cases of shopkeepers giving credit to a landholder with the object of acquiring the holding.—H.D.

D.—TABLE showing Loss on Estates purchased by the Board since 1903, and re-sold or ready for re-sale.

CLASS.	Number of Estates in each Class.	Area at time of Purchase.			Purchase Money. Total Poor Law Valuation.	Tenanted Section.	Untenanted Land which includes Turbary, Bog, Mountain and Waste. Column 4.	Total for Estate.	Total Expenditure on Improvement Works.	Loss.	Percentage of Loss on Purchase Money.	Total Number of Holdings at time of Sale.	Number of Holdings under £10 Rent at time of Sale.	Pe cen o Ho in un £1 a ti o Sa
		Tenanted.	Untenanted.	Total.										
(1.)	(2)	(3).	(4).	(5).	(6).	(7).	(8).	(9).	(10).	(11).	(12).	(13).	(14).	(1
A.	24	25,563	7,296	32,859	9,137	183,296	58,655	241,951	51,445	22,905	9·4	1,103	813	
B.	16	17,323	1,782	19,105	2,326	43,762	5,690	49,452	18,635	10,685	21·6	614	571	
C.	7	183	1,480	1,663	994	1,336	24,900	26,236	11,209	7,562	28·8	53	10	
	47	43,069	*10,558	53,627	12,457	228,394	89,245	317,639	81,289	41,152	12·9	1,770	1,394	

SUMMARY OF CLASS A AND CLASS B

A.	24	25,563	7,296	32,859	9,137	183,296	58,655	241,951	51,445	22,905	9·4	1,103	813
B.	16	17,323	1,782	19,105	2,326	43,762	5,690	49,452	18,635	10,685	21·6	614	571
	40	42,886	9,078	51,964	11,463	227,058	64,345	291,403	70,080	33,590	11·5	1,717	1,384

* On sixteen of these Estates there are 45.12 acres of Bog, Mountain and Waste, with a Poor Law Valuation of £255, and on the remainder of the Estates also 500 acres of small areas of Bog and Waste.

H. DORAN.

Tenure	How acquired.	Number of Holdings.	Rent.	Poor Law Valuation.	Amount	Number of years' purchase of Rent.	Number of years' purchase of Poor Law Valuation.	Amount.	Number of years' purchase of Rent.	Number of years' purchase of Poor Law Valuation.	Amount.	Number of years' purchase of Rent.	Number of years' purchase of Poor Law Valuation
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
1st Term, Judicial, ..	Voluntary Agreement. ..	17	497 6 7	468 5 0	4,898 0 11	9·85	10·46	8,876 7 1	17·85	18·95	13,774 8 0	27·71	29·41
Do., ..	Pre-emption. Price fixed at sum offered by intending purchasers.	15	202 7 9	173 19 0	2,725 14 3	13·46	15·69	3,973 0 3	19·63	22·84	6,698 14 6	33·09	38·53
Do.,	Notice of Resumption. Price fixed by Land Commission.	2	96 18 6	101 0 0	1,050 0 0	10·84	10·40	1,895 13 10	19·56	18·77	2,945 13 10	30·40	29·17
		34	796 12 10	743 4 0	8,673 15 2	10·89	11·67	14,745 1 2	18·51	19·83	23,418 16 4	29·40	31·50
2nd Term, Judicial.	Voluntary Agreement. ..	3	8 9 4	8 0 0	145 0 0	17·13	18·13	169 15 0	20·05	21·22	314 15 0	37·18	39·34
Do., ..	Notice of Resumption. Price fixed by Land Commission.	1	24 15 0	24 0 0	300 0 0	12·12	12·50	575 11 3	23·26	23·96	875 11 3	35·38	36·46
		4	33 4 4	32 0 0	445 0 0	13·40	13·91	745 6 3	22·45	23·28	1,190 6 3	35·85	37·19
NON-JUDICIAL.													
Present Tenancies, ..	Voluntary Agreement. ..	11	951 11 11	814 12 10	8,215 0 0	8·63	10·08	16,316 2 5	17·15	20·03	24,531 2 5	25·78	30·11
Do., ..	Pre-emption. Price fixed at sum offered by intending purchasers.	7	18 19 10	17 17 0	365 9 11	19·25	20·48	333 13 8	17·57	18·69	699 3 7	36·82	39·17
		18	970 11 9	832 9 10	8,580 9 11	8·84	10·31	16,649 16 1	17·15	20·00	25,230 6 0	25·99	30·31
Future Tenancies, ..	Notice to Quit. Compensation fixed by Agreement.	16	1,248 5 0	1,120 15 0	4,206 0 0	3·38	3·75	22,996 6 8	18·43	20·52	27,202 6 8	21·81	24·27
Do., ..	Agreement, ...	11	742 8 10	1,212 12 0	4,077 10 0	5·49	3·36	11,435 8 3	15·42	9·43	15,512 18 3	20·89	12·79
		27	1,990 13 10	2,333 7 0	8,283 10 0	4·16	3·55	34,431 14 11	17·30	14·76	42,715 4 11	21·46	18·31
Lease for Grazing, ..	Agreement.	4	680 0 0	506 5 0	1,354 10 1	1·99	2·67	12,000 8 4	17·65	23·71	13,354 18 5	19·64	26·38
		4	680 0 0	506 5 0	1,354 10 1	1·99	2·67	12,000 8 4	17·65	23·71	13,354 18 5	19·64	26·38
Leaseholds, ..	Agreement, ...	4	355 13 4	357 12 0	4,700 0 0	13·21	13·14	7,251 18 8	20·39	20·28	11,951 18 8	33·60	33·42
		4	355 13 4	357 12 0	4,700 0 0	13·21	13·14	7,251 18 8	20·39	20·28	11,951 18 8	33·60	33·42

NOTE.—The rents of the Judicial Holdings and of the agricultural leaseholds did not include the value of buildings or improvements owned by the tenants. The price paid for the occupation interests includes these; buildings and improvements.

H. DORAN.

APPENDIX I.

APPEN

F.—Return of Non-Residential Holdings over £25 Poor Law Valuation in the Counties conta

WITHIN THE CONGESTED DISTRICTS.

1. Counties	2. Tenant-Purchasers. A.				3. Judicial Tenants. B.				4. Future Tenants. C.				5. Tenancies from Year to Y D.			
	No.	Area.		Total Rateable Valuation.	No.	Area.		Total Rateable Valuation.	No.	Area.		Total Rateable Valuation.	No.	Area.		Tot Rate Valua
		A. R. P.		£ s.		A. R. P.		£ s.		A. R. P.		£ s.		A. R. P.		£
Donegal, ..	5	403 2 30		182 13	13	1,214 2 24		438 3	—	—		—	6	3,420 3 26		21
Leitrim, ..	7	800 0 1		351 5	7	556 1 38		287 15	3	189 3 4		89 5	—	—		—
Sligo, ..	8	526 2 39		314 0	24	2,818 3 18		1,173 6	—	—		—	6	717 3 16		28
Mayo, ..	8	6,363 0 37		331 15	32	6,007 0 17		1,330 13	8	2,261 0 39		509 13	35	30,339 1 12		1,75
Roscommon, ..	7	789 2 14		319 15	6	531 1 37		205 3	—	—		—	9	1,009 1 32		45
Galway, ..	8	4,341 0 14		471 5	9	1,759 3 14		454 15	—	—		—	17	6,265 1 23		78
Kerry, ..	9	1,207 1 34		665 5	6	808 2 8		211 0	2	114 0 0		28 15	2	80 0 0		7
Cork, (Bantry, Castletown, Skibbereen, Schull,)	2	187 1 9		69 0	11	856 1 6		390 10	3	378 2 11		102 0	—	—		—
Clare, ..	—	—		—	—	—		—		—		—	—	—		—
Total in Congested Districts.	54	14,619 0 18		2,704 18	108	14,553 1 2		4,491 5	16	2,943 2 14		729 13	75	41,832 3 29		3,55

IN THE NON-CONGESTED DISTRICTS.

Donegal ..	154	10,003 3 36		7,362 13	130	7,439 2 39		5,571 19	2	120 2 28		126 10	12	662 3 19		52
Leitrim, ..	50	4,078 1 15		2,337 8	38	2,555 1 9		1,585 8	1	67 1 4		25 10	4	457 1 9		20
Sligo, ..	96	8,463 0 8		5,571 18	110	9,738 0 8		5,970 2	1	147 2 20		116 0	33	2,655 1 12		1,90
Mayo, ..	33	4,663 1 22		2,219 12	77	8,896 0 29		4,116 8	29	4,248 2 20		1,997 4	74	9,257 1 14		5,04
Roscommon, ..	218	26,357 2 1		16,947 13	96	11,415 1 37		8,079 1	5	281 0 10		178 0	88	12,097 1 3		8,64
Galway ..	156	20,875 0 37		10,840 6	76	7,638 1 13		4,099 6	8	1,015 3 36		385 19	168	23,352 0 12		11,56
Kerry, ..	50	4,175 0 14		2,082 10	27	3,082 0 5		1,461 19	6	713 3 6		304 5	17	2,518 1 34		71
Cork, (Bantry, Castletown, Skibbereen, Schull,)	12	1,340 0 13		489 15	19	1,872 2 35		971 5	2	123 1 0		87 0	1	92 1 13		7
Clare, ..	155	17,940 1 5		9,574 1	228	21,005 0 6		13,581 10	15	1,464 3 12		790 5	82	9,781 3 5		5,37
Total in Non-Congested Districts.	924	97,896 3 31		57,425 16	801	73,642 3 21		45,436 18	69	8,183 0 16		4,010 13	479	60,874 3 1		34,0
Grand Total,	978	112,516 0 9		60,130 14	909	88,196 0 23		49,928 3	85	11,126 2 30		4,740 6	554	102,707 2 30		37,6

.—continued.

ongested Districts—distinguishing those situate within the Scheduled Area and those outside.

WITHIN THE CONGESTED DISTRICTS.

6. Leaseholds. E.						7. Agistment or other Temporary Lettings. F.						8. Lands Held in Fee-Simple. G.						9. Total Number, Area, and Valuation of Tenements included in Columns 2 to 8 (inclusive).						Counties.
No.	Area.			Total Rateable Valuation.		No.	Area.			Total Rateable Valuation.		No.	Area.			Total Rateable Valuation.		No.	Total Area.			Total Rateable Valuation.		
	A.	R.	P.	£	s.		A.	R.	P.	£	s.		A.	R.	P.	£	s.		A.	R.	P.	£	s.	
8	1,545	2	13	371	15	1	48	0	0	33	15	16	10,538	0	35	714	7	49	17,171	0	8	1,952	8	Donegal.
3	379	3	12	192	10	1	652	0	0	33	10	6	1,039	3	28	322	3	27	3,618	0	3	1,276	8	Leitrim.
1	121	2	0	77	12	—	—			—		7	2,359	1	34	929	17	46	6,544	1	27	2,776	0	Sligo.
24	14,941	3	1	1,847	1	15	8,785	0	1	725	14	44	29,486	0	31	2,802	8	166	98,183	3	18	9,298	14	Mayo.
2	344	2	14	152	15	4	661	2	35	219	10	4	514	2	10	742	10	32	3,851	1	22	2,095	10	Roscommon.
5	1 322	2	1	383	4	26	14,341	2	2	1,459	13	35	11,227	2	30	1,928	7	100	39,258	0	4	5,492	9	Galway.
3	137	2	5	113	0	2	123	0	16	58	10	10	2,791	3	2	619	3	34	5 262	1	25	1,766	13	Kerry.
2	98	0	2	77	15	—	—			—		6	1,117	0	38	290	10	24	2,637	1	26	929	15	Bantry, Castletown, Skibbereen, Schull, Cork.
—	—			—		—	—			—		2	1,831	0	27	121	4	2	1,831	0	27	121	4	Clare.
8	18,891	1	8	3,215	12	49	24,611	1	14	2,531	2	130	60,906	0	35	8,470	9	480	178,357	3	0	25,699	1	Total in Congested Districts.

IN THE NON-CONGESTED DISTRICTS.

9	5,331	2	5	3,114	16	—	—			—		77	18,002	0	17	5,024	9	444	41,560	3	24	21,723	9	Donegal.
1	416	1	2	153	0	3	185	3	21	159	5	34	6,758	3	19	1,953	10	131	14,519	0	39	6,414	1	Leitrim.
5	1,681	3	6	1,170	0	32	3,477	3	2	2,038	2	116	17,862	3	18	10,465	16	406	44,026	1	34	27,240	5	Sligo.
5	13,527	3	27	4,767	10	61	10,896	1	2	4,835	3	167	30,243	3	5	16,324	14	497	81,733	1	39	39,305	16	Mayo.
6	13,669	2	28	9,713	8	66	9,746	2	29	5,759	5	178	33,466	2	27	20,127	10	731	107,034	1	15	69,452	17	Roscommon.
	12,811	3	24	5,948	10	437	70,761	2	20	32,631	11	447	82,676	2	3	37,196	10	1,356	219,131	2	25	102,665	7	Galway.
	2,526	0	20	1,192	6	9	568	0	8	645	0	58	10,992	0	0	4,108	10	187	24,575	2	7	10,512	15	Kerry.
	31	2	21	78	15	1	95	2	14	29	0	13	1,461	0	3	914	10	50	5,016	2	19	2,642	5	Bantry, Castletown, Skibbereen, Schull, Cork.
	6 255	0	14	3,184	18	42	9 704	3	37	2,590	2	188	27,487	2	2	14,893	12	745	93,639	2	1	49,988	12	Clare.
56	251	3	27	29,323	3	651	105,436	3	13	48,687	8	1,278	228,951	1	14	111,009	1	4,547	631,237	3	3	329,945	7	Total in Non-Congested Districts.
75	143	0	35	32,538	15	700	130,048	0	27	51,218	10	1,408	289,857	2	9	119,479	10	5,027	809,595	2	3	355,644	8	Grand Total.

APPENDI

TABLE SUPPLIED BY THE SECRETA

RETURNS, to 31st December, 1907, showing (*a*) for the Congested Districts Counties, and (*b*) for the ENTIRE Administrat Advances Made and Applications Pending under the Irish Church Act, 1869, Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Act, 18 Land Act, 1903, to enable Tenants and Others to purchase Holdings or Parcels of Land.

RETU

I.—ACTS 1891-1896.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS COUNTY.	Advances made to 31st December, 1907.		Applications pending on 31st December, 1907.		Total.		Advances made to 31st December, 19	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amou
		£		£		£		£
Donegal, . . .	1,188	87,495	—	—	1,188	87,495	635	59,2
Galway, . . .	808	97,002	—	—	808	97,002	219	30,8
Leitrim, . . .	1,144	117,555	—	—	1,144	117,555	281	30,5
Mayo, . . .	2,741	212,409	16	1,147	2,757	213,556	1,933	200,4
Roscommon, . .	679	57,904	3	154	682	58,058	1,204	153,2
Sligo, . . .	379	35,972	—	—	379	35,972	309	44,3
Clare, . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cork, . . .	62	15,084	—	—	62	15,084	218	39,3
Kerry, . . .	450	75,960	—	—	450	75,960	536	128,0
Total, . .	7,451	699,381	19	1,301	7,470	700,682	5,335	686,4

1. The figures under the Heading "Advances made" Act, 1903, include amounts advanced for the purchase of Estates by the E
2. The figures under the Irish Land Act, 1903, include resales made by the Congested Districts Board to tenants on Estates purchas
3. The figures under Heading "Applications Pending" Act, 1903, include estimated figures for resales of Estates offered for s

RET

ENTIRE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY	Irish Church Act, 1869. (*a*)		Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Act, 1870. (*b*)		Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881. (*c*)		Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1885. (*d*)		Total of Acts, 1869 to 1885		ACTS 1891			
	No. of Purchasers.	Amount of Purchase Money secured by Mortgage.	No. of Purchasers.	Amount Advanced.	No. of Purchasers.	Amount Advanced.	No. of Purchasers.	Amount Advanced.	No.	Amount.	Advances made to 31st December, 1907.		Applications Pending on 31st December, 1907.	
											No.	Amount.	No.	Amo
		£		£		£		£		£		£		
Donegal, .	457	64,390	66	36,213	–	–	681	237,462	1,204	338,065	1,734	276,458	–	–
Galway, .	115	29,888	9	11,063	9	3,724	951	255,270	1,084	299,945	2,991	648,508	–	
Leitrim, .	265	60,105	4	973	20	2,659	539	94,620	828	158,357	2,871	399,298	–	–
Mayo, . .	148	8,903	5	2,752	278	20,853	524	133,753	955	166,261	3,124	309,978	16	1,
Roscommon, .	65	13,047	11	20,892	50	11,035	649	118,149	775	163,123	2,437	437,858	5	
Sligo, . .	12	8,563	1	1,533	1	2,250	325	61,188	339	73,534	777	135,234	–	
Clare, . .	89	10,125	53	27,378	–	–	192	55,299	334	92,802	1,496	408,355	21	1,
Cork, . .	189	37,536	54	32,599	8	5,425	1,361	926,089	1,612	1,001,649	2,203	1,044,410	4	3
Kerry, . .	182	12,876	2	1,840	–	–	1,178	563,603	1,362	578,319	1,153	396,160	–	
Totals, .	1,522	245,433	205	135,243	366	45,946	6,400	2,445,433	8,493	2,872,055	18,786	4,056,259	46	9
Totals for the whole of Ireland.	6,057	1,674,841*	877	514,536*	731	240,801*	25,367	9,992,536	33,032	12,422,714	46,798	14,136,570	792	146

*Taken from House of Com

(*a*) Irish Church Act, 1869:—The purchasers in these cases included purchasers of residues subject to the existing tenancies and to Tenants of large proper distinguish between the classes of Purchasing tenants. In these cases three-fourths of the purchase-money might remain outstanding on M
(*b*) Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Act, 1870.—Under this Act an Advance could be made to a tenant of a sum not exceeding two-thirds of the Purch
(*c*) Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881.—Under this Act Advances could be made of sums not exceeding three-fourths of the Purchase-money of the hold
(*d*) Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1885:—Under this Act the entire Purchase-money could be advanced subject to the retention of a sum of £
The figures under the Heading "Advances Made" Act, 1903, include amounts advanced for the purchase of Estates by the Estates Commissioners
The figures under the Irish Land Act, 1903, include resales made by the Congested Districts Board to tenants on Estates purchased by them fr
The figures under Heading "Applications Pending" Act, 1903, include estimated figures for Estates offered for sale to the Estates Commissioners

DUBLIN, 19*th February*, 1908.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION.

nties in which there are Districts scheduled as "CONGESTED," and for the whole of Ireland, the Number and Amount of
d Law (Ireland) Act, 1881, Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1885, Purchase of Land (Ireland) Acts, 1891–96, and the Irish

II.—ACT 1903.			III.—TOTALS OF ACTS 1891-6 AND 1903.						CONGESTED DISTRICTS COUNTY.
pplications pending on December, 1907.	Total.		Advances made to 31st December, 1907.		Applications pending on 31st December, 1907.		Gross Total.		
Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	
£		£		£		£		£	
158,554	2,610	217,815	1,823	146,756	1,975	158,554	3,798	305,310	Donegal.
106,080	1,125	136,579	1,027	127,501	906	106,080	1,933	233,581	Galway.
143,060	1,768	173,261	1,425	147,756	1,487	143,060	2,912	290,816	Leitrim.
116,203	2,804	316,785	4,674	412,991	887	117,350	5,561	530,341	Mayo.
80,143	1,844	283,661	1,883	211,422	643	80,297	2,526	291,719	Roscommon
54,332	763	98,774	688	80,414	454	54,332	1,142	134,746	Sligo.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Clare.
200,047	1,241	239,396	280	54,433	1,023	200,047	1,303	254,480	Cork.
223,730	1,656	352,389	986	204,619	1,120	223,730	2,106	428,349	Kerry.
1,082,149	13,811	1,768,660	12,786	1,385,892	8,495	1,083,450	21,281	2,469,342	Total.

issioners under Sections 6, 7, and 8.
but do not include the Purchase Money of Estates where Advances were made to the Board under the Act for such purchase.
tates Commissioners under Sections 6, 7, and 8, for which offers to purchase have not yet been made by them.

	ACT 1903.						TOTALS OF ACTS 1869 TO 1903.						ENTIRE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY.
Total.	Advances Made to 31st December, 1907.		Applications Pending on 31st December, 1907.		Total.		Advances Made to 31st December, 1907.		Applications Pending on 31st December, 1907.		Gross Total.		
Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	
£		£		£		£		£		£		£	
276,458	1,933	413,724	4,587	875,537	6,520	1,289,261	4,871	1,028,247	4,587	875,537	9,458	1,903,784	Donegal.
648,508	2,968	935,084	6,170	1,444,088	9,138	2,379,172	7,043	1,883,537	6,170	1,444,088	13,213	3,327,625	Galway.
399,298	503	61,367	2,880	389,404	3,383	450,771	4,202	619,022	2,880	389,404	7,082	1,008,426	Leitrim.
311,125	2,583	416,738	1,515	280,170	4,098	696,908	6,662	892,977	1,531	281,317	8,193	1,174,294	Mayo.
438,520	3,884	941,123	4,184	975,336	8,068	1,916,459	7,096	1,542,104	4,189	975,998	11,285	2,518,102	Roscommon
135,234	1,502	390,755	2,239	488,332	3,791	879,087	2,618	599,523	2,289	488,332	4,907	1,087,855	Sligo.
410,029	900	254,640	2,344	703,196	3,244	959,836	2,730	757,797	2,365	704,870	5,095	1,462,667	Clare.
1,050,075	2,838	1,411,330	10,926	4,898,761	13,764	6,310,091	6,653	3,457,389	10,930	4,904,426	17,583	8,361,815	Cork.
[illegible]	1,311	416,720	4,034	1,259,510	5,345	1,676,230	3,826	1,391,199	4,034	1,259,510	7,860	2,650,709	Kerry.
[illegible]	18,422	5,243,481	38,929	11,314,334	57,351	16,557,815	45,701	12,171,795	38,975	11,323,482	84,676	23,495,277	Totals.
[illegible]	48,891	19,252,612	114,184	37,058,121	163,075	56,310,733	128,721	44,811,896	114,976	37,174,603	243,697	81,986,499	Totals for the whole of Ireland.

N. 20—Session 1903.
sections, the object being to realize the Estates of the late Established Church. The records of the Church Temporalities Commission do not
of the holding.
th of the Advance as a "Guarantee Deposit."
ns 6, 7, and 8.
Purchase Money of Estates where Advances were made to the Board under the Act for such purchase.
ns 6, 7, and 8 for which offers to purchase have not yet been made by them.

APPENDIX III

APPENDIX III.

DOCUMENT put in by Mr. F. W. D. MITCHELL in connection with his Evidence before the Commission.

A.—TABLE showing Appropriation of Board's Income—Present and Proposed.

Services.		Present.	Proposed.
		£	£
Administrative Expenses for Estate business.	Outdoor Staff and Expenses,	9,900*	32,800*
	Indoor Staff and Office Maintenance,	12,100	26,700
	Law Staff and Expenses,	3,000	6,500
		25,000	66,000
4. General Administration,		11,000	12,000
5. Interest on Borrowed Money, say £100,000 at present and £200,000 in future,		3,500	7,000
6. Interest on £50,000 Floating Capital		—	1,750
7. Loss on Estates,		11,000	150,000
8. Industrial Classes, &c.,		9,000	15,000
9. Fisheries and Instruction,		3,000‡	7,000
10. Parish Committees,		12,000	20,000
11. Steamer Services,		3,700	3,700
12. Piers and Roads,		5,750	10,000
13. Agriculture—Contribution of £2,000 to Department of Agriculture, Grants to Shows, &c.,		2,300	†
		£86,250	£292,450

* The cost of Clerks of Works, Surveyors, Paymasters, Stock-managers, Bailiffs, and Herds is not included in the cost of out-door staff given above as hitherto ; the salaries and expenses of these officers have been charged against the individual estates, not against administration.

† I am not in a position to make any estimate of the increase necessary under this head. F. W. D. M.

‡ In addition to the above expenditure out of income about £8,000 per annum is issued in loans to fishermen from the Irish Reproduction Loan Fund and the Sea and Coast Fisheries Fund. The repayments annually amount to about the same sum.

N.B.—Items 1-3 and 5-7 are all part of the cost of land re-settlement. The increases proposed have been estimated by Mr. Doran. Items 5 and 6 represent interest charges on money spent on improvements on estates, but ultimately repayable as enhanced price, money required for stocking grass lands in Board's hands, and for loans, &c.

B.—TABLES SHOWING EXPENDITURE ON SCHEMES UNDERTAKEN BY THE BOARD

(i.)—Table showing Expenditure for General Purposes.

Cost to 31st March, 1907.

Scheme.	Gross Outlay.	Return.	Net Cost.
	£	£	£
Subsidies for Steamer Services (General Services), ...	7,399	–	7,399*
Instruction in Domestic Economy (approximate), ...	5,000	–	5,000
Nursing Schemes, ...	2,869	100	2,769
Roads and Bridges (Inland only), ...	68,625	–	68,625
	83,893	100	83,793
Administration (approximate only), ...	10,000	–	10,000

* See also Fisheries.

(ii.)—Table showing Expenditure on Fisheries.

Cost to 31st March, 1907.

Scheme.	Gross Outlay.	Return.	Net Cost.
	£	£	£
Instruction in Curing, ...	5,583	–	5,583
„ Fishing, ...	50,300	6,771	43,529
„ Boat-building, ...	560	–	560*
„ Net-mending, ...	1,327	250	1,077
„ Barrel-making, ...	2,866	62	2,804
Purchase, Curing, and Sale of Fish, ...	119,005	86,646	30,359
Fishing Experiments (including Subsidies).	3,384	830	2,554
Providing Boats, Nets, and Gear, ...	74,195	55,157	19,038
Manufacture of Barrels, ...	20,072	21,472	(1,400) *profit*
Marine Works, viz.:—			
Piers and Harbour Improvements, ...	36,807	7,523	29,284
Boat Slips, Landing Places, or Quays.	28,222	–	28,222
Lights, Removal of Rocks, Dredging Sea Walls, &c.	6,916	–	6,916
Contribution to Telegraphic Services, ...	1,330	100	1,230
Subsidies for Steamer Services (part of).	8,000	–	8,000†
	358,567	180,811	177,756
Administration (approximation only), ...	–	–	70,000

	Total Advanced.	Repayments, Principal and Interest.	Total of Outstanding Annuities.
Loans:—	£	£	£
To Fishermen, ...	87,995	62,714‡	27,917§
„ Coopers, ...	7,619	6,009	740
„ Steamship Company, ...	2,300	2,505‖	Nil
	97,914	71,288	28,657

* Also £4,722 in "Boats, Nets, and Gear" for Materials and Labour.
† See also General Purposes.
‡ Includes about £2,500 Interest.
§ About £25,000 of this is principal; £2,787 has been written off as Bad Debts
‖ Includes £205 Interest

(iii.)—Table showing Expenditure on Agricultural Schemes.

Cost to 31st March, 1907.

Scheme.	Gross Outlay.	Return.	Net Cost.
	£	£	£
1. Live Stock—Horses, Cattle, Swine, Sheep, ...	112,274	25,031	87,243
2. Poultry and Eggs, ...	7,552	705	6,847
3. Bee-keeping and Sale of Honey, ...	6,316	4,745	1,771
4. Instruction in Farming, ...	22,639	539	22,130
5. Planting (Forestry and Shelter Belts), ...	10,376	407	9,969
6. Seeds and Manures, ...	8,243	7,122	1,121
7. Farm Implements, ...	2,684	2,091	593
8. Potato Spraying, ...	7,523	2,755	4,763
9. Gardening (Markets, &c.), ...	3,230	575	2,655
10. Subsidies to Exhibitions, ...	630	-	630
11. Subsidy to Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction (since 1st April, 1904).	6,000	-	6,000
12. Subsidy to Irish Agricultural Organisation Society, ...	2,768	-	2,768
	190,265	43,770	146,495
Administration (approximate), ...	-	-	74,700

	Total Advanced.	Repayments, Principal and Interest.	Total of Outstanding Annuities.
Loans:—	£	£	£
To Credit Banks, ...	6,705	1,735	5,930
,, Farmers for House Improvement, ...	940	64	900
,, Farmers for other purposes, ...	6,698	3,814	3,758
	14,343	5,613	10,588

(iv.)—Table showing Expenditure on Textile and other Industries.

Cost to 31st March, 1907.

Scheme.	Gross Outlay.	Return.	Net Cost.
Subsidies to Factories:—	£	£	£
Foxford—Weaving, ...	9,497	-	9,497
Ballaghadereen—Hosiery, ...	4,416	-	4,416
Donegal—Carpets, ...	3,053	-	3,053
Ballyshannon—Shirtmaking, ...	127	-	127
Dundoran— do., ...	100	-	100
Instruction in Lace, Crochet, and Curtain-making.	42,524	5,246	37,278
,, Weaving, ...	5,025	505	4,520
,, Knitting, ...	332	-	332
,, Carpentry, &c., ...	600	60	540
Sundry Industries, ...	3,698	984	2,714
Subsidies to Exhibitions, ...	1,725	-	1,725
	71,097	6,795	64,202
Administration (approximate only), ...	-	-	27,000

	Total Advanced.	Repayments, Principal and Interest.	Total of Outstanding Annuities.
Loans:—	£	£	£
Foxford Factory, ...	7,000	7,280*	1,456†
Ballaghadereen Factory, ...	3,000	2,435‡	1,590†
Looms, Knitting Machines, &c., Kelp-making, &c., ...	4,693	2,617	2,393§
	14,693	12,332	5,439

* Includes about £1,560 Interest.
† Total sum still payable to Board, including Interest.
‡ Includes about £650 Interest.
§ £131 Bad Debts written off.

APPENDIX IV.

Documents and Statistics Submitted by the Secretary of the Commission.

A.—Memorandum and Statistics relating to Amount of Crops Grown and Cattle Carried on Different Classes of Holdings.

Tables XIII. to XVI. in the following return (pages 70–87) were collected for the Commission by the Department of Agriculture in connection with the Annual Agricultural Statistics, and Tables I.–XII. (pages 56-69) were prepared in the Office of the Commission. Tables XIII. and XV. contain information, by counties, as to the number of acres under various crops and as to the number of various classes of cattle, not only on the total number of holdings in each county (as do the Annual Agricultural Statistics), but also the total for each of six classes of holdings (arranged according to acreage) in each county. Tables XIV. and XVI translate these absolute figures into percentages.

The importance of this return is that it renders it possible to compare with statistical precision the amount of tillage and the number of cattle carried on small and large farms respectively. Owing to lack of such information it has not been hitherto possible to compare statistically the working of different sizes of holdings. One instance will suffice to illustrate the point. Irish economists have often sought in vain (*cf.* Ireland : Industrial and Agricultural, page 318–9, and the Report of the late Dr. Coyne on the Agricultural Statistics of Ireland for 1902, Cd. 1614–1903, p. xxv.) to get information as to the exact number of acres occupied by different classes of holdings in Ireland (classified according to acreage). As special information had been collected as to the acreage under each crop in each of six classes of holdings, it was rendered easy to obtain the total acreage by cross summation, and accordingly this is given in the second column of Tables XIII–XV.

As these Tables are necessarily somewhat detailed, summary Tables indicating some of the most important points were prepared in the Office of the Commission. In Tables I. to III. (pages 56–61) and in Table VII. to IX. (page 68) a contrast is drawn between the holdings under and over 50 acres in the counties with which the Commission are mainly concerned, but in Tables I. to III. the figures are also given for the whole of Ireland. As regards the smaller area, it appears that 84 per cent. of the holdings are under 50 acres, but these occupy only 44·5 per cent. of the total area, though they carry 59·6 per cent. of the total number of cattle. On the holdings under 50 acres there are about two-thirds of the total number of milch cows and of the total number of cattle under two years old, whilst the larger holdings carry about two-thirds of the total number of bulls and of the cattle two years old and upwards. Making no distinction between the different classes of cattle, there are 3 acres for each head of cattle on the small farms, and 5·6 acres on the large farms. The percentage of the land that is under corn crops on the small holdings is 6·9 per cent. and on the large holdings 2·3 per cent. The percentage under potatoes on the two classes of holdings is respectively 5·6 and 1·2, and under other green crops 2·2 and ·9. Similarly the percentage of the area under first, second, and third years' hay, pasture under rotation and under permanent meadow is much larger on the small holdings than on the large, and the percentage under permanent pasture is slightly larger on the small holdings. On the other hand, the mountain land grazed on the small holdings is under 10 per cent of the total area, and on the large holdings it is 34 per cent. Consequently in drawing any comparison between the utilisation of the land on the two classes of holdings it is important to bear in mind the fact that whereas under one-tenth of the small holdings is occupied by rough mountain grazing over one-third of the large holdings is so occupied. It may be noted that the percentages of the mountain land grazed forms of the total area are much smaller when the whole of Ireland is taken, being 5 per cent. and 18 per cent. respectively.

Tables IV. to VI. (pages 62–7) contain a summary for the counties of Donegal, Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo, Clare and Kerry, and for the whole of Ireland of the salient features of the returns made out for three classes of holdings, namely, those under 30 acres, those between 30 and 200 acres and those exceeding 200, whilst Tables X. to XII. (page 69) contain a summary of the same results for the total of the eight counties mentioned. Some of the results indicated are undoubtedly striking. Thus the smallest class of holdings, though they form 70 per cent. of the total number, occupy less than 30 per cent. of the total area. They, however, carry over 41 per cent. of the total number of cattle. The largest class of holdings forming 2·2 per cent. of the total number of holdings occupy 23·2 per cent. of the area and carry 9·6 per cent. of the cattle, and there is for each head of cattle on these large farms 9·9 acres as against 2·9 acres on the small holdings. In drawing any deduction, however, as to the comparative efficiency of the largest and the smallest holding it must be remembered that the cattle on the small holdings are mainly milch cows and young stock, whilst the cattle on the larger holdings consist mainly of stores. Again, it must be borne in mind that over half the area of the large holdings is returned as mountain land grazed, whilst only one-twelfth of the small holdings is so returned. After making allowance for this factor it is still worthy of note that a quarter of the land occupied by holdings under 30 acres is in course of going under the plough, that is, it is under crops or hay or pasture under rotation, whereas little more than one-twentieth of the total area of the largest holdings is so occupied.

WALTER CALLAN

Secretary.

20th March, 1908.

L—TABLE showing, as regards holdings (*a*) over and (*b*) under 50 acres, the number of such holdings; the area area occupied by each class of crops is of

(*a*).—HOLDINGS

COUNTY.	1. Number of Holdings.	2. Total Area of Agricultural Land.	3. Total Area under Corn Crops.	3. Percentage of Total Area.	4. Total Area under Green Crops (including Potatoes).	4. Percentage of Total Area.	5. Total Area under Potatoes.	5. Percentage of Total Area.	6. Total Area under Flax.	6. Percentage of Total Area.	7. Total Area under Hay, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd years.	7. Percentage of Total Area.
	No.	Acres.	Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.	
Donegal, ...	4,651	461,648	30,988	6·7	16,227	3·5	8,205	1·8	3,324	0·7	8,941	2·0
Galway, ...	4,560	640,408	10,049	1·6	10,375	1·6	5,213	0·8	—	—	6,902	1·1
Leitrim, ...	871	68,260	803	1·2	1,282	1·9	968	1·4	—	—	498	0·7
Mayo, ...	2,953	468,538	5,199	1·1	5,240	1·1	3,477	0·7	9	0·0	3,115	0·7
Roscommon, ...	1,756	207,025	2,963	1·4	3,584	1·7	2,035	1·0	—	—	2,387	1·2
Sligo, ...	1,253	137,912	2,672	2·0	2,909	2·1	1,786	1·3	1	0·0	2,261	1·6
Clare, ...	4,140	401,999	5,106	1·3	8,625	2·1	4,948	1·2	—	—	3,347	0·8
Kerry, ...	6,342	624,743	12,798	2·0	15,477	2·5	9,191	1·5	—	—	9,238	1·5
Total, ...	26,526	3,010,533	70,578	2·3	63,719	2·1	35,823	1·2	3,334	0·1	36,689	1·2
Total for all Ireland, ..	91,000	9,500,345	538,664	5·6	349,067	3·7	156,985	1·7	16,864	0·2	370,415	3·9

(*b*).—HOLDINGS

COUNTY.	1. Number of Holdings.	2. Total Area of Agricultural Land.	3. Total Area under Corn Crops.	3. Percentage of Total Area.	4. Total Area under Green Crops (including Potatoes).	4. Percentage of Total Area.	5. Total Area under Potatoes.	5. Percentage of Total Area.	6. Total Area under Flax.	6. Percentage of Total Area.	7. Total Area under Hay, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd years.	7. Percentage of Total Area.
	No.	Acres.	Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.	
Donegal, ...	22,971	387,563	51,979	13·4	35,972	9·3	25,208	6·5	2,986	0·8	12,286	3·2
Galway, ...	25,355	426,690	31,277	7·3	36,583	8·6	25,334	5·9	—	—	15,386	3·6
Leitrim, ...	12,214	221,383	6,944	3·1	12,281	5·6	10,103	4·6	9	0·0	2,501	1·1
Mayo, ...	28,092	434,431	34,709	8·0	37,124	8·5	29,598	6·8	28	0·0	17,178	4·0
Roscommon, ...	16,426	250,485	13,603	5·4	20,272	8·1	14,772	5·9	—	—	6,966	2·8
Sligo, ...	11,445	200,924	10,137	5·0	13,771	6·9	10,384	5·2	—	—	7,252	3·6
Clare, ...	11,855	254,575	6,728	2·6	15,160	6·0	10,320	4·0	—	—	3,380	1·3
Kerry, ...	10,970	238,619	10,803	4·5	16,141	6·8	10,809	4·5	—	—	6,744	2·8
Total, ...	139,328	2,414,670	166,180	6·9	187,304	7·8	136,528	5·6	3,023	0·1	71,693	3·0
Total for all Ireland, ..	363,287	6,769,709	729,479	10·8	588,066	8·7	393,878	5·8	42,608	0·6	437,176	6·5

cupied by these holdings; the area occupied by various classes of crops on these holdings; and the percentage the e total area occupied by these holdings.

BOVE 50 ACRES.

8.		9.		10.		11.		12.		13.		
Pasture under Rotation.	Percentage of Total Area.	Permanent Meadow.	Percentage of Total Area.	Permanent Pasture.	Percentage of Total Area.	Mountain Land grazed.	Percentage of Total Area.	Total of Cols. 3-8 (excluding Potatoes, Col. 5).	Percentage of Total Area.	Total of Cols. 9-11 (inclusive).	Percentage of Total Area.	COUNTY.
Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		
37,628	8·1	13,210	2·9	91,958	19·9	259,372	56·1	97,108	21·0	364,540	79·0	Donegal.
9,826	1·5	31,829	4·9	378,494	59·1	193,473	30·2	37,152	5·8	603,256	94·2	Galway.
1,256	1·8	9,014	13·2	44,922	65·8	10,485	15·4	3,839	5·6	64,421	94·4	Leitrim.
4,958	1·1	12,920	2·7	185,948	39·7	251,113	53·6	18,521	4·0	450,017	96·0	Mayo.
1,967	1·0	21,185	10·2	173,039	83·6	1,900	0·9	10,901	5·3	196,124	94·7	Roscommon.
1,758	1·3	7,860	5·7	89,395	64·8	31,056	22·5	9,601	7·0	128,311	93·0	Sligo.
2,355	0·6	46,217	11·5	266,799	66·4	69,550	17·3	19,433	4·8	382,566	95·2	Clare.
11,092	1·8	51,032	8·1	319,182	51·1	205,924	33·0	48,605	7·8	576,138	92·2	Kerry.
70,840	2·4	192,727	6·4	1,549,773	51·5	1,022,873	34·0	245,160	8·1	2,765,373	91·9	Total.
550,828	5·8	693,038	7·3	5,272,635	55·5	1,708,834	18·0	1,825,838	19·2	7,674,507	80·8	Total for all Ireland.

NDER 50 ACRES.

8.		9.		10.		11.		12.		13.		
Pasture under Rotation.	Percentage of Total Area.	Permanent Meadow.	Percentage of Total Area.	Permanent Pasture.	Percentage of Total Area.	Mountain Land grazed.	Percentage of Total Area.	Total of Cols. 3-8 (excluding Potatoes, Col. 5).	Percentage of Total Area.	Total of Cols. 9-11 (inclusive).	Percentage of Total Area.	COUNTY.
Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		
43,495	11·2	31,071	8·2	110,262	28·4	98,912	25·5	146,718	37·9	240,845	62·1	Donegal.
22,823	5·4	41,596	9·7	248,104	58·1	30,921	7·3	106,069	24·9	320,621	75·1	Galway.
6,529	3·0	42,439	19·2	144,675	65·3	6,005	2·7	28,264	12·8	193,119	87·2	Leitrim.
32,708	7·5	32,048	7·4	241,411	55·6	39,225	9·0	121,747	28·0	312,684	72·0	Mayo.
8,507	2·4	43,765	17·5	154,175	61·5	3,197	1·3	49,348	19·7	201,137	80·3	Roscommon.
7,181	3·6	24,274	12·1	132,316	65·8	5,993	3·0	38,341	19·1	162,583	80·9	Sligo.
2,201	0·9	48,860	19·2	164,441	64·6	13,805	5·4	27,469	10·8	227,106	89·2	Clare.
8,088	3·4	34,270	14·4	133,905	56·1	28,668	12·0	41,776	17·5	196,843	82·5	Kerry.
131,532	5·4	298,923	12·4	1,329,289	55·0	226,726	9·4	559,732	23·2	1,854,938	76·8	Total.
750,821	11·1	717,671	10·5	3,148,002	46·5	355,886	5·3	2,548,150	37·6	4,221,559	62·4	Total for all Ireland.

APPENDIX IV.

II.—TABLE showing, as regards holdings (*a*) above 50 acres and (*b*) under 50 acres, the number of such per head of cattle; and the number of each kind of cattle, and the percentage the

(*a*).—HOLDINGS

COUNTY.	1. Total Number of Holdings.	2. Total Area occupied by these Holdings.	3. Total Number of Cattle on these Holdings.	4. Number of Acres for each Head of Cattle on these Holdings.	5. Number of Bulls.	5. Percentage of Bulls to Total Number of Cattle.
	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	
Donegal, ...	4,651	461,648	58,525	7·9	590	1·0
Galway	4,560	640,408	86,849	7·4	226	0·3
Leitrim, ...	871	68,260	17,475	3·9	160	0·9
Mayo, ...	2,953	468,538	55,088	8·5	190	0·3
Roscommon	1,756	207,025	48,766	4·2	120	0·2
Sligo, ...	1,253	137,912	31,005	4·4	147	0·5
Clare, ...	4,140	401,999	89,270	4·5	472	0·5
Kerry, ...	6,342	624,743	149,796	4·2	1,905	1·3
Total, ...	26,526	3,010,533	536,774	5·6	3,810	0·7
Total for all Ireland, ..	91,000	9,500,345	2,320,093	4·1	19,326	0·8

(*b*).—HOLDINGS

COUNTY.	1. Total Number of Holdings.	2. Total Area occupied by these Holdings.	3. Total Number of Cattle on these Holdings.	4. Number of Acres for each Head of Cattle on these Holdings.	5. Number of Bulls.	5. Percentage of Bulls to Total Number of Cattle.
	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	
Donegal, ...	22,971	387,563	117,288	3·3	321	0·3
Galway, ...	25,355	426,690	111,442	3·8	226	0·2
Leitrim, ...	12,214	221,383	77,403	2·9	220	0·3
Mayo, ...	28,092	434,431	134,877	3·2	237	0·2
Roscommon, ...	16,426	250,485	84,128	2·9	199	0·2
Sligo, ...	11,445	200,924	67,064	3·0	157	0·2
Clare, ...	11,855	254,575	95,577	2·7	296	0·3
Kerry, ...	10,970	238,619	103,032	2·3	387	0·4
Total, ...	139,328	2,414,670	790,811	3·0	2,043	0·3
Total for all Ireland, ..	363,287	6,769,709	2,258,467	3·0	8,202	0·4

ldings; the area occupied by these holdings; the number of cattle on these holdings, and the acreage
mber of each kind of cattle is of the total number of cattle on these holdings.

BOVE 50 ACRES.

6.		7.		8.		9.		
Number of Milch Cows including Heifers in Calf).	Percentage of Milch Cows to Total Number of Cattle.	Number of Cattle two years old and upwards.	Percentage of Cattle of this age to Total Number of Cattle.	Number of Cattle over one, and not exceeding two, years old.	Percentage of Cattle of this age to Total Number of Cattle.	Number of Cattle under one year old.	Percentage of Cattle of this age to Total Number of Cattle.	COUNTY.
No.		No.		No.		No.		
18,815	32·2	11,572	19·8	14,717	25·1	12,831	21·9	Donegal.
12,385	14·3	45,850	52·8	20,180	23·2	8,208	9·4	Galway.
4,788	27·4	4,651	26·6	4,610	26·4	3,266	18·7	Leitrim.
8,569	15·6	28,659	52·0	12,582	22·9	5,088	9·2	Mayo.
5,945	12·2	23,852	49·0	14,646	30·0	4,203	8·6	Roscommon.
5,312	17·1	11,455	36·9	9,970	32·2	4,121	13·3	Sligo.
22,876	25·6	23,939	26·8	22,922	25·7	19,061	21·4	Clare.
61,927	41·3	20,314	13·6	25,154	16·8	40,496	27·0	Kerry.
140,617	26·2	170,292	31·7	124,781	23·3	97,274	18·1	Total.
687,873	27·5	741,433	32·0	491,062	21·2	430,399	18·5	Total for all Ireland.

DER 50 ACRES.

6.		7.		8.		9.		
ber of Cows ding ers alf).	Percentage of Milch Cows to Total Number of Cattle.	Number of Cattle two years old and upwards.	Percentage of Cattle of this age to Total Number of Cattle.	Number of Cattle over one and under two years old.	Percentage of Cattle of this age to Total Number of Cattle.	Number of Cattle under one year old.	Percentage of Cattle of this age to Total Number of Cattle.	COUNTY.
...		No.		No.		No.		
7,376	40·4	11,826	10·1	26,323	22·4	31,442	26·8	Donegal.
5,794	32·1	20,380	18·3	29,222	26·2	25,820	23·2	Galway.
4,831	43·7	7,322	9·5	12,909	16·7	23,121	29·8	Leitrim.
8,584	36·8	21,350	15·8	31,749	23·5	31,957	23·7	Mayo.
7,494	36·3	9,176	10·9	21,228	25·2	23,031	27·4	Roscommon.
4,393	40·3	6,351	9·5	12,819	19·1	20,744	30·9	Sligo.
9,020	36·6	8,602	9·9	22,343	23·4	29,316	30·7	Clare.
4,430	47·0	6,878	6·7	15,268	14·8	32,060	31·1	Kerry.
5,331	38·9	91,885	11·6	171,861	21·7	217,491	27·5	Total.
4,888	38·9	263,698	11·7	489,910	21·7	617,169	27·3	Total for all Ireland.

APPENDIX IV

III.—TABLE showing by certain counties, as regards holdings (*a*) above 50 acres and (*b*) under 50 acres in each county; the percentage the acreage under these holdings is of the total acreage of agricultural total number of each kind

(*a*).—HOLDINGS

COUNTY.	1.		2.		3.		4.	
	Total Number of Holdings above 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Number of Holdings.	Total Area of Holdings above 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Area of Holdings.	Total Number of Cattle on Holdings above 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Number of Cattle.	Total Number of Bulls on Holdings above 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Number of Bulls.
	No.		Acres.		No.		No.	
Donegal, ...	4,651	16·8	461,648	54·4	58,525	33·3	590	64·8
Galway, ...	4,560	15·2	640,408	60·0	86,849	43·8	226	50·0
Leitrim, ...	871	6·7	68,260	23·6	17,475	18·4	160	42·1
Mayo, ...	2,955	9·5	468,538	51·9	55,088	29·0	190	44·5
Roscommon, ...	1,756	9·7	207,025	45·3	48,766	36·7	120	37·6
Sligo, ...	1,253	9·9	139,912	40·7	31,005	31·6	147	48·4
Clare, ...	4,140	25·9	401,999	61·2	89,270	48·3	472	61·5
Kerry, ...	6,342	36·6	624,743	72·4	149,796	59·2	1,905	83·1
Total, ...	26,526	16·0	3,010,533	55·5	536,774	40·4	3,810	65·1
Total for all Ireland, ..	91,000	20·0	9,500,345	58·4	2,320,093	50·7	19,326	70·2

(*b*).—HOLDINGS

COUNTY.	1.		2.		3.		4.	
	Total Number of Holdings under 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Number of Holdings.	Total Area of Holdings under 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Area of Holdings.	Total Number of Cattle on Holdings under 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Number of Cattle.	Total Number of Bulls on Holdings under 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Number of Bulls.
	No.		Acres.		No.		No.	
Donegal, ...	22,971	83·2	387,563	45·6	117,288	66·7	321	35·2
Galway, ...	25,355	84·8	426,690	40·0	111,442	56·2	226	50·0
Leitrim, ...	12,214	93·3	221,383	76·4	77,403	81·6	220	57·9
Mayo, ...	28,092	90·5	434,431	48·1	134,877	71·0	237	55·5
Roscommon, ...	16,426	90·3	250,485	54·7	84,128	63·3	199	62·4
Sligo, ...	11,445	90·1	200,924	59·3	67,064	68·4	157	51·6
Clare, ...	11,855	74·1	254,575	38·8	95,577	51·7	296	38·5
Kerry, ...	10,970	63·4	238,619	27·6	103,032	40·8	387	16·9
Total, ...	139,328	84·0	2,414,670	44·5	790,811	59·6	2,043	34·9
Total for all Ireland, ..	363,287	80·0	6,769,709	41·6	2,258,467	49·3	8,202	29·8

extent, the percentage that the number of holdings of each class is of the total number of holdings in land in the county; and the percentage the total number of each kind of cattle on these holdings is of the of cattle in county.

ABOVE 50 ACRES.

5.		6.		7.		8.		
Total Number of Milch Cows (including Heifers in Calf) on Holdings above 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Number of Milch Cows.	Total Number of Cattle of two years old and upwards on Holdings above 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Number of Cattle of this age.	Total Number of Cattle between one and two years old on Holdings above 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Number of Cattle of this age.	Total Number of Cattle under one year old on Holdings above 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Number of Cattle of this age.	COUNTY.
No.		No.		No.		No.		
18,815	28·4	11,572	49·5	14,717	35·9	12,831	29·0	Donegal.
12,385	25·7	45,850	69·2	20,180	40·8	8,208	24·1	Galway.
4,788	12·4	4,651	38·8	4,610	26·3	3,266	12·4	Leitrim.
8,569	14·7	28,659	57·3	12,582	28·4	5,088	13·7	Mayo.
5,945	16·3	23,852	72·2	14,646	40·8	4,203	15·4	Roscommon.
5,312	16·4	11,455	64·3	9,970	43·7	4,121	16·6	Sligo.
22,876	39·5	23,939	73·6	22,922	50·6	19,061	39·4	Clare.
61,927	56·1	20,314	74·7	25,154	62·2	40,496	55·8	Kerry.
140,617	31·4	170,292	65·0	124,781	42·1	97,274	30·9	Total.
637,873	42·0	741,433	73·8	491,062	50·1	430,399	41·1	Total for all Ireland.

UNDER 50 ACRES.

5.		6.		7.		8.		
Total Number of Milch Cows (including Heifers in Calf) on Holdings under 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Number of Milch Cows.	Total Number of Cattle of two years old and upwards on Holdings under 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Number of Cattle of this age.	Total Number of Cattle between one and two years old on Holdings under 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Number of Cattle of this age.	Total Number of Cattle under one year old on Holdings under 50 Acres.	Percentage of Total Number of Cattle. of this age.	COUNTY.
No.		No.		No.		No.		
47,376	71·6	11,826	50·5	26,323	64·1	31,442	71·0	Donegal.
35,794	74·3	20,380	30·8	29,222	59·2	25,820	75·9	Galway.
33,831	87·6	7,322	61·2	12,909	73·7	23,121	87·6	Leitrim.
49,584	85·3	21,350	42·7	31,749	71·6	31,957	86·3	Mayo.
30,494	83·7	9,176	27·8	21,228	59·2	23,031	84·6	Roscommon.
26,993	83·6	6,351	35·7	12,819	56·3	20,744	83·4	Sligo.
35,020	60·5	8,602	26·4	22,343	49·4	29,316	60·6	Clare.
48,439	43·9	6,878	25·3	15,268	37·8	32,060	44·2	Kerry.
307,531	68·6	91,885	35·0	171,861	57·9	217,491	69·1	Total
879,488	58·0	263,698	26·2	489,910	49·9	617,169	58·9	Total for all Ireland.

PPENDIX IV

IV.—TABLE showing, as regards holdings (*a*) not exceeding 30 acres in extent, (*b*) between 30 acres and 200 various classes of crops on these holdings; and the percentage th

(*a.*) HOLDINGS UN

COUNTY.	1. Number of Holdings.	2. Total Area of Agricultural Land.	3. Total Area under Corn Crops.	3. Percentage of Total Area.	4. Total Area under Green Crops (excluding Potatoes).	4. Percentage of Total Area.	5. Total Area under Potatoes.	5. Percentage of Total Area.	6. Total Area under Flax.	6. Percentage of Total Area.	7. Total Area under Hay, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd years.	7.
	No.	Acres.	Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.	
Donegal, ...	18,908	252,827	35,972	14·2	7,148	2·8	19,367	7·7	1,640	0·6	8,068	
Galway, ...	21,458	295,038	24,129	8·2	8,052	2·8	20,457	6·9	—	—	11,196	
Leitrim, ...	10,422	158,113	5,491	3·6	1,637	1·0	8,167	5·2	4	0·0	1,809	
Mayo, ...	25,073	333,776	29,648	8·9	6,054	1·8	25,736	7·7	23	0·0	14,241	
Roscommon, ...	14,651	187,001	11,428	6·1	4,261	2·3	12,740	6·8	—	—	5,626	
Sligo, ...	9,861	146,585	8,094	5·5	2,571	1·7	8,578	5·8	—	—	5,458	
Clare, ...	8,210	125,999	3,857	3·1	2,588	2·0	6,438	5·1	—	—	1,851	
Kerry, ...	7,041	112,948	5,223	4·6	2,532	2·2	5,986	5·3	—	—	3,214	
Total.	115,624	1,612,287	123,842	7·7	34,843	2·1	107,469	6·7	1,667	0·1	51,463	
Total for all Ireland, ..	288,366	4,126,725	468,044	11·3	114,196	2·8	282,802	6·9	27,954	0·7	273,355	

(*b.*) HOLDINGS BETWE

Donegal, ...	8,246	431,513	44,759	10·4	11,053	2·6	13,367	3·1	4,518	1·0	12,474	
Galway, ...	7,443	421,952	14,420	3·4	6,824	1·6	8,902	2·1	—	—	9,165	
Leitrim, ...	2,624	120,219	2,215	1·8	828	0·7	2,859	2·4	5	0·0	1,140	
Mayo, ...	5,354	286,431	9,130	3·2	2,804	1·0	6,692	2·3	12	0·0	5,355	
Roscommon, ...	3,244	191,951	4,401	2·3	2,351	1·2	3,694	1·9	—	—	3,151	
Sligo, ...	2,680	140,490	4,128	2·9	1,733	1·2	3,287	2·4	1	0·0	3,576	
Clare, ...	7,363	405,646	6,934	1·7	5,304	1·3	8,223	2·0	—	—	4,075	
Kerry, ...	9,572	555,405	16,959	3·1	8,363	1·5	13,119	2·4	—	—	11,851	
Total, ...	46,526	2,553,607	102,946	4·0	39,260	1·5	60,143	2·4	4,536	0·2	50,787	
Total for all Ireland, ..	156,152	9,056,424	730,361	8·1	243,041	2·7	252,766	2·8	30,863	0·3	481,730	

(*c*) HOLDINGS OV

Donegal, ...	468	164,871	2,236	1·4	585	0·3	679	0·4	152	0·1	685	
Galway, ...	1,014	350,108	2,777	0·8	1,535	0·4	1,188	0·3	—	—	1,927	
Leitrim, ...	39	11,311	41	0·4	27	0·2	45	0·4	—	—	50	
Mayo, ...	618	282,762	1,130	0·4	431	0·2	647	0·2	2	0·0	697	
Roscommon, ...	287	78,558	737	0·9	437	0·6	373	0·5	—	—	576	
Sligo, ...	157	51,761	587	1·1	206	0·4	305	0·6	—	—	479	
Clare, ...	422	124,929	1,043	0·8	625	0·5	607	0·5	—	—	801	
Kerry, ...	699	195,009	1,419	0·7	723	0·4	895	0·5	—	—	917	
Total, ...	3,704	1,259,309	9,970	0·8	4,569	0·4	4,739	0·4	154	0·0	6,132	
Total for all Ireland, ..	9,769	3,086,905	69,738	2·3	29,033	0·9	15,295	0·5	655	0·0	52,506	

over 200 acres in extent, the number of such holdings; the area occupied by these holdings; the area occupied by APPENDIX I
d by each class of crops is of the total area occupied by these holdings.

RES.

8.		9.		10.		11.		12.		13.		
Per-centage of Total Area.		Permanent Meadow.	Per-centage of Total Area.	Permanent Pasture.	Per-centage of Total Area.	Mountain land grazed.	Per-centage of Total Area.	Total of Cols. 3 S (inclusive).	Per-centage of Total Area.	Total of Cols. 9-11 (inclusive).	Per-centage of Total Area.	County.
		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		
10·6	795	23,426	9·3	74,413	29·4	55,998	22·2	98,990	39·1	158,837	60·8	Donegal.
5·7	676	29,604	10·0	165,058	55·9	19,666	6·7	80,710	27·4	214,328	72·6	Galway.
3·0	742	31,874	20·1	101,419	64·1	2,970	1·9	21,850	13·8	136,263	86·2	Leitrim.
8·3	744	24,924	7·4	180,813	54·2	24,593	7·4	103,446	31·0	230,330	69·0	Mayo.
3·8	656	34,467	18·4	109,417	58·5	2,006	1·1	41,111	22·0	145,890	78·0	Roscommon.
3·6	281	18,363	12·5	94,776	64·7	3,464	2·4	29,982	20·5	116,603	79·5	Sligo.
0·8	663	26,938	21·4	78,762	62·5	4,502	3·6	15,797	12·5	110,202	87·5	Clare.
3·5	902	15,347	13·6	60,738	53·8	16,006	14·2	20,857	18·5	92,091	81·5	Kerry.
5·8	59	204,943	12·7	865,396	53·7	129,205	8·0	412,743	25·6	1,199,544	74·4	Total.
11·6	98	457,357	11·1	1,837,534	44·5	186,185	4·5	1,645,649	39·9	2,481,076	60·1	Total for all Ireland.

RES AND 200 ACRES.

12·1	2	19,606	4·5	104,873	24·3	168,681	39·1	138,353	32·1	293,160	67·9	Donegal.
3·0	4	31,476	7·5	284,033	67·4	54,198	12·8	52,245	12·4	369,707	87·6	Galway.
2·3	6	19,042	15·9	82,450	68·6	8,944	7·4	9,783	8·1	110,436	91·9	Leitrim.
3·2	4	16,524	5·8	172,822	60·3	63,978	22·3	33,107	11·6	253,324	88·4	Mayo.
1·7	5	23,758	12·4	148,725	77·5	2,636	1·4	16,832	8·8	175,119	91·2	Roscommon.
2·4	4	12,368	8·8	100,504	71·5	11,589	8·2	16,029	11·4	124,461	88·6	Sligo.
0·7	5	60,210	14·8	271,608	67·0	46,297	11·5	27,531	6·8	378,115	93·2	Clare.
2·5	9	62,935	11·3	323,837	58·3	104,302	18·8	64,331	11·6	491,074	88·4	Kerry.
3·9	79	245,919	9·6	1,488,852	58·4	460,625	18·0	358,211	14·0	2,195,396	86·0	Total.
8·3	3	803,285	8·9	4,935,562	54·5	821,197	9·1	2,496,380	27·5	6,560,044	72·4	Total for all Ireland.

RES.

1·3		1,849	1·1	22,934	13·9	133,605	81·1	6,483	3·9	158,388	96·1	Donegal.
0·8		11,805	3·4	177,507	50·7	150,530	43·0	10,266	2·9	339,842	97·1	Galway.
2·7		537	4·7	5,728	50·7	4,576	40·5	470	4·1	10,841	95·9	Leitrim.
0·3		3,520	1·2	73,760	26·1	201,767	71·4	3,715	1·3	279,047	98·7	Mayo.
0·2		6,725	8·6	69,072	87·9	455	0·6	2,306	2·9	76,252	97·1	Roscommon.
0·7		1,403	2·7	26,431	51·1	21,996	42·5	1,931	3·7	49,830	96·3	Sligo.
0·4		7,929	6·3	80,870	64·7	32,556	26·1	3,574	2·9	121,355	97·1	Clare.
0·6		7,020	3·6	68,512	35·1	114,284	58·6	5,193	2·7	189,816	97·3	Kerry.
0·6		40,788	3·2	524,814	41·7	659,769	52·4	33,938	2·7	1,225,371	97·3	Total.
2·3		1,000,7	4·9	1,647,541	53·4	1,057,338	34·2	231,959	7·5	2,854,946	92·5	Total for all Ireland.

APPENDIX IV. V.—TABLE showing, as regards holdings (*a*) under 30 acres in extent, (*b*) between 30 acres and 200 acres, and of cattle on these holdings, and the acreage per head of cattle; and the number of each kind of cattle

(*a.*)—HOLDINGS NOT

COUNTY.	1. Number of Holdings.	2. Total Area occupied by these Holdings.	3. Total Number of Cattle on these Holdings.	4. Number of Acres for each Head of Cattle on these Holdings.	5. Number of Bulls.	5. Percentage to Total Number of Animals.
	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	
Donegal, ...	18,908	252,827	84,441	3·0	183	0·2
Galway, ...	21,458	295,038	83,635	3·5	154	0·2
Leitrim, ...	10,242	158,113	57,621	2·7	113	0·2
Mayo, ...	25,073	333,776	109,820	3·0	137	0·1
Roscommon, ...	14,651	187,001	66,538	2·8	116	0·2
Sligo, ...	9,861	146,585	50,380	2·9	89	0·2
Clare, ...	8,210	125,999	52,476	2·4	60	0·1
Kerry, ...	7,041	112,948	48,770	2·3	118	0·3
Total, ...	115,624	1,612,287	553,681	2·9	950	0·2
Total for all Ireland, ...	288,366	4,126,725	1,428,367	2·9	3,562	0·2

(*b.*)—HOLDINGS OVER 30 ACRES

Donegal, ...	8,246	431,513	84,614	5·1	672	0·8
Galway, ...	7,443	421,952	78,956	5·3	212	0·3
Leitrim, ...	2,624	120,219	36,101	3·3	257	0·7
Mayo, ...	5,354	286,431	60,494	4·7	241	0·4
Roscommon, ...	3,244	191,951	49,970	3·8	166	0·3
Sligo, ...	2,680	140,490	40,325	3·5	178	0·4
Clare, ...	7,363	405,646	115,149	3·5	618	0·5
Kerry, ...	9,572	555,405	180,592	3·1	1,811	1·0
Total, ...	46,526	2,553,607	646,201	4·0	4,155	0·6
Total for all Ireland, ...	156,152	9,056,424	2,618,345	3·5	20,747	0·8

(*c.*)—HOLDINGS

Donegal, ...	468	164,871	6,758	24·4	76	1·1
Galway, ...	1,014	350,108	35,700	9·8	86	0·2
Leitrim, ...	89	11,311	1,156	9·8	10	0·8
Mayo, ...	618	282,762	19,651	14·4	49	0·2
Roscommon, ...	287	78,558	16,386	4·8	37	0·2
Sligo, ...	157	51,761	7,364	7·0	37	0·5
Clare, ...	422	124,929	17,222	7·2	99	0·5
Kerry, ...	699	195,009	23,466	8·3	363	1·5
Total, ...	3,704	1,259,309	127,703	9·9	748	0·6
Total for all Ireland, ...	9,769	3,086,905	531,848	5·8	3,219	0·6

over 200 acres in extent, the number of such holdings, the area occupied by these holdings; the number APPENDIX IV
and the percentage the number of each kind of cattle is of the total number of cattle on these holdings.

EXCEEDING 30 ACRES.

6.		7.		8.		9.		
Number of Milch Cows including Heifers in Calf.	Percentage to Total Number of Animals.	Number of Cattle of two years old and upwards.	Percentage to Total Number of Animals.	Number of Cattle over one year and not exceeding two years.	Percentage to Total Number of Animals.	Number of Cattle under one year.	Percentage to Total Number of Animals.	COUNTY.
No.		No.		No.		No.		
35,301	41·8	7,538	8·9	18,241	21·6	23,198	27·5	Donegal.
28,601	34·2	12,807	15·3	21,266	25·4	20,807	24·9	Galway.
26,005	45·1	4,807	8·3	9,143	15·9	17,553	30·5	Leitrim.
42,281	38·5	14,954	13·6	25,263	23·0	27,185	24·8	Mayo.
25,590	38·4	5,668	8·5	15,890	23·9	19,274	29·0	Roscommon.
21,391	42·4	3,725	7·4	8,755	17·4	16,420	32·6	Sligo.
19,572	37·3	4,158	7·9	12,332	23·5	16,354	31·2	Clare.
23,027	47·2	3,071	6·3	7,420	15·2	15,134	31·0	Kerry.
221,768	40·5	56,728	10·2	118,310	21·2	155,925	27·9	Total.
571,549	40·0	145,254	10·2	308,528	21·6	399,474	28·0	Total for all Ireland.

BUT NOT EXCEEDING 200 ACRES.

29,053	34·3	13,777	16·3	21,134	25·0	19,978	23·6	Donegal
15,359	19·5	32,149	40·7	20,701	26·2	10,535	13·3	Galway.
12,401	34·4	6,664	18·5	8,069	22·3	8,710	24·1	Leitrim.
13,775	22·8	22,984	38·0	14,981	24·7	8,513	14·1	Mayo.
9,486	19·0	17,718	35·5	15,630	31·3	6,970	13·9	Roscommon.
9,990	24·8	11,132	27·6	11,362	28·2	7,663	19·0	Sligo.
35,797	31·0	19,957	17·5	28,703	24·9	30,074	26·1	Clare.
79,900	44·3	17,947	9·9	28,208	15·6	52,726	29·2	Kerry.
205,761	31·9	142,328	22·0	148,788	23·0	145,169	22·5	Total.
861,021	32·9	574,252	21·9	567,304	21·7	595,021	22·7	Total for all Ireland.

ABOVE 200 ACRES.

1,837	27·2	2,083	30·8	1,665	24·6	1,097	16·3	Donegal.
4,219	11·8	21,274	59·5	7,435	20·9	2,686	7·6	Galway.
213	18·4	502	43·5	307	26·5	124	10·8	Leitrim.
2,097	10·7	12,071	61·5	4,087	20·8	1,347	6·8	Mayo.
1,064	8·4	9,042	58·8	4,354	26·5	990	6·0	Roscommon.
524	12·6	2,949	40·0	2,672	36·3	782	10·6	Sligo.
1,527	14·7	8,426	49·0	4,230	24·5	1,949	11·3	Clare.
7,439	31·7	6,174	26·3	4,794	20·4	4,696	20·1	Kerry.
20,019	16·1	63,121	49·4	29,544	23·2	13,671	10·7	Total.
84,791	16·1	285,625	53·6	105,140	19·8	53,073	9·9	Total for all Ireland.

VI.—STATEMENT showing, by certain counties, as regards holdings (*a*) under 30 acres, (*b*) between 30 a number of holdings in each county; the percentage the acreage under these holdings is of the to these holdings is of the total num

(*a*) HOLDINGS NO

COUNTY	1.		2.		3.		4.	
	Total Number of these Holdings.	Percentage of Total Number of Holdings.	Total Area of these Holdings.	Percentage of Total Area of Holdings.	Total Number of Cattle on these Holdings.	Percentage of Total Number of Cattle.	Total Number of Bulls on these Holdings.	Percentage of Total Number of Bulls.
	No.		Acres.		No.		No.	
Donegal, ...	18,908	68·5	252,827	29·8	84,441	48·1	163	17·8
Galway, ...	21,458	71·7	295,038	27·7	83,635	42·3	154	34·1
Leitrim, ...	10,422	79·6	158,113	54·6	57,621	60·7	113	29·7
Mayo, ...	25,073	80·8	333,776	37·0	109,820	57·9	137	32·1
Roscommon, .. .	14,651	80·6	187,001	40·8	66,538	50·0	116	36·4
Sligo, ...	9,861	77·7	146,585	43·3	50,380	51·4	89	29·3
Clare, ...	8,210	51·3	125,999	19·2	52,476	28·4	60	7·8
Kerry, ...	7,041	40·6	112,948	13·1	48,770	19·4	118	5·1
Total, ...	115,624	69·7	1,612,287	29·7	553,681	41·7	950	16·2
Total for all Ireland, ..	288,366	63·4	4,126,725	25·4	1,428,367	31·2	3,562	12·9

(*b*) HOLDINGS EXCEEDING 30 ACRES

Donegal, ...	8,246	29·8	431,513	50·8	84,614	48·1	672	73·8
Galway, ...	7,443	24·9	421,952	39·5	78,956	39·8	212	46·9
Leitrim, ...	2,624	20·1	120,219	41·5	36,101	38·1	257	67·7
Mayo, ...	5,354	17·2	286,431	31·7	60,494	31·8	241	56·4
Roscommon, ...	3,244	17·8	191,951	42·0	49,970	37·6	166	52·0
Sligo, ...	2,680	21·1	140,490	41·4	40,325	41·1	178	58·5
Clare, ...	7,363	46·0	405,646	61·8	115,149	62·3	618	80·5
Kerry, ...	9,572	55·4	555,405	64·3	180,592	71·4	1,811	79·0
Total, ...	46,526	28·1	2,553,607	47·1	646,201	48·7	4,155	71·0
Total for all Ireland, ..	156,152	34·4	9,056,424	55·6	2,618,345	57·2	20,747	75·4

(*c*) HOLDINGS EXCEEDING

	No.		Acres.					
Donegal, ...	468	1·7	164,871	19·4	6,758	3·8	76	8·4
Galway, ...	1,014	3·4	350,108	32·3	35,700	17·9	86	19·0
Leitrim, ...	39	0·3	11,311	3·9	1,156	1·2	10	2·6
Mayo, ...	618	2·0	282,762	31·3	19,651	10·3	49	11·5
Roscommon, ...	287	1·6	78,558	17·2	16,386	12·4	37	11·6
Sligo, ...	157	1·2	51,761	15·3	7,364	7·5	37	12·2
Clare, ...	422	2·7	124,929	19·0	17,222	9·3	90	11·7
Kerry, ...	699	4·0	195,009	22·6	23,466	9·2	363	15·9
Total, ...	3,704	2·2	1,259,309	23·2	127,703	9·6	748	12·8
Total for all Ireland, ..	9,769	2·2	3,086,905	19·6	531,848	11·6	3,219	11·7

200 acres, and over 200 acres in extent, the percentage that the number of holdings of each class is of the total age of agricultural land in the county; and the percentage the total number of each kind of cattle on ch kind of cattle in the county.

CEEDING 30 ACRES.

5.		6.		7.		8.		
otal mber of Cows luding ers in 0 on ese tings.	Percentage of Total Number of Milch Cows.	Total Number of Cattle of two years old and upwards on these Holdings.	Percentage of Total Number of Cattle of this age.	Total Number of Cattle over one and not exceeding two years old on these Holdings.	Percentage of Total Number of Cattle of this age.	Total Number of Cattle under one year old on these Holdings.	Percentage of Total Number of Cattle of this age.	COUNTY.
No. 5,301	53·3	No. 7,538	32·3	No. 18,241	44·5	No. 23,198	52·4	Donegal.
8,601	59·4	12,807	19·2	21,266	43·0	20,807	61·2	Galway.
6,005	67·3	4,807	40·6	9,145	52·2	17,553	66·5	Leitrim.
2,281	72·7	14,954	29·9	25,263	57·0	27,185	73·3	Mayo.
5,590	70·3	5,668	17·1	15,890	44·3	19,274	70·8	Roscommon.
1,591	66·2	3,725	20·9	8,755	38·5	16,420	66·1	Sligo
9,572	33·8	4,158	12·7	12,332	27·2	16,354	33·8	Clare.
3,027	20·9	3,071	11·2	7,420	18·4	15,134	20·8	Kerry.
1,768	49·5	56,728	21·6	118,310	40·4	155,925	49·5	Total.
1,549	37·7	145,254	14·3	308,528	31·5	399,474	38·1	Total for all Ireland.

' NOT EXCEEDING 200 ACRES.

2,053	43·9	13,777	59·0	21,134	51·4	19,978	45·1	Donegal.
5,359	31·9	32,149	48·7	20,701	41·9	10,535	30·9	Galway.
2,401	32·2	6,664	55·2	8,069	46·0	8,710	33·0	Leitrim.
3,775	23·7	22,984	46·0	14,981	33·8	8,513	23·0	Mayo.
2,486	26·0	17,718	53·7	15,630	43·6	6,970	25·6	Roscommon.
2,990	31·0	11,132	62·5	11,362	49·8	7,663	30·8	Sligo.
3,797	61·8	19,957	61·4	28,703	63·4	30,074	62·2	Clare.
2,900	72·4	17,947	66·0	28,208	69·7	52,726	72·8	Kerry.
5,761	45·9	142,328	54·3	144,788	49·5	145,169	46·1	Total.
1,021	56·7	574,252	57·3	567,304	57·8	595,021	56·8	Total for all Ireland.

ACRES IN EXTENT.

[illegible]	[illegible]	2,083	8·7	1,665	4·1	1,097	2·5	Donegal.
[illegible]	[illegible]	21,274	32·1	7,435	15·1	2,686	7·9	Galway.
[illegible]	[illegible]	502	4·2	307	1·8	124	0·5	Leitrim.
[illegible]	[illegible]	12,071	24·1	4,087	9·2	1,347	3·7	Mayo.
[illegible]	[illegible]	9,642	29·2	4,354	12·1	990	3·6	Roscommon.
[illegible]	[illegible]	2,949	16·6	2,672	11·7	782	3·1	Sligo.
[illegible]	[illegible]	8,426	25·9	4,230	9·4	1,949	4·0	Clare.
[illegible]	[illegible]	6,174	22·8	4,794	11·9	4,696	6·4	Kerry.
[illegible]	[illegible]	63,121	24·1	29,544	10·1	13,671	4·4	Total.
[illegible]	[illegible]	258,625	28·4	105,140	10·7	53,073	5·1	Total for all Ireland.

VII.—Table showing, for holdings under 50 acres and over 50 acres in the whole of Connaught and the counties of Donegal, Clare, and Kerry, the number of holdings, the area of agricultural land occupied by these holdings, the area occupied by various classes of crops on these holdings, and the percentage the area occupied by each crop on each class of holding is of the area occupied by both classes of holdings.

Holdings.	1.	2.	3.		4.		5.		6.		7.		8.		9.		10.		11.		12.		13.	
	No. of Holdings.	Total area of agricultural land occupied by these Holdings.	Total area under Corn Crops.	Percentage of total area.	Total area under Green Crops (including Potatoes).	Percentage of total area.	Total area under Potatoes.	Percentage of total area.	Total area under Flax.	Percentage of total area.	Total area under Hay, 1st 2nd, and 3rd years.	Percentage of total area.	Pasture under Rotation.	Percentage of total area.	Permanent Meadow.	Percentage of total area.	Permanent Pasture.	Percentage of total area.	Mountain land Grazed.	Percentage of total area.	Totals of Cols. 2-8 (excluding Potatoes, Col. 5).	Percentage of total area.	Totals of Cols. 9-11 (inclusive).	Percentage of total area.
	No.	Acres.	Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.	
Under 50 Acres.	139,328	2,414,670	166,180	6·9	187,304	7·8	136,528	5·6	3,023	0·1	71,693	3·0	131,532	5·4	298,923	12·4	1,329,289	55·0	226,726	9·4	559,732	23·2	1,854,938	76·8
Over 50 Acres.	26,526	3,010,533	70,578	2·3	63,719	2·1	35,823	1·2	3,334	0·1	36,689	1·2	70,840	2·4	192,727	6·4	1,519,773	51·5	1,022,873	34·0	245,160	8·1	2,765,373	91·9

VIII.—Table showing, for holdings under and over 50 acres in the whole of Connaught and the counties of Donegal, Clare, and Kerry, the number of holdings, the total area occupied by these holdings, the total number of cattle on these holdings, and the acreage per head of cattle, and the number of each kind of cattle, and the percentage that the number of each kind of cattle on each class of holding is of the number of cattle on each of the two classes of holdings.

Holdings.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.		6.		7.		8.		9.	
	No. of Holdings.	Total area of agricultural land occupied by these Holdings.	Total number of cattle on these Holdings.	No. of acres for each head of Cattle.	No. of Bulls.	Percentage of Bulls to total number of Cattle.	No. of Milch cows (including Heifers in calf).	Percentage of Milch cows to total number of Cattle.	No. of Cattle two years old and upwards.	Percentage of Cattle of this age to total number of Cattle.	No. of Cattle over one and under two years old.	Percentage of Cattle of this age to total number of Cattle.	No. of Cattle under one year old.	Percentage of Cattle of this age to total number of Cattle.
	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.		No.		No.		No.		No.	
Under 50 Acres.	**139,328**	**2,414,670**	**790,811**	**3·0**	**2,043**	**0·3**	**307,531**	**38·9**	**91,885**	**11·6**	**171,861**	**21·7**	**217,491**	**27·5**
Over 50 Acres.	26,526	3,010,533	536,774	5·6	3,810	0·7	140,617	26·2	170,292	31·7	124,781	23·3	97,271	18·1

IX.—Table showing, for holdings under and over 50 acres in the whole of Connaught and the counties of Donegal, Clare, and Kerry, the number of holdings of each of the two classes and the percentage that number is of the number of both classes of holdings, the area occupied by each class of holdings and the percentage that area is of the total area of both classes of holdings, the total number of cattle and of the various classes of cattle on the holdings, and the percentage these numbers are of the total numbers on both classes of holdings.

Holdings.	1.		2.		3.		4.		5.		6.		7.		8.	
	No. of Holdings.	Percentage of total number of Holdings.	Total area of agricultural land occupied by these Holdings.	Percentage of total area of Holdings.	Total number of Cattle on these Holdings.	Percentage of total number of Cattle.	Total number of Bulls on these Holdings.	Percentage of total number of Bulls.	Total number of Milch cows (including Heifers in Calf) on Holdings.	Percentage of total number of Milch cows.	Total number of Cattle of two years old and upwards on Holdings.	Percentage of total number of Cattle of this age.	Total number of Cattle between one and two years old on these Holdings.	Percentage of total number of Cattle of this age.	Total number of Cattle under one year old on Holdings.	Percentage of total number of Cattle of this age.
	No.		Acres.		No.		No.		No.		No.		No.		No.	
Under 50 Acres.	139,328	84·0	2,414,670	44·5	790,811	59·6	2,043	34·9	307,531	68·6	91,885	35·0	171,861	57·9	217,491	69·1
Over 50 Acres.	26,526	16·0	3,010,533	55·5	536,774	40·4	3,810	65·1	140,617	31·4	170,292	65·0	124,781	42·1	97,274	30·9

holdings, the area of agricultural land occupied by these holdings, the area occupied by various classes of crops on these holdings, and the percentage the area occupied by each crop on each class of holding is of the area occupied by each of the three classes of holdings.

Holdings	1. No. of Holdings.	2. Total area of agricultural land.	3. Total area under Corn Crops.	3. Per centage of total area.	4. Total area under Green Crops (excluding Potatoes).	4. Per centage of total area.	5. Total area under Potatoes.	5. Per centage of total area.	6. Total area under Flax.	6. Per centage of total area.	7. Total area under Hay 1st, 2nd, and 3rd years.	7. Per centage of total area.	8. Pasture under Rotation	8. Per centage of total area.	9. Permanent Meadow.	9. Per centage of total area.	10. Permanent Pasture.	10. Per centage of total area.	11. Mountain land Grazed.	11. Per centage of total area.	12. Totals of Cols. 3-8 (inclusive.	12. Per centage of total area.	13. Totals of Cols. 9-11 (inclusive).	13. Per centage of total area.
	No.	Acres.	Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.	
Under 30 Acres. .	115,624	1,612,287	123,842	7·7	31,843	2·1	107,469	6·7	1,667	0·1	51,463	3·2	93,459	5·8	204,913	12·7	865,396	53·7	129,205	8·0	412,743	25·6	1,199,541	74·4
From 30 to 200 Acres.	46,526	2,553,607	102,946	4·0	39,260	1·5	60,143	2·4	1,536	0·2	50,787	2·0	100,539	3·9	245,919	9·6	1,488,852	58·4	160,625	18·0	358,211	14·0	2,105,396	86·0
Over 200 Acres. .	3,704	1,259,309	9,970	0·8	4,569	0·4	4,739	0·4	154	0·0	6,132	0·5	8,371	0·6	40,788	3·2	521,811	41·7	659,769	52·4	33,938	2·7	1,225,371	97·3

XI.—Table showing, for holdings under 30 acres, from 30 to 200 acres, and over 200 acres in the whole of Connaught and the counties of Donegal, Clare, and Kerry, the number of holdings, the total area occupied by these holdings, the total number of cattle on these holdings, and the acreage per head of cattle, and the number of each kind of cattle, and the percentage that the number of each kind of cattle on each class of holding is of the number of cattle on each of the three classes of holdings.

Divisions of Land.	1. Total No. of Holdings.	2. Total area of agricultural land occupied by these Holdings.	3. Total number of cattle on these Holdings.	4. No. of acres for each head of Cattle on these Holdings.	5. No. of Bulls on these Holdings.	5. Percentage of Bulls to total number of Animals.	6. No. of Milch cows (including Heifers in calf).	6. Percentage of Milch cows to total number of Animals.	7. No. of Cattle of two years old and upwards on these Holdings.	7. Percentage of total number of this age to total number of Animals.	8. No. of Cattle over one and under two years old.	8. Percentage of total number of this age to total number of Animals.	9. No. of Cattle under one year old.	9. Percentage of total number of Cattle of this age to total number of Animals.
	No.	Acres	No.	Acres.	No.		No.		No.		No.		No.	
Under 30 Acres, . . .	115,624	1,612,287	553,681	2·9	950	0·2	221,768	40·5	56,728	10·2	118,310	21·2	155,925	27·9
From 30 to 200 Acres, . .	46,526	2,553,607	646,201	4·0	4,155	0·6	205,761	31·9	142,328	22·0	148,788	23·0	145,169	22·5
Over 200 Acres. . . .	3,704	1,259,309	127,703	9·9	748	0·6	20,619	16·1	63,121	49·4	29,544	23·2	13,671	10·7

XII.—Table showing, for holdings under 30 acres, from 30 to 200 acres, and over 200 acres in the whole of Connaught and the counties of Donegal, Clare, and Kerry, the number of holdings of each of the three classes and the percentage that number is of the number of the three classes of holdings; the area occupied by each class of holdings and the percentage that area is of the total area of the three classes of holdings, the total number of cattle and of the various classes of cattle on these holdings, and the percentages these numbers are of the total numbers on the three classes of holdings.

Holdings	1. Total No. of Holdings.	1. Percentage of total number of Holdings.	2. Total area of Holdings.	2. Percentage of total area of Holdings.	3. Total number of Cattle on Holdings.	3. Percentage of total number of Cattle.	4. Total number of Bulls on Holdings.	4. Percentage of total number of Bulls.	5. Total number of Milch cows (including Heifers in Calf) on Holdings.	5. Percentage of total number of Milch cows	6. Total number of Cattle of two years old and upwards on Holdings	6. Percentage of total number of Cattle of this age.	7. Total number of Cattle between one and two years old on Holdings.	7. Percentage of total number of Cattle of this age.	8. Total number of Cattle under one year old on Holdings.	8. Percentage of total number of Cattle of this age.
	No.		Acres,		No.		No.		No.		No.		No.		No.	
Under 30 Acres, .	115,624	69·7	1,612,287	29·7	553,681	41·7	950	16·2	221,768	49·5	56,728	21·6	118,310	40·4	155,925	49·5
From 30 to 200 Acres,	46,526	28·1	2,553,607	47·1	646,201	48·7	4,155	71·0	205,761	45·9	142,328	54·3	144,788	49·5	145,169	46·1
Over 200 Acres. .	3,704	2·2	1,259,309	23·2	127,703	9·6	748	12·8	20,619	4·6	63,121	24·1	29,544	10·1	13,671	4·4

APPENDIX IV.

XIII.—Statement showing by Counties and Provinces the Number of Holdings above 5 Statute Acres in Extent, Classified according to Size, the Total Acreage of each Class, and the Extent under Crops and Grass in each Class.

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS. Above 200 Statute Acres.											
							Hay.			Pasture.		
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area of Agricultural Land.	Total Area under Corn Crops.	Total Area under Green Crops (including Potatoes).	Potatoes.	Flax.	1st Year's.	2nd and 3rd Years.	Permanent Meadow.	Under Rotation.	Permanent.	Mountain Land (Grazed
LEINSTER.	No.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Carlow,	116	32,542	2,666	1,222	347	—	1,145	1,013	2,752	1,298	21,996	450
Dublin,	140	39,573	1,057	262	257	—	490	649	3,783	414	30,456	2,462
Kildare,	389	124,747	5,315	2,541	443	—	1,931	1,799	8,107	1,144	103,806	104
Kilkenny,	228	61,650	3,057	1,492	400	—	1,091	953	4,434	1,749	46,647	2,227
King's,	308	83,849	2,428	1,628	439	—	1,076	1,179	5,641	1,111	67,134	3,652
Longford,	78	18,916	200	178	86	—	41	76	1,835	163	16,423	—
Louth,	130	36,451	3,120	1,576	491	2	1,126	1,055	1,972	2,708	22,446	2,446
Meath,	655	210,470	3,132	2,151	756	—	1,212	1,479	15,092	1,516	185,876	12
Queen's	284	78,209	3,805	2,198	523	—	1,302	1,476	5,713	1,069	54,450	8,196
Westmeath,	328	101,293	919	885	311	—	415	554	6,639	729	91,053	99
Wexford,	206	53,628	5,310	2,472	498	—	2,203	1,317	1,179	6,570	30,843	3,734
Wicklow,	362	112,224	3,580	2,353	474	—	1,752	2,302	3,228	4,037	57,171	67,801
MUNSTER.												
Clare,	422	124,929	1,043	1,232	607	—	330	471	7,929	498	80,870	32,556
Cork,	817	206,141	9,025	6,039	1,751	—	4,523	3,518	10,473	13,121	100,501	58,941
Kerry,	699	195,009	1,419	1,618	895	—	386	531	7,020	1,239	68,512	114,284
Limerick,	262	76,444	793	839	390	—	266	249	10,763	310	51,302	11,922
Tipperary,	620	183,011	4,699	3,400	924	3	1,677	1,410	15,540	1,818	121,882	32,582
Waterford,	253	75,683	3,039	1,500	365	—	1,243	808	1,146	3,586	37,010	27,361
ULSTER.												
Antrim,	210	89,255	1,320	844	474	147	636	566	3,455	2,263	26,563	52,858
Armagh,	20	4,718	171	84	34	13	165	56	430	247	1,902	1,557
Cavan,	75	15,411	219	174	143	5	118	97	1,209	935	7,769	1,885
Donegal,	468	164,871	2,236	1,264	679	152	572	113	1,849	2,146	22,934	133,605
Down,	104	34,920	1,662	936	356	121	833	364	646	3,475	9,242	17,641
Fermanagh,	89	24,010	211	172	94	6	93	98	2,151	195	13,048	8,036
Londonderry,	176	61,553	2,352	1,238	567	143	1,075	112	826	5,036	11,866	38,905
Monaghan,	25	5,822	285	106	39	—	113	68	580	288	3,946	435
Tyrone,	190	67,086	1,400	730	394	61	453	197	1,685	1,986	9,802	51,472
CONNAUGHT.												
Galway,	1,014	350,108	2,777	2,723	1,188	—	975	952	11,805	2,839	177,507	150,530
Leitrim,	39	11,311	41	72	45	—	14	36	537	307	5,728	4,576
Mayo,	618	282,762	1,130	1,078	647	2	345	362	3,520	808	73,760	201,767
Roscommon,	287	78,568	737	810	373	—	251	325	6,725	183	69,072	455
Sligo,	157	51,761	587	511	305	—	236	243	1,403	364	26,431	21,946
SUMMARY.												
LEINSTER,	3,224	983,542	34,589	18,958	5,025	2	13,784	13,862	60,375	22,498	728,301	91,183
MUNSTER,	3,073	861,217	20,018	14,628	4,932	3	8,425	6,987	52,871	20,572	469,077	277,636
ULSTER,	1,357	467,646	9,859	5,548	2,780	648	4,058	1,671	12,831	17,171	106,665	309,146
CONNAUGHT,	2,115	774,500	5,272	5,194	2,558	2	1,821	1,908	23,990	4,491	352,498	379,324
TOTAL OF IRELAND,	9,769	3,086,905	69,738	44,328	15,295	655	28,088	24,428	150,067	64,732	1,647,541	1,057,289

XIII.—Statement showing by Counties and Provinces the Number of Holdings above 5 Statute Acres in Extent, Classified according to Size, the Total Acreage of each Class, and the Extent under Crops and Grass in each Class—*continued.*

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS. Above 100 and not exceeding 200 Statute Acres.											
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area of Agricultural Land.	Total Area under Corn Crops.	Total Area under Green Crops (including Potatoes).	Potatoes.	Flax.	Hay.			Pasture.		Mountain Land Grazed.
							1st Year's.	2nd and 3rd Years'.	Permanent Meadow.	Under Rotation.	Permanent.	
	No.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
LEINSTER.												
Carlow, ...	353	44,772	4,834	2,446	878	—	2,036	1,633	3,540	2,157	27,500	626
Dublin, ...	399	53,903	3,695	2,041	1,137	—	1,371	1,906	6 718	868	36,516	788
Kildare.	735	83,497	7,623	3,825	885	—	3,126	3,057	8,514	1,822	55,448	82
Kilkenny.	822	101,977	7,993	3,989	1,387	—	3,060	2,223	7,922	5,360	69,000	2,430
King's, ...	578	71,069	4,680	3,082	1,062	—	1,649	1,785	6,129	1,472	51,421	851
Longford, ...	195	23,573	392	374	219	—	162	162	3,653	159	18,671	—
Louth, ...	229	28,644	4,109	2,161	771	3	1,617	1,094	1,298	3,833	13,861	668
Meath.	921	130,096	3,127	1,953	740	—	1,540	1,761	11,952	3,874	105,860	29
Queen's, ...	606	76,929	7,041	4,039	1,258	—	2,481	2,948	7,844	1,824	49,173	1,579
Westmeath.	548	68,363	1,164	1,039	484	—	486	632	6.217	603	58,062	160
Wexford.	871	105,939	15,671	7,284	1,952	—	5,864	2,709	2,242	16,336	54,024	1,809
Wicklow, ...	719	90,342	4,830	2,999	1,057	—	2,339	3,579	5,541	4,037	57,860	9,157
MUNSTER.												
Clare, ...	927	108,278	1,200	1,951	1,085	—	387	378	12,925	540	73,099	17,798
Cork, ...	3,380	394,186	29,946	19,846	6,627	15	14,556	9,581	26,006	41,624	213,460	39,152
Kerry, ...	1,702	193,690	3,816	4,724	2,702	—	1,290	1,649	16,786	3,694	104,312	57,419
Limerick, ...	1,039	129,185	1,744	2 359	1,312	—	711	794	23,753	2,196	93,116	4,512
Tipperary, ...	1,481	182,853	10,396	7,234	2,298	—	3,902	3,289	19,116	4,597	127,713	6,606
Waterford, ...	812	97,588	8,249	4,224	1,313	—	3,443	1,319	981	10,682	61,376	7,314
ULSTER.												
Antrim, ...	524	64,136	4,419	2,796	1,809	603	2,511	1,551	4,564	7,533	25,300	14,859
Armagh, ...	99	11,438	759	436	214	93	495	429	1,711	1,731	5,276	508
Cavan, ...	221	25,240	944	649	408	41	444	465	3,078	1,881	16,347	1,391
Donegal.	1,031	113,420	9,654	4,661	2,102	1,089	2,686	348	3,008	12,421	25,308	54,245
Down, ...	334	39,447	6,047	3,667	2,086	389	2,827	1.671	1,187	11,512	10,109	2,038
Fermanagh, ...	353	40,804	802	690	439	12	247	234	5,399	896	26,053	6.471
Londonderry, ...	435	49,920	7,142	3,345	1,581	671	2,576	588	1,336	11,936	10,267	12,059
Monaghan, ...	109	12,221	831	370	172	64	372	399	945	1,600	7,245	398
Tyrone, ...	581	66,207	5,472	2,925	1,459	616	1,836	648	3,125	8,511	18,842	24.232
CONNAUGHT.												
Galway, ...	1,214	146,356	2,451	2,509	1,215	—	942	981	8,214	3,037	104,109	24,110
Leitrim.	166	16,158	193	267	193	—	37	98	2,285	186	10,467	2,625
Mayo, ...	723	87,937	1,262	1,329	865	1	283	407	3,691	1,035	53,010	26,889
Roscommon, ...	532	69,093	806	984	589	—	295	478	7,006	795	53,012	717
Sligo, ...	314	38,002	686	831	460	—	350	276	2,421	474	27,148	5,816
SUMMARY.												
LEINSTER, ...	6,976	879,104	65,159	35,232	11,830	3	25,731	23,489	71,570	42,345	597,396	18,179
MUNSTER, ...	9,341	1,105,780	55,351	40,338	15,337	15	24 289	17,010	99,567	63,333	673,076	132,801
ULSTER	3,690	422,836	36,070	19,539	10,270	3,578	13,994	6,333	24,353	58,021	144,747	116,201
CONNAUGHT, ...	2,949	357,546	5,401	5 920	3,312	1	1,907	2,240	23,617	5,527	252,776	60,157
TOTAL OF IRELAND	22,956	2 765,266	161 981	101 029	40 749	3597	65,921	49 072	219 107	169 226	1,667 99	327 338

APPENDIX IV.

XIII. Statement showing by Counties and Provinces the Number of Holdings above 5 Statute Acres in Extent, Classified according to Size, the Total Acreage of each Class, and the Extent under Crops and Grass in each Class—*continued.*

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS. Above 50 and not exceeding 100 Statute Acres.											
							Hay.			Pasture.		
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area of Agricultural Land.	Total Area under Corn Crops.	Total Area under Green Crops (including Potatoes).	Potatoes.	Flax.	1st Year's.	2nd and 3rd Years'.	Permanent Meadow.	Under Rotation.	Permanent.	Mountain Land Grazed.
LEINSTER.	No.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Carlow,	846	55.122	8.208	4,538	2,102	—	3,424	2.745	3,982	3,836	27,806	583
Dublin,	625	41.032	3,736	2,697	1,442	—	1,505	2,046	6,775	730	23,379	164
Kildare,	956	65,465	6,753	3,623	1,040	—	2,720	2,864	5,666	1,745	41.895	199
Kilkenny,	2,119	133 919	15,456	7,795	3,106	—	5,873	3,603	9,519	8,898	80,563	2,212
King's,	1.239	78.536	8,581	5,464	2,360	—	2,522	2,903	7,023	1.219	50,279	545
Longford,	607	39,244	1,302	1,474	863	1	529	503	6,028	805	28,530	72
Louth,	467	31,393	5.994	2,837	1,077	5	2,186	1,374	1,183	3.900	13,722	192
Meath,	1,215	80,931	3.930	2.462	1.090	—	1 870	1,961	9.465	2,722	58.480	38
Queen's,	1,266	80 177	10,361	6,503	2,523	—	3,532	3.977	8,462	2,426	44,323	584
Westmeath,	1,065	69,450	2 655	2,248	1,140	—	1,088	1,255	7,638	860	53.640	66
Wexford,	2,500	160,713	28,207	13.677	4.603	—	10,550	4,937	4,312	25,125	71 855	2,050
Wicklow,	1,395	90.211	6,322	4.081	1,836	—	3.038	4,579	6.515	4,680	52.942	8.054
MUNSTER.												
Clare,	2,791	168,792	2,863	5,442	3,256	—	823	958	25,363	1,317	112,830	19,196
Cork,	8,057	503,850	44,619	33,317	13,202	40	22,012	13,014	33,500	57,529	260,575	39 244
Kerry,	3,941	236,044	7,563	9,135	5,594	—	2,565	2,817	27,226	6,159	146,358	34.221
Limerick,	2,930	190,104	4,098	5,501	3,102	—	1,600	1,490	36,821	1,934	134,248	4.412
Tipperary,	3,533	225,837	16,870	12,520	5,302	—	6,011	5,280	25,994	7,513	147,453	4.196
Waterford,	1,676	106,588	11,013	6,149	2,433	—	4.406	1.607	912	12,704	61,613	8,184
ULSTER.												
Antrim,	2,372	155.550	16,397	11,008	7,351	2,770	8,837	4.618	13.075	25,202	52.414	21,199
Armagh,	567	33.675	4,261	2,387	1,285	627	2,324	1.527	3,956	5,899	12.025	669
Cavan,	933	58,043	3,198	2,416	1,719	177	1,604	1,099	7.253	4.887	35.897	1.482
Donegal,	3,152	183,357	19,098	10,302	5.424	2,083	4,663	559	8,353	23,061	43,716	71.522
Down,	1,804	110.526	22,891	12,777	7,884	2,165	10,904	4,022	2.134	36,842	16,973	1,815
Fermanagh,	1,308	79,664	2,789	2,384	1,701	52	942	666	12,663	3,457	50.740	5 171
Londonderry,	1,491	93,731	16,483	8,892	5,002	2,050	6,898	1,227	4,096	23,530	18,194	12.361
Monaghan,	557	33,297	3,822	1,936	1,196	358	1,733	836	2,693	8,396	12,120	1.463
Tyrone	2,534	152,826	18,456	9,833	5,689	2,277	6.990	2,010	8,596	31,747	37.939	34,978
CONNAUGHT.												
Galway,	2,332	143,944	4,818	5,143	2,810	—	1,390	1,662	11,270	3,950	96,878	18,533
Leitrim,	666	40,791	569	943	730	—	125	188	6,192	763	28,727	3,284
Mayo,	1,012	97,839	2,807	2,833	1,975	6	770	958	5,709	3,115	59,184	22,467
Roscommon,	937	59,374	1,420	1,790	1,073	—	455	583	7,454	989	45,955	728
Sligo,	782	48,149	1,599	1,567	1,021	1	595	561	4,036	930	35,816	3 244
SUMMARY.												
LEINSTER	14 300	928,193	101,508	57,405	23,182	6	38,837	32,750	76,568	56,946	547,414	14 7.9
MUNSTER,	22,928	1,431 215	87,026	72,064	32,889	40	37,417	25,166	149,816	87,156	363,077	109,453
ULSTER,	14,718	900,669	107,398	61,965	37,201	12,559	44,895	16,564	62.819	163,021	280,048	151 409
CONNAUGHT,	6,329	340,097	11,013	12,276	7,609	7	3,335	3,952	34.661	9,747	266,560	48,546
TOTAL OF IRELAND,	58,275	3,618,174	306.945	203,710	100,941	12,612	124,484	78,432	323,864	316,870	1,957,099	324 158

III.—Statement showing by Counties and Provinces the number of Holdings above 5 Statute Acres in Extent, Classified according to Size, the Total Acreage of each Class, and the Extent under Crops and Grass in each Class—*continued.*

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS. Above 30 and not exceeding 50 Statute Acres.											
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area of Agricultural Land	Total Area under Corn Crops.	Total Area under Green Crops (including Potatoes).	Potatoes.	Flax.	Hay.			Pasture.		Mountain Land Grazed.
							1st Year's.	2nd and 3rd Years'.	Permanent Meadow.	Under Rotation.	Permanent.	
LEINSTER.	No.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
arlow, ...	849	30,688	5,400	3,127	1,629	—	2,307	1,523	1,685	2,886	13,305	455
ublin, ...	596	21,875	2,138	1,639	885	—	741	994	4,188	449	11,578	148
ildare, ...	824	30,673	5,162	2,254	833	—	1,616	1,348	2,941	662	16,681	9
ilkenny, ...	2,203	81,101	10,375	5,934	2,638	—	3,897	2,125	6,241	5,689	46,102	738
ng's, ...	1,476	50,539	7,470	5,185	2,471	—	1,849	2,241	4,880	835	27,918	159
ongford, ...	1,206	42,026	2,257	2,543	1,784	—	960	781	7,036	1,551	26,780	118
outh, ...	619	22,417	5,566	2,763	1,246	9	1,887	1,097	838	2,950	7,097	205
eath, ...	1,192	44,670	2,935	2,055	949	—	1,418	1,487	5,597	1,599	29,567	12
ueen's, ...	1,316	47,673	7,438	5,219	2,303	—	2,299	2,650	4,851	1,487	23,326	403
estmeath, ...	1,331	48,501	2,623	2,460	1,344	–	983	1,134	5,863	679	34,700	62
exford	2,622	96,571	18,869	9,565	3,759	—	7,260	3,072	2,079	16,480	38,554	701
icklow, ...	1,131	38,533	3,290	2,286	1,195	—	1,705	2,495	3,171	2,183	20,680	2,923
MUNSTER.												
are.	3,645	128,576	2,371	6,134	3,882	—	717	812	21,922	1,138	85,679	9,303
rk.	6,654	236,719	21,916	18,550	8,708	16	11,205	6,422	15,580	27,464	118,882	16,684
rry, ...	3,929	125,671	5,580	7,623	4,823	—	1,638	1,892	18,923	4,186	73,167	12,662
nerick, ...	2,924	113,592	2,717	3,960	2,351	—	888	998	21,777	1,371	80,174	1,707
pperary, ...	3,989	149,566	12,364	11,019	5,074	—	4,415	3,742	18,585	5,159	92,304	1,978
aterford, ...	1,295	46,437	4,815	3,388	1,547	—	2,208	618	550	5,457	25,433	3,938
ULSTER.												
trim.	3,617	131,783	16,419	11,715	8,599	3,244	9,459	3,969	12,471	25,034	42,548	6,924
magh, ...	1,432	49,844	7,672	4,565	2,825	1,165	4,146	2,062	5,121	10,312	14,100	701
an.	2,424	82,763	6,618	5,403	4,021	326	3,226	1,844	11,007	8,503	44,621	1,115
negal, ...	4,063	134,736	16,007	9,457	5,841	1,346	3,671	547	8,245	16,700	35,849	42,914
wn, ...	3,244	114,549	24,777	14,087	9,000	3,011	11,718	3,548	1,619	39,265	14,191	2,333
rmanagh, ...	2,359	83,476	4,016	3,577	2,684	92	1,253	855	14,233	3,938	51,740	3,772
ndonderry, ...	2,286	81,500	16,050	9,444	6,084	2,414	6,891	1,354	3,172	21,281	15,612	5,282
naghan, ...	1,549	52,862	7,987	3,755	2,822	724	3,637	1,222	3,574	17,621	13,371	971
rone.	4,079	142,142	20,202	11,578	7,266	2,297	7,602	2,440	9,275	30,595	37,311	20,842
CONNAUGHT.												
lway, ...	3,897	131,652	7,148	8,074	4,577	—	1,889	2,301	11,992	5,947	83,046	11,255
trim.	1,792	63,270	1,453	2,477	1,936	5	283	409	10,565	1,787	43,256	3,035
yo, ...	3,019	100,655	5,061	5,331	3,862	5	1,420	1,517	7,124	4,964	60,598	14,632
common.	1,775	63,484	2,175	3,271	2,032	—	650	690	9,298	1,451	44,758	1,191
go.	1,584	54,339	2,043	2,622	1,806	—	889	905	5,911	1,900	37,540	2,529
SUMMARY.												
INSTER.	15,365	555,468	73,514	45,035	21,036	9	26,922	20,947	49,370	37,450	296,288	5,933
NSTER.	22,436	800,561	90,293	59,674	26,385	16	21,071	14,481	97,337	44,775	475,639	46,272
STER.	25,053	874,555	119,748	73,581	49,142	14,619	51,603	17,841	68,717	173,249	269,343	84,854
NNAUGHT.	12,067	413,400	17,880	21,778	14,513	10	5,131	5,822	44,880	16,049	269,198	32,642
TOTAL OF IRELAND	74,921	2,642,984	261,435	191,068	111,076	14,654	104,727	59,091	260,314	271,523	1,310,468	169,701

APPENDIX IV.

XIII.—Statement showing by Counties and Provinces the Number of Holdings above 5 Statute Ac in Extent, Classified according to Size, the Total Acreage of each Class, and the Extent under Crops a Grass in each Class—*continued.*

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS. Above 15 and not exceeding 30 Statute Acres.											
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area of Agricultural Land.	Total Area under Corn Crops.	Total Area under Green Crops (including Potatoes).	Potatoes.	Flax.	Hay.			Pasture.		
							1st Year's.	2nd and 3rd Years'.	Permanent Meadow.	Under Rotation.	Permanent.	Mountain Land Grazed.
LEINSTER.	No.	Acres	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acr
Carlow, ...	955	19,693	3,749	2,365	1,303	—	1,563	987	1,357	1,267	8,260	1
Dublin, ...	909	18,201	1,681	1,549	770	—	755	860	3,911	510	8,771	1
Kildare, ...	1,130	22,616	3,206	2,066	839	—	1,161	1,125	2,788	457	11,784	
Kilkenny, ...	2,444	50,063	6,488	4,183	2,049	—	2,401	1,683	4,899	3,189	26,897	3
King's, ...	2,104	42,616	6,960	5,323	2,732	—	1,418	1,883	4,255	1,208	21,529	
Longford, ...	2,626	52,187	3,694	4,341	3,151	2	1,452	1,333	9,357	3,241	28,509	2
Louth, ...	1,389	28,117	6,797	3,854	1,926	35	2,503	1,330	1,099	4,154	8,208	1
Meath, ...	1,868	38,305	3,399	2,502	1,497	—	1,618	1,627	6,112	1,652	21,381	
Queen's, ...	2,028	41,198	7,306	5,402	2,716	—	2,134	2,318	4,160	1,164	18,447	2
Westmeath, ...	2,109	43,807	3,083	3,246	1,857	—	1,148	1,200	6,569	1,001	27,524	
Wexford, ...	2,990	61,315	12,267	6,950	3,176	—	4,550	2,009	1,615	10,390	23,236	2
Wicklow, ...	1,191	24,153	2,065	1,602	1,136	—	1,132	1,613	2,506	975	13,177	1
MUNSTER.												
Clare, ...	4,792	92,426	2,763	6,250	4,344	—	585	672	18,887	626	58,763	3
Cork, ...	6,341	129,211	12,299	11,943	6,470	10	6,102	3,828	9,022	13,955	63,222	8
Kerry, ...	3,899	77,135	3,759	5,778	3,969	—	1,048	1,226	10,997	2,787	45,111	6
Limerick, ...	3,076	61,764	1,907	3,128	1,881	—	665	664	14,405	1,054	42,253	6
Tipperary, ...	4,797	101,226	8,877	8,715	4,204	—	2,747	2,899	14,031	2,779	60,286	8
Waterford, ...	1,388	28,470	3,285	2,577	1,441	—	1,439	385	330	3,050	15,160	2,2
ULSTER.												
Antrim, ...	6,012	125,503	16,586	12,613	9,931	3,290	9,774	3,970	11,964	27,606	35,885	3,8
Armagh, ...	4,393	85,086	14,529	8,911	6,093	2,190	7,350	2,737	7,307	13,437	21,587	1,0
Cavan, ...	7,055	136,983	12,514	10,480	8,455	552	5,891	3,018	19,323	14,157	69,963	1,1
Donegal, ...	8,533	157,178	21,403	14,601	10,232	1,253	4,223	840	13,150	17,040	44,644	10,0
Down, ...	6,447	128,793	27,741	15,798	11,203	3,959	13,254	3,763	2,004	45,167	13,315	3,8
Fermanagh, ...	4,121	83,849	4,744	4,530	3,675	84	1,329	916	16,093	4,162	49,875	2,1
Londonderry, ...	4,518	89,839	17,521	11,304	8,130	3,017	7,795	1,479	4,448	22,828	17,938	3,5
Monaghan, ...	5,036	96,316	16,951	9,332	6,921	1,357	7,888	1,949	4,803	33,513	19,810	7
Tyrone, ...	7,813	156,856	25,224	15,512	13,673	2,578	10,300	3,245	11,218	33,729	39,959	15,0
CONNAUGHT.												
Galway, ...	9,290	180,319	13,284	15,336	10,431	—	3,102	3,734	17,813	10,287	105,354	11,4
Leitrim, ...	5,209	104,606	3,374	5,926	4,780	3	460	828	19,821	3,172	68,643	2,4
Mayo, ...	10,033	187,318	14,006	15,195	11,651	18	3,645	3,977	13,631	15,686	107,109	14,0
Roscommon, ...	6,124	106,890	5,894	8,690	6,226	—	1,453	1,782	19,292	4,161	64,183	1,4
Sligo, ...	4,454	94,695	4,613	6,099	4,426	—	1,568	1,710	10,588	3,426	63,871	2,8
SUMMARY.												
LEINSTER, ...	21,803	442,271	60,695	43,373	23,152	37	21,885	17,968	48,628	29,208	217,723	27
MUNSTER, ...	24,293	493,229	32,890	38,391	22,309	10	12,586	9,674	67,672	24,251	284,795	22,9
ULSTER, ...	53,928	1,060,408	157,213	103,081	78,313	13,280	67,504	21,917	90,310	217,039	312,966	71,2
CONNAUGHT, ...	35,110	673,828	41,171	51,246	37,514	21	10,228	12,031	81,145	36,732	409,060	32,1
TOTAL OF IRELAND, ...	135,134	2,669,736	291,969	236,091	161,288	13,348	112,503	61,590	287,755	307,230	1,224,541	129,1

XIII.—Statement showing by Counties and Provinces the Number of Holdings above 5 Statute Acres in Extent, Classified according to Size, the Total Acreage of each Class, and the Extent under Crops and Grass in each Class—*continued.*

Counties.	HOLDINGS. Above 5 and not exceeding 15 Statute Acres.											
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area of Agricultural Land.	Total Area under Corn Crops.	Total Area under Green Crops (including Potatoes).	Potatoes.	Flax.	Hay.			Pasture.		Mountain Land Grazed.
							1st Year's.	2nd and 3rd Years'.	Permanent Meadow.	Under Rotation.	Permanent.	
Leinster.	No.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Carlow.	830	7,568	1,353	1,024	691	—	550	370	713	424	3,077	57
Dublin.	1,541	12,551	1,148	1,523	743	—	500	672	2,341	278	5,914	175
Kildare.	1,685	14,834	2,106	1,694	799	—	752	840	2,223	282	6,921	16
Kilkenny.	2,413	24,615	2,718	1,975	1,161	—	887	672	2,901	1,048	14,295	119
King's.	2,265	21,262	3,490	3,136	1,871	—	676	1,088	2,563	395	9,908	6
Longford.	2,448	24,327	2,033	2,675	2,039	1	771	587	4,684	1,604	11,863	109
Louth.	2,427	21,571	5,004	3,406	2,308	24	1,764	921	968	3,382	6,010	102
Meath.	2,521	24,881	2,233	2,176	1,405	—	1,043	1,157	5,603	706	11,961	2
Queen's.	2,186	20,382	3,990	3,241	1,852	—	1,095	1,294	2,298	405	8,025	34
Westmeath.	2,336	22,469	1,759	2,264	1,439	—	583	675	4,344	395	12,447	2
Wexford.	3,095	28,646	5,079	3,431	1,868	—	1,960	1,027	983	4,085	11,512	569
Wicklow.	1,298	11,952	1,060	1,053	672	—	519	940	1,483	549	6,104	244
Munster.												
Clare.	3,418	33,573	1,094	2,776	2,094	—	250	344	8,051	437	19,999	622
Cork.	4,672	43,921	3,894	4,688	3,034	1	1,865	1,142	3,971	3,795	22,627	1,938
Kerry.	3,142	35,813	1,464	2,740	2,017	—	341	599	4,350	1,115	15,627	9,577
Limerick.	2,357	22,581	759	1,571	1,008	—	257	287	5,756	419	13,356	176
Tipperary.	4,252	40,562	3,451	4,015	2,292	—	1,082	1,152	6,595	1,083	22,923	256
Waterford.	1,441	13,825	1,403	2,357	746	—	651	274	269	1,122	6,859	890
Ulster.												
Antrim.	5,310	51,112	6,677	5,815	4,899	1,203	4,318	1,581	5,946	10,332	14,655	586
Armagh.	8,209	69,231	12,568	8,439	6,876	1,721	6,356	2,201	6,240	14,847	16,432	424
Cavan.	6,863	63,538	7,613	6,613	5,705	234	3,154	1,620	6,219	6,926	31,058	201
Donegal.	16,375	95,649	14,569	11,914	9,135	387	2,399	606	10,276	9,755	29,769	15,974
Down.	8,645	81,343	15,855	10,249	8,150	2,338	8,257	2,144	1,594	29,183	10,537	1,186
Fermanagh.	3,301	32,235	2,039	2,151	1,941	31	445	334	7,652	1,283	18,048	302
Londonderry.	4,979	47,584	9,254	6,782	5,555	1,557	4,594	891	2,809	11,901	8,982	814
Monaghan.	7,122	69,452	12,677	7,303	6,091	698	5,861	1,359	4,616	23,652	13,124	162
Tyrone.	7,746	74,777	13,166	8,989	6,959	1,405	5,635	1,856	6,067	17,103	18,537	2,019
Connaught.												
Galway.	12,168	114,719	10,845	13,173	10,026	—	1,926	2,431	11,791	6,589	59,704	8,257
Leitrim.	5,213	53,507	2,117	3,878	3,387	1	103	418	12,053	1,570	32,876	491
Mayo.	15,040	146,458	15,642	16,595	14,085	5	3,264	3,355	11,293	12,058	73,704	10,542
Roscommon	8,527	80,111	5,534	8,311	6,514	—	1,078	1,313	15,175	2,895	45,234	571
Sligo.	5,407	51,890	3,481	5,060	4,152	—	1,172	1,008	7,775	1,855	30,905	644
Summary.												
Leinster.	25,045	235,058	31,973	27,598	16,848	25	11,090	10,243	31,101	13,553	103,037	1,435
Munster.	19,282	190,275	12,065	18,147	11,191	1	4,446	3,798	28,992	7,976	101,391	13,459
Ulster.	62,550	584,971	94,418	68,155	55,311	9,574	41,019	12,595	51,419	124,992	161,142	21,667
Connaught.	46,355	446,685	37,619	47,007	38,164	6	7,543	8,528	58,087	24,967	242,423	20,505
Total of Ireland.	153,232	1,456,989	176,075	160,907	121,514	9,606	64,093	35,164	169,602	171,478	612,993	57,066

APPENDIX IV.

XIV.—Statement showing by Counties and Provinces the Number of Holdings above 5 Statute Acres in Extent, Classified according to Size, the Total Acreage of each Class, and the Percentage of the Total Agricultural Land in each such Class under each Crop and under Grass.

Counties.	HOLDINGS. Above 200 Statute Acres.											
							Hay.			Pasture.		
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area of Agricultural Land.	Total Area under Corn Crops.	Total Area under Green Crops (including Potatoes)	Potatoes.	Flax.	1st Year's.	2nd and 3rd Years'.	Permanent Meadow.	Under Rotation.	Permanent.	Mountain Land Grazed.
LEINSTER.	No.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Carlow,	116	32,542	8·2	3·7	1·1	—	3·5	3·1	8·5	4·0	67·6	1·4
Dublin,	140	39,573	2·7	0·7	0·6	—	1·2	1·6	2·6	1·0	77·0	6·2
Kildare,	389	124,747	4·3	2·0	0·4	—	1·5	1·4	6 5	1·0	83·2	0·1
Kilkenny,	228	61,650	5·0	2·4	0·6	—	1·8	1·5	7·1	2·9	75·6	3·7
King's,	308	83,849	2·9	2·0	0·5	—	1·3	1·4	6·7	1·3	80·1	4·3
Longford,	73	18,916	1·1	0·9	0·5	—	0·2	0·4	9·7	0·9	86·8	—
Louth,	130	36,451	8·6	4·3	1·3	0·0	3·1	2·9	5·4	7·4	61·6	6·7
Meath,	655	210.470	1·4	1·0	0·3	—	0·6	0·8	7·1	0·8	88·3	0·0
Queen's,	284	78,209	4·9	2·8	0·7	—	1·6	1·9	7·3	1·4	69·6	10·5
Westmeath	328	101,293	0·9	0·9	0·3	—	0·4	0·5	6·6	0·7	89·9	0·1
Wexford,	206	53,628	9·9	4·7	0·9	—	4·1	2·4	2·1	12·2	57·6	7·0
Wicklow,	362	142,224	2·5	1·7	0·3	—	1·2	1·7	2·2	2·9	40·1	47·7
MUNSTER.												
Clare,	422	124,929	0·8	1·0	0·5	—	0·3	0·4	6·3	0·4	64·7	26·1
Cork,	817	206,141	4·4	2 9	0·8	—	2·2	1·7	5·1	6·4	48·7	28·6
Kerry,	699	195,009	0·7	0·8	0·5	—	0·2	0·3	3·6	0·6	35·2	58·6
Limerick,	262	76,444	1·0	1·1	0·5	—	0·4	0·3	14·1	0·4	67·1	15·6
Tipperary,	620	183,011	2·6	1·8	0·5	0·0	1·0	0·8	8·4	1·0	66·6	17·8
Waterford,	253	75,683	4·0	2·0	0·5	—	1·7	1·1	1·5	4·7	48·8	36·2
ULSTER.												
Antrim,	210	89,255	1·5	1·0	0 5	0·2	0·7	0·5	3·9	3·2	29·8	59·2
Armagh,	20	4,718	3·7	1·8	0 7	0·2	3·5	1·2	9·1	5·2	42·3	33·0
Cavan,	75	15,411	1·4	1·1	0·9	0·0	0·8	0·6	7·9	6·1	50·4	31·7
Donegal,	468	164.871	1·4	0·8	0·4	0·1	0·3	0·0	1·1	1·3	13·9	81·1
Down,	104	34,920	4·8	2·7	1·0	0·3	2·4	1·0	1·9	9·3	26·8	50·8
Fermanagh,	89	24,010	0·9	0·7	0·4	0·0	0·4	0·4	9·0	0·8	54·3	33·5
Londonderry	176	61 553	3·8	2·0	0·9	0·2	1·8	0·2	1·3	3·2	19·3	63·2
Monaghan,	25	5,822	4·9	1·8	0·7	—	1·9	1·2	10·0	4·9	67·8	7·5
Tyrone,	190	67,086	2·0	1·0	0·5	0·1	0·7	0·2	2·6	3·0	13·9	76·5
CONNAUGHT.												
Galway,	1,014	350.108	0·8	0·8	0·3	—	0·3	0·3	3·2	0·8	50·8	43·0
Leitrim,	39	11,311	0·4	0·6	0·4	—	0·2	0·3	4·7	2·7	50·6	40·5
Mayo,	618	282,762	0·4	0·4	0·2	0·0	0·1	0·1	1·0	0·3	26·2	71·5
Roscommon,	287	78 558	0·9	1·0	0·5	—	0·3	0·4	8·6	0·2	88·0	0·6
Sligo,	157	51,761	1·1	1·0	0·6	—	0·4	0·5	2·7	0·7	51·1	42·5
SUMMARY												
LEINSTER	3,224	983,542	3·5	1·9	0·5	0·0	1·4	1·4	6·2	2·3	74·0	9·3
MUNSTER,	3,073	861,217	2·3	1·7	0·6	0·0	1·0	0·8	6·1	2·4	53·5	32·2
ULSTER,	1,357	467,646	2·1	1·1	0·5	0·1	0·9	0·3	2·8	3·7	22·9	66·1
CONNAUGHT,	2,115	774,500	0·7	0·7	0·3	0·0	0·2	0·3	3·1	0·5	45·5	49·0
TOTAL OF IRELAND,	9,769	3,086,905	2·3	1·4	0·5	0·0	0·9	0·8	4·9	2·1	53·4	41·2

IV.—Statement showing by Counties and Provinces the Number of Holdings above 5 Statute Acres in Extent, Classified according to Size, the Total Acreage of each Class, and the Percentage of the Total Agricultural Land in each such Class under each Crop and under Grass—*continued.*

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS. Above 100 and not exceeding 200 Statute Acres.											
							Hay.			Pasture.		
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area of Agricultural Land.	Total Area under Corn Crops.	Total Area under Green Crops (including Potatoes).	Potatoes.	Flax.	1st Year's.	2nd and 3rd Years'.	Permanent Meadow.	Under Rotation.	Permanent.	Mountain Land Grazed.
LEINSTER.	No.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres
low, ...	353	44,772	10·8	5·5	2·0	—	4·5	3·7	7·9	4·8	61·4	1·4
blin, ...	399	53,903	6·9	3·8	2·1	—	2·5	3·5	12·5	1·6	67·7	1·5
dare, ...	735	83,497	9·1	4·6	1·1	—	3·7	3·7	10·2	2·2	66·4	0·1
kenny, ...	822	101,977	7·9	4·0	1·3	—	3·0	2·1	7·8	5·2	67·7	2·3
f's, ...	578	71,069	6·6	4·3	1·5	—	2·3	2·5	8·6	2·1	72·4	1·2
ford.	195	23,573	1·6	1·6	0·9	—	0·7	0·7	15·5	0·7	79·2	—
th.	229	28,644	14·4	7·6	2·7	0·0	5·6	3·8	4·5	13·4	48·4	2·3
th.	921	130,096	2·5	1·6	0·5	—	1·1	1·4	9·1	3·0	81·3	0·0
ens.	606	76,929	9·2	5·2	3·3	—	3·2	3·8	10·2	2·4	63·9	2·1
tmeath, ...	548	68,363	1·7	1·5	0·7	—	0·7	0·9	9·1	0·9	84·9	0·3
xford, ...	871	105,939	14·8	6·9	1·8	—	5·5	2·6	2·1	15·4	51·0	1·7
klow, ...	719	90,342	5·4	3·4	1·1	—	2·5	4·0	6·1	4·5	64·0	10·1
MUNSTER.												
re, ...	927	108,278	1·1	1 8	1·0	—	0·3	0·3	11·9	0·5	67·6	16·5
k.	3,380	394,186	7·6	5·1	1·7	0·0	3·7	2·4	6·6	10·6	54·1	9·9
rry.	1,702	193,690	1·9	2·4	1·4	—	0·7	0·8	8 7	1 9	53·9	29·7
erick.	1,039	129,185	1·4	1·8	1·0	—	0·6	0·6	18·4	1·7	72·1	3·4
perary	1,481	182,853	5·7	4·0	1·3	—	2·1	1·8	10·5	2·5	69·8	3·6
erford, ...	812	97,588	8·5	4·3	1·3	—	3·5	1·4	1·0	10·9	62·9	7·5
ULSTER.												
rim.	524	64,136	6·9	4 4	2 8	0·9	3·9	2·4	7·1	11·7	39·5	23·2
nagh, ...	99	11,438	6·6	3·8	1·9	0·8	4·3	3·7	15·0	15·2	46·2	4·4
an.	224	25,240	3·7	2·6	1·6	0·2	1·8	1·8	12·2	7·4	64·7	5·6
egal.	1,031	113,420	8 6	4·1	1·7	1·0	2·4	—	2·7	11·1	22 1	48·0
wn.	334	39,447	15·4	9·3	5·3	0·8	7·2	4·2	3·0	29·1	25·8	5·2
nanagh, ...	353	40,804	2·0	1·7	1·1	0·0	0·6	0·6	13·2	2·2	63·8	15·9
donderry, ...	435	49,920	14·3	6·7	3·2	1·4	5·2	1·2	2·7	23·9	20·5	24·1
aghan, ...	109	12,224	6·8	3·0	1·4	0 5	3 0	3·3	7·7	13·1	59·3	3·3
ne, ...	581	66,207	8·2	4·5	2·2	1·0	1·3	1·0	4·9	13·9	23·5	56·7
CONNAUGHT.												
way.	1,214	146,356	1·7	1·7	0·8	—	0·7	0·7	5·7	3·1	71·2	16·2
rim.	166	16,158	1·2	1·7	1·2	—	0·2	0·6	14·1	1·2	64·8	16·2
yo.	723	87,937	1·4	1·5	1·0	0·0	0·3	0·5	4·2	1·2	60·3	30·6
common.	532	60,093	1·2	1·4	0·8	—	0·5	0·7	10·1	1·1	84·0	1·0
o	314	38,002	1·8	2·2	1·2	—	0·9	0·7	6·4	1·3	71·4	15·3
SUMMARY.												
NSTER.	6,976	879,104	7·4	4·0	1·3	0·0	2·9	2·7	8·2	4·8	68·0	2·0
NSTER, ...	9,341	1,105,780	5·0	3·6	1·4	0·0	2·2	1·6	9·0	5·7	60·9	12·0
STER, ...	3,690	422,836	8·5	4·7	2·4	0·9	3·3	1·4	5·8	13·8	34·2	27·4
NNAUGHT, ...	2,949	357,546	1·5	1·6	0·9	0·0	0·5	0·6	6·6	1·5	70·3	16·9
TOTAL OF IRELAND.	22,956	2,765,266	5·9	3·7	1·4	0·1	2·4	1·8	7·9	6·1	60·3	11·8

APPENDIX IV.

XIV.—Statement showing by Counties and Provinces the Number of Holdings above 5 Statute Acres in Extent Classified according to Size, the Total Acreage of each Class, and the Percentage of the Total Agricultural Land in each such Class under each Crop and under Grass—*continued.*

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS. Above 50 and not exceeding 100 Statute Acres.											
							Hay.			Pasture.		
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area of Agricultural Land.	Total Area under Corn Crops.	Total Area under Green Crops (including Potatoes).	Potatoes.	Flax.	1st Year's.	2nd and 3rd Years'.	Permanent Meadow.	Under Rotation.	Permanent.	Mountain Land Grazed.
LEINSTER.	No.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Carlow, ...	846	55,122	14·9	8·2	3·8	—	6·2	5·0	7·2	7·0	50·4	1·1
Dublin, ...	625	41 032	9·1	6·6	3·5	—	3·6	5·0	16·5	1·8	57·0	0·4
Kildare, ...	956	65,465	10·4	5·5	1·6	—	4·1	4·4	8·6	2·7	64·0	0·3
Kilkenny, ...	2,119	133,919	11·6	5·8	2·3	—	4·3	2·7	7·1	6·7	60·1	1·7
King's, ...	1,239	78,536	10·9	7·0	3·0	—	3·2	3·7	8·9	1·6	64·0	0·7
Longford, ...	607	39,244	3·3	3·8	2·2	0·0	1·3	1·3	15·4	2·0	72·7	0·2
Louth, ...	467	31,393	19·1	9·0	3·4	0·0	7·0	4·4	3·8	12·4	43·7	0·6
Meath, ...	1,215	80,931	4·9	3·0	1·3	—	2·3	2·5	11·8	3·3	72·2	0·6
Queen's, ...	1,266	80,177	12·9	8·1	3·1	—	4·4	5·0	10·6	3·0	55·2	0·7
Westmeath, ...	1,065	69,450	3·8	3·2	1·6	—	1·6	1·8	11·0	1·2	77·3	0·1
Wexford, ...	2,500	160.713	17·6	8·5	2·8	—	6·5	3·0	2·7	15·7	44·8	1·2
Wicklow, ...	1,395	90,211	7·0	4·6	2·0	—	3·4	5·0	7·2	5·1	58·7	9·0
MUNSTER.												
Clare, ...	2,791	168,792	1·7	3·2	1·9	—	0·5	0·6	15·0	0·8	66·8	11·4
Cork, ...	8,057	503.850	8·9	6·6	2·6	0·0	4·4	2·6	6·6	11·4	51·7	7·8
Kerry, ...	3,941	236,044	7·3	8·8	5·4	—	2·4	2·7	26·2	5·9	13·8	32·9
Limerick, ...	2,930	190.101	2·2	2·9	1·6	—	0·8	0·8	19·4	1·0	70·6	2·3
Tipperary, ...	3,533	225.837	7·5	5·5	2·3	—	2·7	2·3	11·5	3·3	65·4	1·8
Waterford, ...	1,676	106 588	10·3	5·8	2·3	—	4·1	1·5	0·9	11·9	57·8	7·7
ULSTER.												
Antrim, ...	2.372	155,550	10·5	7·1	4·7	1·8	5·7	3·0	8·4	16·2	33·7	13·6
Armagh, ...	567	33,675	12·7	7·1	3·8	1·9	6·9	4·5	11·7	17·5	35·7	2·0
Cavan, ...	933	58,043	5·5	4·2	3·0	0·3	2·8	1·9	12·5	8·4	61·8	2·6
Donegal, ...	3,152	183,357	10·1	5·6	3·0	1·1	2·6	0·3	4·6	12·5	23·9	39·0
Down, ...	1.801	110,526	20·7	11·6	7·1	2·0	9·9	3·7	1·9	33·2	15·4	1·6
Fermanagh, ...	1.308	79.664	3·5	3·0	2·1	0·1	1·2	0·8	15·9	4·3	63·7	7·5
Londonderry, ...	1.491	93.731	17·6	9·4	5·3	2·2	7·4	1·3	4·4	25·1	19·4	13·2
Monaghan, ...	557	33,297	11·5	5·8	3·6	1·1	5·2	2·5	8·1	25·2	36·4	4·2
Tyrone, ...	2.534	152.826	12·0	6·3	3·7	1·3	4·4	1·2	5·5	20·6	26·0	22·7
CONNAUGHT												
Galway, ...	2,332	143,944	3·3	3·5	1 9	—	0·9	1·6	7·8	2·7	67·0	13·2
Leitrim, ...	666	40,791	1·4	2·3	1·8	—	0·3	0·5	15·2	1·9	70 4	8·0
Mayo, ...	1,612	97,839	2·9	2·9	2·0	0·0	0·8	1·0	5·8	3.2	60·5	22 9
Roscommon, ...	937	59,374	2·4	3·0	1 8		0·8	1·0	12·6	1·6	77·4	1·2
Sligo, ...	782	48,149	2·9	3·3	2·1	0·0	1·2	1·2	8·4	1·9	74·4	6.7
SUMMARY.												
LEINSTER, ...	14.300	926,193	11·0	6·2	2·5	0·0	4·2	3·5	8·3	6·1	59·1	1·6
MUNSUER, ...	22.928	1,431,215	6·0	5·0	2·3	0·0	2·6	1·8	10·5	6·1	60 3	7·7
ULSTER, ...	14,718	900,669	12·0	6·9	4·1	1·3	5·0	1·9	7·0	18·0	31·0	16·9
CONNAUGHT, ...	6.329	390.097	2·9	3·2	1·9	0·0	0·8	1·0	8·9	2·5	68·3	12·4
TOTAL OF IRELAND, ...	58,275	3 648,174	8·4	5·6	4·7	0·3	3·4	2·1	8·9	8·7	53·7	8·9

XIV.—Statement showing by Counties and Provinces the Number of Holdings above 5 Statute Acres in Extent, Classified according to Size, the Total Acreage of each Class, and the Percentage of the Total Agricultural Land in each such Class under each Crop and under Grass—*continued.*

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS. Above 30 and not exceeding 50 Statute Acres.											
							Hay.			Pasture.		
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area of Agricultural Land.	Total Area under Corn Crops.	Total Area under Green Crops (including Potatoes).	Potatoes.	Flax.	1st Year's.	2nd and 3rd Years'.	Permanent Meadow.	Under Rotation.	Permanent.	Mountain Land Grazed.
LEINSTER.	No.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Carlow, ...	849	30,688	17·6	10·2	5·3	—	7·5	5·0	5·5	9·4	43·3	1·5
Dublin, ...	596	21,875	9·8	7·6	4·0	—	3·4	4·5	19·1	2·1	52·9	0·7
Kildare, ...	824	30,673	16·8	7·4	2·7	—	5·3	4·4	9·6	2·2	54·3	0·0
Kilkenny, ...	2,203	81,101	12·9	7·4	3·2	—	5·0	2·9	7·9	7·2	55·6	1·1
King's, ...	1,476	50,539	14·8	10·3	4·9	—	3·7	4·4	9·7	1·6	55·2	0·3
Longford, ...	1,206	42,026	5·4	6·1	4·2	—	2·3	1·9	16·7	3·6	63·7	0·3
Louth, ...	619	22,417	24·8	12·3	5·6	0·1	3·4	4·9	3·7	13·2	31·7	0·9
Meath, ...	1,192	44,670	6·6	4·7	2·1	—	3·1	3·3	12·6	3·6	66·1	0·0
Queen's, ...	1,316	47,673	15·6	10·9	4·8	—	4·8	5·6	10·2	3·1	48·9	0·9
Westmeath, ...	1,331	48,504	5·4	5·1	2·8	—	2·0	2·3	12·1	1·4	71·6	0·1
Wexford, ...	2,622	96,571	19·5	9·9	3·8	—	7·5	3·2	2·2	17·1	39·9	0·7
Wicklow, ...	1,131	38,533	8·5	6·0	3·0	—	4·5	6·5	8·0	5·7	53·3	7·5
MUNSTER.												
Clare, ...	3,645	128,576	2·2	4·7	3·0	—	0·6	0·7	17·1	0·9	66·6	7·2
Cork, ...	6,654	236,719	9·3	7·8	3·7	0·0	4·7	2·7	6·6	11·6	50·2	7·1
Kerry, ...	3,929	125,671	4·4	6·1	3·8	—	1·3	1·5	15·1	3·3	58·2	10·1
Limerick, ...	2,924	113,592	2·4	3·5	2·1	—	0·8	0·9	19·1	1·2	70·6	1·5
Tipperary, ...	3,989	149,566	8·3	7·4	3·4	—	3·0	2·5	12·4	3·4	61·7	1·3
Waterford, ...	1,295	46,437	10·4	7·3	3·3	—	4·8	1·3	1·2	11·7	54·8	8·5
ULSTER.												
Antrim, ...	3,617	131,783	12·5	8·9	6·5	2·5	7·2	3·0	9·5	18·9	32·3	5·2
Armagh, ...	1,432	49,844	15·4	9·2	5·7	2·3	8·3	4·1	10·3	20·7	28·3	1·4
Cavan, ...	2,424	82,763	8·0	6·5	4·9	0·4	3·9	2·2	13·4	10·3	53·9	1·4
Donegal, ...	4,063	134,736	11·9	7·0	4·3	0·9	2·7	0·4	6·1	12·5	26·6	31·9
Down, ...	3,244	114,549	21·6	12·3	7·9	2·6	10·2	3·1	1·4	34·3	12·5	2·0
Fermanagh, ...	2,359	83,476	4·8	4·3	3·2	0·1	1·5	1·0	17·1	4·7	62·0	4·5
Londonderry, ...	2,286	81,500	19·7	11·6	7·5	2·9	8·5	1·7	3·8	26·1	19·2	6·5
Monaghan, ...	1,549	52,862	15·1	7·1	5·3	1·4	6·9	2·3	6·8	33·3	25·3	1·8
Tyrone, ...	4,079	142,142	14·2	8·1	5·1	1·6	5·4	1·7	6·5	21·5	26·3	14·7
CONNAUGHT.												
Galway, ...	3,897	131,652	5·4	6·1	3·7	—	1·4	1·8	9·1	4·6	63·0	8·6
Leitrim, ...	1,792	63,270	2·3	3·9	3·1	0·0	0·5	0·6	16·7	2·8	68·4	4·8
Mayo, ...	3,019	100,655	4·9	5·3	3·8	—	1·4	1·5	7·0	4·9	60·5	14·5
Roscommon, ...	1,775	63,484	3·4	5·2	3·2	—	1·0	1·1	14·6	2·3	70·5	1·9
Sligo, ...	1,584	54,339	3·8	4·8	3·3	—	1·6	1·7	10·9	3·5	69·1	4·6
SUMMARY.												
LEINSTER, ...	15,365	555,468	13·2	8·1	3·8	—	4·9	3·8	8·9	6·7	53·3	1·1
MUNSTER, ...	22,436	800,561	6·3	6·3	3·3	0·0	2·7	1·8	12·2	5·6	59·3	5·8
ULSTER, ...	25,053	873,555	13·7	8·4	5·6	1·6	5·9	2·0	7·8	19·9	30·9	9·8
CONNAUGHT, ...	12,067	413,400	4·3	5·3	3·5	0·0	1·3	1·4	10·8	3·9	65·1	7·9
TOTAL OF IRELAND, ...	74,921	2,642,984	9·9	7·3	4·1	0·5	3·9	2·2	9·9	10·3	49·6	6·4

APPENDIX IV.

XIV.—Statement showing by Counties and Provinces the Number of Holdings above 5 Statute Acres in Extent, Classified according to Size, the Total Acreage of each Class, and the Percentage of the Total Agricultural Land in each such Class under each Crop and under Grass—*continued.*

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS. Above 15 and not exceeding 30 Statute Acres.											
							Hay.			Pasture.		
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area of Agricultural Land.	Total Area under Corn Crops.	Total Area under Green Crops (including Potatoes).	Potatoes.	Flax.	1st Year's.	2nd and 3rd Years'.	Permanent Meadow.	Under Rotation.	Permanent.	Mountain Land Grazed.
LEINSTER.	No.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Carlow, ...	955	19,693	19 0	12·0	6·6	—	8·0	5·0	6·9	6·4	41·9	0·8
Dublin, ...	909	18,201	9·2	8·5	4·2	—	4·2	4·7	21·5	2·8	48·2	0·9
Kildare, ...	1,130	22,616	14·2	9·1	3·7	—	5·1	5·0	12·3	2·0	52·2	0·1
Kilkenny, ...	2,444	50,063	13·0	8·3	4·0	—	4·8	3·3	9·8	6·3	53·8	0·7
King's, ...	2,104	42,616	16·3	12·5	6·4	—	3·3	4·4	10·0	2·9	50·5	0·1
Longford, ...	2,626	52,187	7·1	8·3	6·0	0·0	2·8	2·5	17·9	6·2	54·7	0·5
Louth, ...	1,389	28,117	24·2	13·6	6·9	0·1	8·9	4·8	3·9	14·8	29·2	0 5
Meath, ...	1,868	38,305	8·9	6 5	3·0	—	4 2	4·2	16·0	4·3	55·9	0·0
Queen's, ...	2,028	41,198	17·8	13·1	6·6	—	5·3	5·6	10·1	2·8	44·8	0·5
Westmeath, ...	2,169	43,807	7·0	7·4	4·2	—	2·6	2·7	15·0	2·3	62·9	0·1
Wexford, ...	2,990	61,315	20·0	11·3	5·1	—	7·4	3·2	2·7	17·0	37·9	0·5
Wicklow, ...	1,191	24,153	8·6	6·7	4·7	—	4·7	6·7	10·3	4·0	54·6	4·4
MUNSTER.												
Clare, ...	4,792	92,426	3·0	6·8	4·7	—	0·6	0·7	20·4	0·7	63·6	4·2
Cork, ...	6,341	129,211	9·5	9·3	5·0	0·0	4·7	3·0	7·0	10·8	48·9	6·8
Kerry, ...	3,899	77,135	4·9	7·5	5·1	—	1·4	1·6	14·3	3·6	58·5	8·2
Limerick, ...	3,076	64,764	2·9	4·7	2·9	—	1·0	1·0	22·1	1·6	65·1	1·6
Tipperary, ...	4,797	101,226	8·8	8·6	4·2	—	2·7	2·8	13·9	2·7	59·6	0·9
Waterford, ...	1,388	28,470	11·5	9·1	5·1	—	5·1	1·3	1·2	10·7	53·2	7·9
ULSTER.												
Antrim, —	6,012	125,503	13·2	10·1	7·9	2·5	7·8	3·2	9·6	22·0	28·6	3·0
Armagh, ...	4,393	85,086	17·1	10·5	7·2	2·6	8·6	3·2	8·6	22·8	25·4	1·2
Cavan, ...	7,055	136,988	9·1	7·7	6·2	0·4	4·3	2·2	14·0	10·4	51·1	0·8
Donegal, ...	8,533	157,178	13·6	9 3	6·5	0·8	2·7	0·5	8·4	10·8	28·4	25·5
Down, —	6,447	128,793	21·6	12·3	8·6	3·1	10·3	2·9	1·6	35·0	10·3	2·9
Fermanagh, ...	4,121	83,849	5·6	5·4	4·4	0·1	1·6	1·1	19·3	5·0	59·4	2·5
Londonderry, ...	4,518	89,839	19·5	12·6	9·5	3·4	8·7	1·7	4·9	25·4	19·9	3·9
Monaghan, ...	5,036	96,316	17·6	9·7	7·2	1·4	8·2	2·0	5·0	34·8	20·6	0·7
Tyrone, ...	7,813	156,856	16·0	9·7	8·7	1·6	6·5	2·6	7·1	21·5	25·4	9·6
CONNAUGHT.												
Galway, ...	9,290	180,319	7·6	8·7	5·9	—	1·8	2·1	10·2	5·9	57·2	6·5
Leitrim, ...	5,209	104,606	3·2	5·7	4·6	0·0	0·4	0·8	19·0	3·0	65·5	2·4
Mayo, ...	10,033	187,318	7·5	8·0	6·2	0·0	2·0	2·1	7·3	8·4	57·2	7·5
Roscommon, ...	6,121	106,890	5·5	8·1	5·8	—	1·3	1·7	18·1	3·9	60·1	1·3
Sligo, ...	4,454	94,695	4·9	6·4	4·7	—	1·7	1·8	11·2	3·6	67 4	3·0
SUMMARY.												
LEINSTER, ...	21,803	442,271	13·7	9·8	5·2	0·0	5·0	4·1	11·0	6·6	49·2	0·6
MUNSTER, ...	24,293	493,229	6·7	7·8	4·5	0·0	2·5	1·9	13·7	4·9	57·8	4·7
ULSTER, ...	53,928	1,060,408	14·9	9·8	7·3	1·8	6·3	2·0	8·5	20·5	29·5	6·7
CONNAUGHT, ...	35,110	673,828	6·1	7·6	5·6	0·0	1·5	1·8	12·0	5·5	60·7	4·8
TOTAL OF IRELAND, ...	135,134	2,669,736	10·9	8·9	6·0	0·7	4·2	2·3	10·8	11·5	45·9	4 8

XIV.—Statement showing by Counties and Provinces the Number of Holdings above 5 Statute Acres in Extent, Classified according to Size, the Total Acreage of each Class, and the Percentage of the Total Agricultural Land in each such Class under each Crop and under Grass—*continued.*

Counties.	HOLDINGS. Above 5 and not exceeding 15 Statute Acres.											
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area of Agricultural Land.	Total Area under Corn Crops.	Total Area under Green Crops (including Potatoes).	Potatoes.	Flax.	Hay.			Pasture.		Mountain Land Grazed.
							1st Year's.	2nd and 3rd Years'.	Permanent Meadow.	Under Rotation.	Permanent.	
LEINSTER.	No.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Carlow,	830	7,568	17·9	13·5	9·1	—	7·3	4·9	9·4	5·6	40·6	0·8
Dublin,	1,541	12,551	9·1	12·1	5·9	—	4·0	5·2	18·7	2·2	47·3	1·4
Kildare,	1,685	14,834	14·2	11·4	5·3	—	5·1	5·6	15·0	1·9	46 7	0·1
Kilkenny,	2,413	24,615	11·0	8·0	4·7	—	3·7	2·8	11·8	4·2	58·0	0·5
King's,	2,265	21,262	16·4	14·8	8·8	—	3·2	5·1	12·0	1·9	46·6	0·0
Longford,	2,448	24 327	8·3	11·0	8·4	0·0	3·2	2·4	19·3	6·6	48·8	0·4
Louth,	2,427	21,571	23·2	15·8	10·7	0·1	8·1	4·3	4·5	15·7	27·8	0·5
Meath,	2,521	24,881	9·0	8 8	5·6	—	4·1	4·6	22·6	2·9	48·0	0·0
Queen's,	2,185	20,382	19·6	15·9	9·1	—	5·4	6·3	11·3	2·0	39·3	0·2
Westmeath,	2,336	22,469	7·8	10·1	6·4	—	2·6	3·0	19·3	1·8	55·4	0·0
Wexford,	3,095	28.649	17·8	12·0	6·5	—	6·9	3·6	3·4	14·2	40·1	2·0
Wicklow,	1,298	11,952	8·9	8·9	5·6	—	4·3	7·9	12·4	4·6	51·0	2·0
MUNSTER.												
Clare,	3,418	33,573	3·2	8·3	6·2	—	0·8	1·0	23·9	1·3	59·6	1·9
Cork,	4,672	43,921	8·9	10·7	6·9	0·0	4·3	2·6	9·0	8·6	51·5	4·4
Kerry,	3,142	35,813	4·1	7·7	5·7	—	0·9	1·7	12·0	3·4	43·5	26·7
Limerick,	2,357	22,581	3·3	7·0	4·5	—	1·1	1·3	25·5	1·8	59·2	0·8
Tipperary,	4,252	40,562	8·5	9·9	5·7	—	2·7	2·8	16·2	2·7	56·6	0·6
Waterford,	1.441	13,825	10·1	17·0	5·4	—	4·7	2·0	2·0	8·1	49·6	6·5
ULSTER.												
Antrim,	5,310	51,112	13·1	11·4	9·6	2·4	8·5	3·0	11·6	20·2	28·7	1·1
Armagh,	8,209	69,231	18·2	12·2	9·9	2·5	9·2	3·2	9·0	21·4	23·7	0·6
Cavan,	6,863	63,538	12·0	10·2	9·0	0·4	5·0	2·4	9·8	11·0	48·9	0·3
Donegal,	10,375	95,649	15·3	12·0	9·6	0·4	2·5	0·6	10·9	10·2	31·3	16·8
Down,	8,815	81,343	19·5	12·6	10·0	2·9	10·1	2·6	2·0	35·9	12·9	1·5
Fermanagh,	3,301	32,285	6·3	6·6	6·0	0·1	1·4	1·0	23·7	4·0	55·9	1·0
Londonderry,	4,979	47,584	19·4	14·2	11·7	3·3	9·7	1·9	5·9	26·0	18·9	1·7
Monaghan,	7,122	69,452	18·3	10·5	8·8	1·0	8·4	2·0	6·6	34·1	18·9	0·2
Tyrone,	7,746	71,777	17·6	12·0	9·4	1·9	8·7	2·4	8·1	22·9	23·8	2·6
CONNAUGHT.												
Galway,	12,168	114,719	9·0	11·5	8·7	—	1·7	2·1	10·3	5·6	52·6	7·2
Leitrim,	5,213	53,507	4·0	7·3	6·2	0·0	0·2	0·8	22·5	2·9	61·4	0·9
Mayo,	15,010	146,458	10·7	11·3	9·6	0·0	2·2	2·3	7·7	8·2	50·4	7·2
Roscommon,	8,527	80,111	6·9	10·3	8·1	—	1·4	1·7	18·9	3·6	56·5	0 7
Sligo,	5,407	51,890	6·7	9·7	8·0	—	2·3	1·9	15·9	3·6	59·6	1·2
SUMMARY.												
LEINSTER,	25,045	235,058	13·6	11·7	7·2	0·0	4·7	4·4	13·3	5·8	45·9	0 6
MUNSTER,	19,282	190,275	6·4	9·5	5·9	0·0	2·3	2·0	15·2	4·2	53·3	7·1
ULSTER,	62,550	584,971	16·1	11·7	9·4	1·7	7·0	2·1	8·8	21·3	27·5	3·8
CONNAUGHT,	46,355	446,685	8·4	10·5	8·5	0·0	1·7	1·9	13·0	5·6	54·3	4·6
WHOLE OF IRELAND,	153,232	1,456,989	12·1	11·0	8·3	0·6	4·4	2·4	11·7	11·8	42·1	3·9

APPENDIX IV.

XV.—Showing by Counties and Provinces the Number of Holdings above 5 Statute Acres in Extent, Clas according to Size, the Total Acreage of each Class, and the Number of each kind of Cattle on each Class of Holdi

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS.														
	Above 200 Statute Acres.								Above 100 and not exceeding 200 Statute Acres.						
			NUMBER OF CATTLE.								NUMBER OF CATTLE.				
					Other Cattle.								Other Cattle.		
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area.	Bulls.	Milch Cows (including Heifers in Calf).	Two Years Old and upwards.	One Year Old and under Two Years.	Under One Year.	TOTAL.	Number of Holdings.	Total Area.	Bulls.	Milch Cows (including Heifers in Calf).	Two Years Old and upwards.	One Year Old and under Two Years.	Under One Year.
LEINSTER.	No.	Acres.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No	No.	No.	Acres	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Carlow, ...	116	32,542	57	1,095	3,429	1,354	794	6,729	353	44,772	56	2,056	3,772	3,118	1,776
Dublin, ...	140	39,573	20	2,370	8,371	1,830	1,056	13,647	399	53,903	44	3,833	10,616	2,921	1,149
Kildare, ...	389	124,747	114	3,224	22,339	5,062	1,945	32,684	735	83,497	115	3,615	17,334	6,158	2,837
Kilkenny, ...	228	61,650	109	2,131	6,432	3,562	1,610	13,844	822	101,977	219	6,828	8,246	6,934	5,637
King's, ...	308	83,849	77	2,594	11,062	3,356	1,635	18,724	578	71,069	93	2,904	7,101	3,794	1,954
Longford, ...	78	18,916	21	438	2,798	1,445	284	4,986	195	23,573	31	814	3,807	1,824	786
Louth, ...	130	36,451	50	1,642	6,622	2,306	886	11,506	229	28,644	58	1,403	4,149	1,836	921
Meath, ...	655	210,470	133	5,365	70,033	10,121	3,117	88,769	921	130,096	71	3,968	37,437	7,355	2,732
Queen's, ...	284	78,209	100	2,664	7,086	3,875	1,803	15,528	606	76,929	142	3,775	6,583	4,502	2,816
Westmeath, ...	328	101,293	65	2,351	21,800	4,954	1,836	31,006	548	68,363	56	2,315	12,586	4,243	1,858
Wexford, ...	206	53,628	116	1,873	4,802	2,521	1,402	10,714	871	105,939	225	5,950	8,266	5,947	4,646
Wicklow, ...	362	142,224	112	2,642	5,066	2,834	1,710	12,364	719	90,342	196	4,900	6,599	4,555	3,212
MUNSTER.															
Clare, ...	422	124,929	90	2,527	8,426	4,230	1,949	17,222	927	108,278	171	5,276	7,384	6,319	4,477
Cork, ...	817	206,141	493	13,157	9,945	7,479	7,541	38,615	3,380	394,186	1,550	44,278	15,991	19,225	27,363
Kerry, ...	699	195,009	363	7,439	6,174	4,794	4,696	23,466	1,702	193,690	660	18,612	6,868	8,173	12,110
Limerick, ...	262	76,444	208	4,667	9,145	4,771	2,569	21,360	1,039	129,185	634	17,675	10,017	8,972	10,409
Tipperary, ...	620	183,011	293	6,861	21,212	9,510	4,849	42,730	1,481	182,853	538	14,774	18,279	14,363	11,156
Waterford, ...	253	75,683	134	3,502	3,598	2,767	2,383	12,654	812	97,588	430	11,323	5,377	6,273	7,718
ULSTER.															
Antrim, ...	210	89,255	91	2,115	1,882	2,538	809	7,435	524	64,136	219	4,970	2,850	2,980	2,498
Armagh, ...	20	4,718	9	116	327	162	59	673	99	11,438	48	650	1,057	831	471
Cavan, ...	75	15,411	31	617	845	573	388	2,454	224	25,240	61	1,362	2,178	1,646	897
Donegal, ...	468	164,871	76	1,837	2,083	1,665	1,097	6,758	1,031	113,420	206	5,143	3,575	4,081	3,403
Down	104	34,920	57	1,180	1,245	1,132	613	4,227	334	39,447	159	3,212	2,491	2,962	1,837
Fermanagh, ...	89	24,010	26	651	1,038	784	451	2,950	353	40,804	73	2,653	2,064	1,862	1,647
Londonderry	176	61,553	58	1,334	1,488	1,254	691	4,825	435	49,920	124	2,887	2,203	2,969	1,959
Monaghan, ...	25	5,822	18	310	680	366	125	1,499	109	12,224	38	718	1,133	809	399
Tyrone, ...	190	67,086	74	1,273	959	1,040	846	4,192	581	66,207	160	4,352	1,715	2,588	2,739
CONNAUGHT.															
Galway, ...	1,014	350,108	86	4,219	21,274	7,435	2,686	35,700	1,214	146,356	47	3,210	13,450	5,799	2,141
Leitrim, ...	39	11,311	10	213	502	307	124	1,156	166	16,158	48	1,035	1,506	1,231	739
Mayo, ...	618	282,762	49	2,097	12,071	4,087	1,347	19,651	723	87,937	43	2,270	8,033	3,397	1,143
Roscommon, ...	287	78,558	37	1,363	9,642	4,354	990	16,386	532	69,093	38	1,798	8,538	5,154	1,144
Sligo, ...	157	51,761	37	924	2,949	2,672	782	7,364	314	38,002	35	1,296	4,237	3,186	961
SUMMARY.															
LEINSTER, ...	3,221	983,542	971	28,389	169,840	43,220	18,078	260,501	6,976	879,101	1,306	42,361	126,496	53,187	30,324
MUNSTER.	3,073	861,217	1,586	38,153	58,500	33,551	23,987	156,077	9,341	1,105,780	3,963	111,938	63,916	63,330	73,206
ULSTER, ...	1,357	467,646	440	9,433	10,547	9,514	5,079	35,013	3,690	422,836	1,088	25,947	19,266	20,728	15,850
CONNAUGHT, ...	2,115	774,500	219	8,816	46,438	18,255	5,929	80,257	2,949	357,546	211	9,609	35,764	18,767	6,128
TOTAL OF IRELAND. ...	9,769	3,086,905	3,219	84,791	285,625	105,110	53,073	531,848	22,956	2,765,266	6,588	189,855	245,442	156,012	125,508

V.—Showing by Counties and Provinces the Number of Holdings above 5 Statute Acres in Extent, Classified according to Size, the total Acreage of each Class, and the Number of each kind of Cattle on each Class of Holdings—*continued.*

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS.															
	Above 50 and not exceeding 100 Statute Acres.								Above 30 and not exceeding 50 Statute Acres.							
			NUMBER OF CATTLE.								NUMBER OF CATTLE.					
					Other Cattle.								Other Cattle.			
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area.	Bulls.	Milch Cows (including Heifers in Calf).	Two Years Old and upwards.	One Year Old and under Two Years.	Under One Year.	TOTAL.	Number of Holdings.	Total Area.	Bulls.	Milch Cows (including Heifers in Calf).	Two Years Old and upwards.	One Year Old and under Two Years.	Under One Year.	TOTAL.
LEINSTER.	No.	Acres.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Acres.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
ow.	846	55,122	78	3.796	3.294	3.883	3.087	11,138	849	30.688	17	2.656	1.497	2.111	2.106	8,387
lin.	625	41,032	92	4,158	5,962	2,535	1,668	14,415	596	21,875	21	2,663	2.281	1,530	941	7,436
are.	956	65 465	53	2.985	9,627	4.346	2,600	19,611	824	30,673	15	1,869	3.924	2.356	1,528	9,692
enny, ...	2 119	133.919	271	12,958	6.876	9.888	10.759	40.752	2.203	81,101	100	9.552	3.398	6,480	7,762	27.292	
's.	1,239	78,536	50	4.225	5.819	4.795	3.161	18.050	1,476	50.539	25	3.592	2.847	3.046	2.618	12.128
tord.	607	39.244	50	2,318	4,228	3.518	2.017	12.131	1.206	42,026	55	3.823	2,794	4.053	2,984	13.709
h, ...	467	31.393	40	1,825	3.666	2.268	1.140	8,939	619	22,417	11	1,450	1,727	1,621	1,054	5,863
th.	1.215	80,931	66	3,652	19,454	6.724	3,026	32,922	1,192	44.670	33	2.525	7,940	4,177	2.231	16,906
n's, ...	1,266	80,177	117	5,405	5,313	5,438	4.361	20.634	1.316	47.673	34	3.980	2,388	3.074	3,213	12.689
meath.	1,065	69.450	63	3.302	10.049	5.906	3.005	22,325	1,331	48,504	37	3,025	5,398	4,420	2,670	15,550
ford, ...	2.560	160,713	282	12.449	9,519	11.150	9.434	42,834	2.622	96.571	87	8.147	4,867	6.939	6,076	26,116
low.	1,395	90,211	160	6,964	5.323	5,241	4,599	22,287	1,131	38,533	57	3,596	2,179	3,011	2,339	11,182
MUNSTER.																
e.	2.791	168,792	211	15.073	8,129	12,373	12.635	48,421	3,645	128,576	236	15,448	4.444	10,011	12,962	43,101
.. ..	8.057	503,850	1.683	69.942	14,103	24.776	45.104	155,613	6.654	236,719	462	36,800	6.953	13,256	24,103	81,574
y.	3.941	236,044	882	35,876	7,272	12,187	23,660	79,877	3,929	125,671	269	25,412	3,807	7,848	16,926	54,262
rick, ...	2.930	190.104	1,250	36,691	8,248	11.304	22.993	80,486	2.924	113,592	552	22,755	3.571	6.661	14,310	47,849
rary.	3.533	225.837	718	2.7307	13,810	19.637	21.577	83,049	3.989	149,566	364	21,752	6.754	13.174	17,531	59,575
rford.	1.676	106,588	404	13.681	4.881	6.839	9,504	35,309	1,295	46,437	88	6,107	2,259	2.962	4,364	15,780
ULSTER.																
rm.	2.372	155,550	564	17.245	4.831	7,840	9,540	40,020	3.617	131,783	304	17,390	3.382	7.488	10.646	39,210
agh.	567	33,675	198	2,981	2,233	3,450	2.018	10,880	1,432	49,844	203	5,371	2.227	4.579	3.759	16,139
n, ...	933	58,043	128	5.091	2,953	3.960	3.375	15,507	2,424	82,763	148	10,225	3.073	5,696	6,904	26,046
gal.	3.152	183,357	308	11.835	5.914	8.971	8.331	35,359	4,063	134,736	158	12,075	4,288	8,082	8.244	32,847
n, ...	1.804	110,526	412	10.632	5,028	8.762	7,384	32,218	3,244	114,549	272	11,912	4.481	9,572	8,908	35,145
anagh.	1.508	79,664	210	8,238	2.780	3.345	5.636	20.209	2.359	83,476	126	11,289	1.893	3.316	7,966	24,590
onderry, ...	1,491	93,731	283	8.376	3.370	5.960	5.928	23,917	2.286	81,500	131	8,887	2,390	5.858	6.391	23,657
ghan.	557	33,297	138	3.069	1,954	2,707	2.104	9.972	1,549	52,862	153	6.306	1,931	4,212	4,259	16,861
ne.	2,534	152,826	390	14.579	3,465	7.741	10.346	36,521	4.079	142,142	252	16.504	3.133	8,239	11.466	39,594
CONNAUGHT.																
way.	2.332	143.944	93	4.956	11,126	6.946	3.381	26,502	3.897	131.652	72	7,193	7.573	7.956	5.013	27,807
rim.	666	40,791	102	3.540	2,643	3.072	2.403	11,760	1,792	63,270	107	7,826	2.515	3,766	5.568	19,782
. ... ..	1.612	97,839	98	4.202	8.555	5.093	2.598	20.551	3.019	100,655	100	7.303	6.396	6.486	4.772	25.057
ommon.	937	59,374	45	2.784	5.672	5.138	2.069	15,708	1,775	63,484	83	4,904	3.508	5.338	3.757	17,590
. ...	782	48,149	75	3.092	4.269	4,112	2,378	13.926	1,584	54,339	68	5,602	2.626	4.064	4,324	16,684
SUMMARY.																
STER, ...	14,300	926,193	1.322	64.037	89.130	65.692	48.857	269.038	15.365	555.463	492	46.878	41.210	42.818	35.522	166,950
STER	22.928	1,431,215	5.153	198.570	56.443	87,116	135,473	482,755	22,436	800,561	1.971	128,274	27,788	53.912	90,196	302,141
D	14.718	900.669	2.631	82.046	32.528	52,736	54.662	224.603	25.053	873,555	1.747	99.969	26.798	57,042	68.543	254.089
NAUGHT.	6,329	390,097	413	18.574	32 265	24.366	12.829	88.447	12.067	413.400	430	32,828	22,618	27,610	23.431	106 920
TOTAL OF IRELAND. ...	58.375	3,648,174	9,519	363.227	210.366	229,910	251,821	1,064,843	74.921	2.642.984	4.640	307.939	118.444	181,382	217,695	830,100

APPENDIX IV.

XV.—Showing by Counties and Provinces the Number of Holdings above 5 Statute Acres in Extent, Classified according to Size, the Total Acreage of each Class, and the Number of each kind of Cattle in each Class of Holdings—*continued.*

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS. Above 15 and not exceeding 30 Statute Acres.								Above 5 and exceedingnot 15 Statute Acres.							
			NUMBER OF CATTLE.								NUMBER OF CATTLE.					
					Other Cattle.								Other Cattle.			
	Number of Holdings.	Total Area.	Bulls.	Milch Cows (including Heifers in Calf).	Two Years Old and upwards.	One Year Old and under Two Years.	Under One Year.	TOTAL.	Number of Holdings.	Total Area.	Bulls.	Milch Cows (including Heifers in Calf).	Two Years Old and upwards.	One Year Old and under Two Years.	Under One Year.	TOTAL.
LEINSTER.	No.	Acres.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Acres.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Carlow, ...	955	19,693	4	1,825	813	1,385	1,321	5,348	830	7,568	13	772	233	581	532	2,13
Dublin, ...	909	18,201	35	2,191	1,535	1,290	1,119	6,170	1,541	12 551	13	1,878	819	912	942	4,56
Kildare, ...	1,130	22,616	12	1,827	2,416	1 623	1,509	7,337	1,685	14,831	13	1.642	951	1,020	1,233	4,83
Kilkenny, ...	2,444	50,063	44	6,102	1,894	4,628	4 867	17,535	2,413	24,615	11	2,714	752	2,197	2 127	7,80
King's, ...	2,104	42,616	7	3,611	2,106	2,834	2,622	11,180	2,265	21,262	42	2,310	731	1,328	1,606	6,01
Longford, ...	2,626	52.187	25	6,331	2,038	4,398	4,754	17,546	2 448	24,327	4	3,555	523	1,949	2,607	8,63
Louth, ...	1,389	28,117	27	2,388	1,597	2,047	1,751	7,810	2,427	21,571	8	2,442	713	1,449	1,599	6,21
Meath, ...	1,868	38,305	36	2,949	4,631	4,037	2,665	14,318	2,521	24.881	11	2,053	1,948	2,388	2.186	8,58
Queen's, ...	2,028	41,198	54	4.160	1,516	2,684	3,016	11,430	2,186	20,382	4	2 340	438	1,016	1,566	5,36
Westmeath.	2,169	43,807	16	3.639	3.755	4,474	3,425	15,309	2,336	22,469	3	2,483	1,313	2,188	2,123	8,11
Wexford, ...	2,990	61,315	34	5,913	3,347	5,105	4,136	18,535	3,095	28,646	16	3,244	1,331	2,588	2,039	9,21
Wicklow, ...	1,191	24,153	17	2,653	1.625	1,850	1,604	7,749	1,298	11,952	13	1.699	604	968	1.010	4,29
MUNSTER.																
Clare, ...	4,792	92.426	42	14,379	3,167	9,115	11.943	38,646	3,418	33.573	18	5,193	991	3,217	4.411	13,83
Cork, ...	6,341	129 211	175	22.639	3,737	8,536	14,382	49,469	4,672	43,921	46	8,388	1,546	3,881	5,271	19,13
Kerry, ...	3,899	77,135	90	16,249	2,248	5,227	10,870	34,684	3,142	35,813	28	6,778	823	2,193	4,264	14,06
Limerick, ...	3,076	64,764	230	15,586	2,265	4,626	9,970	32,677	2,357	22,581	26	5,256	646	1,596	3.360	10,88
Tipperary, ...	4,799	101.226	174	16,653	4,337	10,161	13,337	44,662	4,252	40,562	82	6.737	1.775	4,313	5,161	18,06
Waterford, ...	1,388	28,470	39	3,674	1,445	1,870	2,617	9,645	1,441	13,825	18	2.105	717	1,060	1.415	5,34
ULSTER.																
Antrim, ...	6,012	125,503	140	18,044	2,677	7,275	11,621	39,757	5,310	51,112	69	8,280	933	3,102	5,456	17,84
Armagh, ...	4,393	85.086	139	10,548	2,899	7,477	7,351	28,414	8,209	69,231	58	10,818	1.509	5.935	7,510	25,83
Cavan, ...	7,055	136.988	97	19,629	3,675	9,000	12,967	45,368	6,863	63,538	23	10,771	1,651	4,945	7,079	24,46
Donegal, ...	8,533	157,178	117	19,320	4,900	11,111	12,916	48,364	10,375	95,649	46	15.981	2.638	7.130	10,282	35,07
Down, ...	6,447	128,793	144	14,910	3,936	11,115	10,903	41,008	8,645	81,343	42	10,553	2.362	6.668	7,719	27,34
Fermanagh, ...	4.121	83,849	67	13,142	1,670	3,545	8,957	27,381	3,301	32,285	39	5.823	517	1.500	3,960	11,83
Londonderry, ...	4,518	89,839	66	11,787	2,770	6,603	8,113	29,339	4,979	47,584	18	8.010	1.117	3,498	5.263	17,90
Monaghan, ...	5,036	96,316	111	13,044	2,662	7,596	8,972	32,385	7,122	69.452	124	9,712	1,332	5.422	6.735	23,32
Tyrone, ...	7,813	156,856	171	21,408	3,377	10,080	14,791	49,827	7,746	74,777	49	11,543	1.342	5.475	8.250	26,65
CONNAUGHT.																
Galway, ...	9,290	180,319	102	14,625	8,470	12,499	10,593	46,289	12,163	114,719	52	13.976	4,337	8.767	10.214	37,34
Leitrim, ...	5,209	104,606	81	16.275	3,315	5,848	11,205	36,724	5,213	53,507	32	9.730	1.492	3.295	6.348	20,89
Mayo, ...	10,033	187,318	101	19,856	9,347	13,993	12,870	56,167	15,040	146,458	36	22.425	5.607	11.270	14.315	53,65
Roscommon, ...	6,124	106,890	90	13.693	3,946	9,761	10,326	37,816	8,527	80,111	26	11.897	1.722	6.129	8.948	28,72
Sligo, ...	4,451	94,695	62	12,133	2,739	5,426	9,443	29,803	5,407	51,890	27	9.258	986	3.329	6.977	20,57
SUMMARY.																
LEINSTER, ...	21,803	442,271	311	43,589	27,273	36,355	32,789	140,317	25,045	235,058	154	27,132	10,356	18.584	19.570	75,79
MUNSTER, ...	24,293	493,229	750	89,180	17,199	39,535	63,119	209,783	19,282	190,275	218	34,457	6,498	16.260	23.912	81,34
ULSTER, ...	53,928	1,060,408	1,052	141,832	28,566	73,802	96,591	341,843	62,550	584,971	468	91.491	13,401	43.675	62 254	211,28
CONNAUGHT, ...	35,110	673,828	436	76,582	27,517	47,527	54,437	206,799	46,355	446,685	173	67,286	14,144	32.790	46.802	161,19
TOTAL OF IRELAND, ...	135,134	2,669,736	2,549	351,183	100,855	197,219	246,936	898,742	153,232	1,456,989	1,013	220.366	44,349	111.309	152.538	529,62

VI.—Statement showing by Counties and Provinces as regards Holdings exceeding 5 Statute Acres in Extent, classified according to Size, the Percentage that the Number in each Class is of the Total Number; the Percentage the Acreage in each Class is of the Total Acreage; and the Percentage of the Total Number of each kind of Cattle that is on each Class of Holding.

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS.															
	Above 200 Statute Acres.								Above 100 and not exceeding 200 Statute Acres.							
	Percentage of Total Holdings.	Percentage of Total Area.	NUMBER OF CATTLE.						Percentage of Total Holdings.	Percentage of Total Area.	NUMBER OF CATTLE.					
			Bulls.	Milch Cows (including Heifers in Calf).	Other Cattle.			TOTAL.			Bulls.	Milch Cows (including Heifers in Calf).	Other Cattle.			TOTAL.
					Two Years Old and upwards.	One Year Old and under Two Years.	Under One Year.						Two Years Old and upwards.	One Year Old and under Two Years.	Under One Year.	
LEINSTER.																
low, ...	2·9	17·1	25·3	8·9	26·3	10·9	8·3	14·2	9·0	23·5	24·9	16·9	28·9	25·1	18·5	22·7
lin	3·3	21·1	8·9	13·9	28·2	16·6	15·4	21·1	9·5	28·8	19·6	22·4	35·9	26·5	16·7	28·6
lare.	6·7	36·5	35·0	21·3	39·4	24·6	16·7	31·3	12·9	24·4	36·0	23·8	30·7	30·0	24·3	28·9
kenny.	2·2	13·6	14·4	5·3	23·3	10·6	5·0	10·3	8·0	22·5	28·9	17·0	29·9	20·5	17·2	21·0
g's.	3·9	24·0	26·2	13·5	37·3	17·5	12·0	22·8	7·3	20·4	31·6	15 1	23 9	19·8	14·3	19·4
rford.	1·1	9·4	11·3	2·5	17·3	8·4	2·1	7·8	2·7	11·8	16·7	4·7	23·5	10·6	5·9	11·3
th.	2·5	21·6	25·8	14·7	35·8	20·0	12·1	23·6	4·3	17·0	29·9	12·6	22·4	15·9	12·5	17·2
th.	7·9	39·8	38·0	26·2	49·6	29·0	19·5	41·7	11·0	24·6	20·2	19 3	26·4	21·1	17·1	24·2
en's.	3·7	22·7	22·1	11.9	30·4	18·8	10·8	18·6	7 9	22·3	31·5	16·9	28·2	21·9	16·8	21·4
tmeath.	4·2	28·6	27·1	13·7	39·9	18·9	12·3	27·3	7·0	19·3	23·3	13·5	22·9	16·2	12·5	18·6
sford, ...	1·7	10·6	15·3	5·0	14·9	7·4	5·1	8·1	7·1	20·9	29·6	15·8	25·7	17·4	16·8	18·9
klow.	5·9	35·8	20·2	11·8	23 7	15·4	11·8	16·0	11·8	22·7	35·3	21·8	30·8	24·7	22·2	25·2
MUNSTER.																
e, ...	2·7	19·0	11·7	4·4	25·9	9·4	4·0	9·3	5·8	16·5	22·3	9·1	22·7	14·0	9·3	12·8
t, ...	2·7	13 6	11·2	6·7	19·0	9·7	6·1	8·5	11·3	26·1	35·1	22·7	30·6	24·9	22·0	24·0
ry, ...	4 0	22·6	15·9	6·7	22·8	11·9	6·4	9·2	9·9	22·4	28·9	16·9	25·2	20·2	16·8	18·3
erick, ...	2·0	12·8	7·2	4·5	27·0	12·6	4·0	8·9	8·3	21·6	21·9	17·2	29·6	23·6	16·4	19·8
erary.	3·3	20·7	13·7	7·3	32·1	13·4	6·6	13·9	7·9	20·7	24·8	15·7	27·6	20·2	15·2	19·3
erford, ...	3·7	20·5	12·0	8·7	20·9	12·7	8·5	11·6	11·8	26·5	38·6	28·0	29·0	28·9	27·5	28·3
ULSTER.																
rm.	1·2	14·5	6·5	3·1	11·4	8·1	1·9	4·7	2·9	10·4	15·8	7·3	17·2	9·6	6·2	8·6
agh.	0·1	1·9	1·4	0·4	3·2	0·8	0·3	0·8	0·6	4·5	7·3	2·1	10·3	3·7	2·2	3·6
an.	0·4	4·0	6·4	1·3	5·9	2·2	1·2	2·1	1·3	6·6	12·5	2·9	15·1	6·4	2·8	5·1
gal.	1·7	19·4	8·4	2·8	8·7	4·1	2·5	3·8	3·7	13·4	22·6	7·8	15·4	9·9	7·7	9·3
n.	0·5	6·8	5·3	2·3	6·4	2·8	1·6	2·8	1·6	7·7	14·6	6·1	12·8	7·4	4·8	7·1
nanagh, ...	0·4	7·0	4·8	1·6	10·4	5·4	1·6	3·1	3·1	11·8	13·5	6·3	20·7	13·0	5·8	8·7
londerry, ...	1·3	14·5	8·5	3·2	11·2	4·8	2·4	4·4	3·1	11·8	18·2	7·0	16·5	11·4	6·9	9·2
aghan, ...	0·2	2·2	3·1	0·9	7·0	1·7	0·5	1·7	0·7	4·5	6·5	2·2	11·7	3·8	1·8	3·5
ne.	0·9	10·2	6·8	1·8	6·9	3·0	1·8	2·4	2·5	10·0	14·6	6·3	12·2	7·3	5·7	6·9
CONNAUGHT.																
way	3·4	32·8	19·0	8·7	32·1	15·1	7·9	17·9	4·1	13·7	10·4	6·7	20·3	11·7	6·3	12·4
im.	0·3	3·9	2·6	0·5	4·2	1·8	0·5	1·2	1·3	5·6	12·6	2·7	12·1	7·0	2·8	4·8
o, ...	2·0	31·3	11·5	3·6	24·1	9·2	3·7	10·3	2·3	9·7	10·1	3·9	16·1	7·7	3·1	7·8
common, ...	1·6	17·2	11·6	3·7	29·2	12·1	3·6	12·4	2·9	15·1	11·9	4·9	25·9	14·4	4·2	12·6
, ...	1·2	15·3	12·2	2·8	16·6	11·7	3·1	7·5	2·5	11·2	11·5	4·0	23·8	14·0	3.9	9·9
SUMMARY.																
STER.	3·7	24 5	21·4	11·2	36·6	16·6	9·7	22·3	8·1	21 9	28·6	16·8	27·2	20·5	16·4	21·8
STER.	3·0	17·6	11·6	6·3	25·5	11·4	5·8	10·1	9·2	22·7	29·2	18·6	27·7	21·6	17·9	20·4	
ER, ...	0·9	10·8	6·0	2·1	6·6	3·7	1·8	3·0	2·2	9·8	14·6	5·7	11·9	8·0	5·4	7·2
NAUGHT.	2·0	25·3	11·6	4·1	25·9	11·1	3·9	11·2	2·8	11·7	11·2	4·5	20·0	11·0	4·1	9·9
TOTAL OF IRELAND, ...	2·2	19·0	11·7	5·6	28·4	10·7	5·1	11·6	5·1	17·0	23·9	12·5	24·4	15·9	12·0	15·8

APPENDIX IV.

XVI.—Statement showing by Counties and Provinces as regards Holdings exceeding 5 Statute Acres i Extent, Classified according to Size, the Percentage that the Number in each Class is of the Total Number; th Percentage the Acreage in each Class is of the Total Acreage; and the Percentage of the Total Number of eac kind of Cattle that is on each Class of Holding—*continued.*

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS.														
	Above 50 and not exceeding 100 Statute Acres.								Above 30 and not exceeding 50 Statute Acres						
	Percentage of Total Holdings.	Percentage of Total Area.	NUMBER OF CATTLE.						Percentage of Total Holdings.	Percentage of Total Area.	NUMBER OF CATTLE.				
			Bulls.	Milch Cows (including Heifers in Calf).	Other Cattle.			TOTAL.			Bulls.	Milch Cows (including Heifers in Calf).	Other Cattle.			TOTAL.
					Two Years Old and upwards.	One Year Old and under Two Years.	Under One Year.						Two Years Old and upwards.	One Year Old and under Two Years.	Under One Year.	
LEINSTER.																
Carlow, ...	21·4	29·0	34·7	31·1	25·3	31·2	32·1	29·8	21·5	16·1	7·5	21·8	11·5	17·0	21·9	17·
Dublin, ...	14·8	21·9	40·9	24·3	20·2	23·0	24·2	22·3	14·2	11·7	9·3	15·6	7·7	13·9	13·7	11·
Kildare, ...	16·8	19·2	16·4	19·7	17·0	21·1	22·3	18·9	14·4	9·0	4·6	12·3	7·0	11·4	13·1	9·
Kilkenny, ...	20·7	29·5	35·7	32·2	24·9	29·3	32·9	30·1	21·6	17·9	13·2	23·7	12·3	19·2	23·6	20·
King's, ...	15·6	22·6	17·0	21·9	19·6	25·1	23·3	22·0	18·5	14·6	8·5	18·7	9·6	15·9	19·3	14·
Longford, ...	8·5	19·6	26·9	13·4	26·1	20·5	15·0	18·9	16·9	21·0	29·6	22·1	17·3	23·6	22·2	21·
Louth, ...	8·9	18·6	20·6	16·4	19·9	19 7	15·5	18·4	11·8	13 3	5·7	13·0	9·4	14·1	14·3	12·
Meath, ...	14 5	15·3	18·9	17·8	13·8	19·3	19·0	15·4	14·2	8·4	9·5	12·3	5·7	12·0	14·0	7·
Queen's, ...	16·5	23·3	26·0	24·2	22·8	26 4	26·0	24·7	17·1	13·8	7·5	17·8	10·2	14·9	19·1	15·
Westmeath, ...	13·7	19·6	26·3	19·3	18·2	22·7	20·2	19·7	17·1	13·7	15·4	17·7	9·8	16·9	17·9	13·
Wexford, ...	20·4	31·6	37·1	33·1	29·6	32·5	34·0	32·3	21·3	19·1	11·4	21·7	15·2	20·3	21·9	19·
Wicklow, ...	22·9	22·7	28·8	31·0	24·9	28·4	31·8	28·8	18·6	9·7	10·3	16·0	10·2	16·3	16·1	14·
MUNSTER.																
Clare, ...	17·5	25·7	27·5	26·0	25·0	27·3	26·1	26·2	22·8	19·6	26·7	19·6	13·7	22·1	26·8	23·
Cork, ...	26·9	33·3	38·2	35·8	27·0	32·1	36·5	34·4	22·3	15·6	18·9	14·7	13·3	17·2	19·5	18·
Kerry, ...	22·8	27·3	38·4	32·5	26·8	30·1	32·7	31·6	22·7	14·6	23·0	17·6	14·0	19·4	23·3	21·
Limerick, ...	23·5	31·8	43·1	35·8	24·3	29·8	36·1	33·4	22·6	19·3	22·2	12·2	10·5	17·6	22·5	19·
Tipperary, ...	18·9	25·6	33·0	29·1	20·9	27·6	29·3	27·0	21·4	16·9	23·1	14·6	10·2	18·5	23·8	19·
Waterford, ...	24·4	28·9	36·3	33·9	26·3	31·4	33·9	32·1	18·9	12·6	15·1	12·4	12·2	13·7	15·6	14·
ULSTER.																
Antrim, ...	13·2	25·2	40·7	25·3	29·2	25·1	23·5	25·4	20·1	21·3	21·9	25·6	20·4	24·0	26·2	24·
Armagh, ...	3·9	13·3	30·2	9·8	21·8	15·4	9·6	12·8	9·7	19·6	31·0	17·6	21·7	20·4	17·7	19·
Cavan, ...	5·3	15·2	26·2	10·7	20·5	15·3	10·7	12·9	13·8	21·7	30·3	21·4	21·4	22·1	21·9	21·
Donegal, ...	11·4	21·5	33·8	17·9	25·3	21·8	18·8	20·1	14·7	15·9	17·4	18·2	18·3	19·7	18·6	18·
Down, ...	8·8	21·7	38·0	20·3	25·7	21·8	19·8	21·4	15·8	22·5	25·0	22·7	22·9	23·8	23·9	23·
Fermanagh, ...	11·3	23·1	38·7	19·7	27·9	23·3	19·7	21·2	20·5	24·3	23·3	27·0	19·0	23·1	27·8	25·
Londonderry, ...	10·8	22·1	41·6	20·3	25·3	22·8	20·9	21·8	16·4	19·2	19·3	21·5	17·9	22·4	22·5	21·
Monaghan, ...	3·9	12·3	23·7	9·3	20·2	12·8	9·3	11·4	10·7	19·6	26·3	19·0	19·9	20·0	18·9	19·
Tyrone, ...	11·0	23·2	35·5	20·9	24·8	22·0	21·3	21·7	17·8	21·5	23·0	23·7	22·3	23·4	23·7	23·
CONNAUGHT.																
Galway, ...	7·8	13·5	20·6	10·3	16·8	14·1	9·9	13·4	13·0	12·3	15·9	14·9	11·6	16·1	14·7	14·
Leitrim, ...	5·1	14·1	26·9	9·2	22·1	17·5	9·1	12·4	13·7	21·8	28·2	20·3	21·0	21·5	21·1	20·
Mayo, ...	5·2	10·8	22·9	7·2	17·1	11·5	7·0	10·8	9·7	11·2	23·4	12·6	12·8	14·6	12·9	13·
Roscommon, ...	5·2	13·0	14·1	7·6	17·2	14·3	7·6	11·8	9·8	13·9	26·0	13·5	10·6	14·9	13·8	13·
Sligo, ...	6·1	14·2	24·7	9·6	24·0	18·0	9·5	14·2	12.5	16·0	22·3	17·4	14·7	17·8	17·1	17·
SUMMARY.																
LEINSTER, ...	16·5	23·0	29·0	25·4	19·2	25·3	26·4	23·1	17·7	13·8	10·8	18·6	8·9	16·5	19·2	14·
MUNSTER, ...	22·6	29·3	37·7	33·3	24·5	29·6	33·1	31·2	22·2	16·4	14·4	21·3	12·0	18·4	21·0	19·
ULSTER, ...	9·1	20·9	35·4	18·2	20·1	20·5	13·1	19·5	15·6	20·3	23·5	22·2	35·3	22·1	22·8	22·
CONNAUGHT, ...	6·0	12·8	21·9	8·7	18·0	14·3	8·6	12·3	11·5	13·5	22·9	15·4	12·7	16·3	15·7	15·
TOTAL OF IRELAND, ...	12·8	22·4	31·6	23·9	21·0	23·4	24·0	23·3	16·5	16·2	16·9	20·3	11·8	18·5	20·3	18·

—Statement showing by Counties and Provinces as regards Holdings exceeding 5 Statute Acres in extent, Classified according to Size, the Percentage that the Number in each Class is of the Total Number; the Percentage the Acreage in each Class is of the Total Acreage; and the Percentage of the Total Number of each kind of Cattle that is on each Class of Holding—*continued.*

COUNTIES.	HOLDINGS.															
	Above 15 and not exceeding 30 Statute Acres.								Above 5 and not exceeding 15 Statute Acres.							
	Percentage of Total Holdings.	Percentage of Total Area.	NUMBER OF CATTLE.						Percentage of Total Holdings.	Percentage of Total Area.	NUMBER OF CATTLE.					
			Bulls.	Milch Cows (including Heifers in Calf)	Other Cattle.			TOTAL.			Bulls.	Milch Cows (including Heifers in Calf).	Other Cattle.			TOTAL.
					Two Years Old and upwards.	One Year Old and under Two Years.	Under One Year.						Two Years Old and upwards.	One Year Old and under Two Years	Under One Year.	
LEINSTER.																
... ...	24·2	10·3	1·8	15·0	6·2	11·1	13·7	11·2	21·0	4·0	5·8	6·3	1·8	4·7	5·5	4·5
... ...	21·6	9·7	15·5	12·8	5·2	11·7	16·3	9·5	36·6	6·7	5·8	11·0	2·8	8·3	13·7	7·0
... ...	19·8	6·6	4·0	12·1	4·2	7·9	13·0	7·0	29·4	4·3	4·0	10·8	1·7	5·0	10·6	4·7
... ...	23·9	11·1	5·9	15·1	6·8	13·8	14·9	12·3	23·6	5·4	1·9	6·7	2·8	6·6	6·4	6·0
... ...	26·3	12·3	2·4	18·8	7·1	14·8	19·3	13·6	28·4	6·1	14·3	12·0	2·5	6·9	11·8	7·4
... ...	36·7	26·1	13·4	36·7	12·6	25·6	35·4	27·3	34·1	12·1	2·1	20·6	3·2	11·3	19·4	13·4
... ...	26·4	16·7	13·9	21·4	8·6	17·7	23·8	16·0	46·1	12·8	4·1	21·9	3·9	12·6	21·8	12·8
... ...	22·3	7·2	10·3	14·4	3·2	11·7	16·8	6·8	30·1	4·7	3·1	10·0	1·3	6·9	13·6	4·0
... ...	26·4	12·0	12·0	18·7	6·5	13·0	18·0	13·7	28·4	5·9	0·9	10·5	1·9	5·0	9·3	6·4
h, ...	28·0	12·4	6·7	21·3	6·8	17·0	22·9	13·5	30·0	6·4	1·2	14·5	2·4	8·3	14·2	7·2
... ...	24·3	12·1	4·5	15·8	10·4	14·9	14·9	14·0	25·2	5·7	2·1	8·6	4·2	7·5	7·3	7·0
... ...	19·5	6·1	3·1	11·8	7·6	10·0	11·1	10·0	21·3	3·0	2·3	7·6	2·8	5·2	7·0	5·5
MUNSTER.																
... ...	29·9	14·1	5·5	24·8	9·7	20·1	24·7	20·9	21·3	5·1	2·3	9·0	3·0	7·1	9·1	7·5
... ...	21·2	8·5	4·0	11·6	7·1	11·1	11·6	10·9	15·6	2·9	1·0	4.3	3·0	5·0	4·3	4·2
... ...	22·5	8·9	3·9	14·7	8·2	13·0	14·9	13·8	18·1	4·2	1·2	6·2	3·0	5·4	5·9	5·6
... ...	24·7	10·8	7·9	15·2	6·7	12·2	15·7	13·6	18·9	3·7	0·9	5·1	1·9	4·2	5·3	4·5
... ...	25·7	11·5	8·0	17·7	6·5	14·3	18·1	14·5	22·8	4·6	3·8	7·1	2·7	6·0	7·0	5·9
d, ...	20·2	7·7	3·5	9·1.	7·7	8·6	9·3	8·8	21·0	3·8	1·6	5·2	3·9	4·7	5·2	4·8
ULSTER.																
... ...	33·3	20·3	10·1	26·5	16·2	23·3	28·7	25·2	29·3	8·3	5·0	12·2	5·6	9·9	13·5	11·3
... ...	29·9	33·5	21·2	34·6	28·3	33·4	34·7	33·4	55·8	27·2	8·9	35·5	14·7	26·3	35·5	30·4
... ...	40·1	35·9	19·9	41·1	25·6	34·9	41·0	37·8	39·1	16·6	4·7	22·6	11·5	19·1	22·4	20·4
... ...	30·9	18·5	12·8	29·2	21·0	27·1	29·2	27·6	37·6	11·3	5·0	24·1	11·3	17·4	23·2	20·5
... ...	31·3	25·3	13·3	28·5	20·1	27·6	29·2	27·2	42·0	16·0	3·8	20·1	12·1	16·6	20·7	18·2
h, ...	35·7	24·4	12·4	31·5	16·8	24·7	31.3	28·8	28·6	9·4	7·3	13·9	5·2	10·5	13·8	12·4
rry, ...	32·5	21·2	9·7	28·6	20·8	25·2	28·7	26·8	35·9	11·2	2·7	19·4	8·3	13 4	18·6	16·3
n, ...	35·0	35·7	19·1	39·3	27·5	36·0	39·7	37·2	49·5	25 7	21·3	29 3	13·7	25·7	29 8	26·8
... ...	34·0	23·8	15·6	30·7	24·1	28·7	30·5	29·6	33·8	11·3	4·5	16·6	9·7	15 6	17·0	15·8
CONNAUGHT.																
... ...	31·0	16·9	22·6	30·4	12·7	25·3	31·2	23·3	40·7	10·8	11·5	29·0	6·5	17·7	30·0	19·0
... ...	39·8	36·1	21·3	42·1	27·7	33·4	42·5	38·7	39·8	18·5	8·4	25·2	12·9	18·8	24·0	22·0
... ...	32·3	20·8	23·7	34·1	18·7	31·6	34·7	29·6	48·5	16·2	8·4	38·6	11·2	25·4	28·6	28·3
on, ...	33·6	23·3	28·2	37·6	11·9	27·2	37·9	28·4	46·9	17·5	8·2	32·7	5·2	17·1	32·9	21·6
... ..	35·1	28·0	20·4	37·5	15·4	23·8	38·0	30·4	42·6	15·3	8·9	28·7	5·5	14·7	28·1	21·0
SUMMARY.																
... ...	25·1	11·0	6·8	17·3	5·9	14·0	17·7	12·0	28·9	5·8	3·4	10·7	2·2	7·1	10·6	6·5
... ..	24·0	10·1	5·5	14·8	7·6	13·5	15·4	13·5	19·0	3·9	1·6	5·7	2·8	5·5	5·8	5·3
... ...	33·4	24·6	14·1	31·5	17·8	28·7	31·2	29·8	38·8	13·6	6·4	20·3	8·3	17·0	20·7	18·3
NT, ...	33·5	22·1	23·2	35·8	15·5	28·0	36·4	29·0	44·2	14·6	9·2	31·5	7·9	19·3	31·3	22·6
AL OF IRELAND, ..	29·7	16·4	9·2	23·2	10·0	20·1	23·5	19·6	33·7	9·0	3·7	14·5	4·4	11·4	14·6	11·6

APPENDIX IV.

B.—Table showing the Number of various classes of Agricultural Holdings in Ireland in 1841 and certain subsequent years.

The earliest official statistics relating to the number of various-sized holdings in each county are those contained in the Census of 1841.

Similar figures were given in the Census Returns of 1851. Between these two dates the annual collection of Agricultural Statistics was started, and these figures are available for 1847 and each subsequent year. The figures given below are taken from the Census Returns of 1841 and 1851 and the Agricultural Statistics for 1847, 1857, 1867, 1877, 1887, 1897, and 1906. These figures were all collected on the same basis and are therefore comparable; they include many holdings not strictly agricultural.

No statistics relating to holdings were collected for the Census in 1861 and 1871, as they were regarded as unnecessary, in view of the fact that the agricultural statistics were annually collected. During the Census of 1881 the collection of statistics relating to holdings was resumed, but on a new basis, and a different interpretation placed upon the word "holdings" (see explanatory note, page vii., in the prefatory note to the statistics contained in the second appendix to the Seventh Report of the Commission). To put the matter briefly, the Census figures relate to landholders and not to holdings; the Agricultural Statistics relate to holdings and include many that are not agricultural. The result is that the figures given in the Agricultural Statistics are, roughly, 20 per cent. greater than those given in the Census Returns since 1881.

WALTER CALLAN,

Secretary.

4th April, 1908.

1.—Table showing, as regards Holdings under 1 acre in extent, the number of such Holdings in certain counties of Ireland from the year 1841.

County.	YEARS.								
	1841.* (1.)	1847. (2.)	1851. (3.)	1857. (4.)	1867. (5.)	1877. (6.)	1887. (7.)	1897. (8.)	1906. (9.)
Donegal, ..	*	2,390	654	646	1,186	1,056	1,263	1,520	1,468
Sligo, ..	*	965	424	444	1,000	1,201	710	951	913
Leitrim, ..	*	775	644	568	671	618	412	541	846
Mayo, ..	*	2,341	1,020	1,451	2,326	1,830	1,635	1,952	1,840
Roscommon, ..	*	2,537	1,642	1,691	1,578	1,111	863	878	1,202
Galway, ..	*	4,272	2,543	2,810	2,848	2,387	1,744	1,994	2,227
Kerry, ..	*	2,271	507	626	1,085	868	982	1,634	2,622
Clare, ..	*	3,088	920	1,176	1,235	1,355	1,167	1,464	1,791
Total, ..	—	18,639	8,354	9,412	11,929	10,426	8,776	10,934	12,909
Total for all Ireland,..	—	73,016	37,728	37,442	50,670	51,910	48,122	62,189	80,693

* There are no official statistics available to show the number of holdings under one acre in extent in the year 1841.

.—TABLE showing, as regards Holdings from 1–5 acres in extent, the number of such Holdings in certain counties in Ireland from the year 1841.

COUNTY.	YEARS.								
	1841. (1.)	1847. (2.)	1851. (3.)	1857. (4.)	1867. (5.)	1877. (6.)	1887. (7.)	1897. (8.)	1906. (9.)
negal, ..	15,567	4,212	3,297	3,371	3,108	2,737	2,719	2,922	2,926
go, ..	11,291	3,084	1,867	1,924	1,639	1,461	1,410	1,442	1,477
trim, ..	9,373	2,266	1,188	1,298	1,193	979	838	856	872
yo, ..	33,790	10,349	4,959	4,584	5,546	4,620	3,516	3,503	3,436
common, ..	17,472	7,124	3,739	3,389	3,066	2,524	2,188	2,066	2,176
way, ..	27,992	12,774	6,710	6,263	6,214	5,241	4,509	4,672	4,297
ry, ..	8,689	2,654	942	1,268	1,266	1,203	1,411	1,794	2,199
re, ..	11,593	4,713	1,642	1,669	1,601	1,375	1,246	1,388	1,496
Total, ..	135,767	47,176	24,344	23,766	23,633	20,140	17,837	18,643	18,879
Total for all Ireland,..	306,915	139,041	88,083	81,585	78,064	66,637	60,824	62,030	62,256

3.—TABLE showing the number of Holdings from 5–15 acres in extent in certain counties in Ireland from the year 1841.

COUNTY.	YEARS.								
	1841. (1.)	1847. (2.)	1851. (3.)	1857. (4.)	1867. (5.)	1877. (6.)	1887. (7.)	1897. (8.)	1906. (9.)
egal, ..	12,931	13,043	11,610	10,947	11,643	10,812	10,277	10,161	10,409
, ..	6,190	8,895	5,839	6,102	5,976	6,034	5,842	5,781	5,442
rim, ..	7,971	8,789	6,018	6,110	5,933	5,458	5,194	5,128	5,190
o, ..	10,331	23,581	15,301	14,894	15,666	16,050	14,947	15,274	15,334
ommon, ..	8,066	13,705	9,291	8,770	8,671	8,588	8,243	8,211	8,544
way, ..	12,663	21,565	12,806	12,321	12,523	12,703	12,251	12,243	12,257
y, ..	10,830	5,844	2,777	2,438	2,699	2,782	2,943	3,202	3,205
e, ..	12,049	11,018	3,908	3,745	3,398	3,211	3,063	3,135	3,326
Total, ..	81,031	106,440	67,550	65,327	66,509	65,638	62,760	63,135	63,707
Total for all Ireland,..	251,128	269,534	191,854	179,733	173,475	164,917	156,562	155,064	154,228

4.—TABLE showing, as regards Holdings from 15–30 acres in extent, the number of such Holdings in certain counties in Ireland from the year 1841.

COUNTY.	YEARS.								
	1841. (1.)	1847. (2.)	1851. (3.)	1857. (4.)	1867. (5.)	1877. (6.)	1887. (7.)	1897. (8.)	1906. (9.)
gal, ..	3,257	9,067	8,857	8,559	8,383	8,411	8,513	8,413	8,562
, ..	705	4,150	3,936	4,252	4,482	4,578	4,488	4,494	4,455
m, ..	877	4,728	4,865	4,871	4,931	5,314	5,230	5,241	5,282
, ..	1,265	9,877	8,159	8,855	8,431	9,452	9,680	9,612	9,783
ommon, ..	913	4,519	4,503	5,244	5,291	5,462	5,513	5,502	6,079
ay, ..	2,030	10,470	7,336	8,101	8,556	8,728	8,557	8,837	9,159
, ..	4,068	6,345	3,996	3,737	3,750	3,761	3,698	3,827	3,959
, ..	2,234	8,035	5,290	4,918	4,753	4,748	4,632	4,656	4,804
Total, ..	15,619	57,191	46,942	48,537	48,577	50,454	50,311	50,582	52,083
Total for all Ireland,..	78,954	164,337	141,311	139,193	136,503	137,791	134,879	133,308	135,133

APPENDIX IV.

5.—TABLE showing, as regards Holdings from 30–200 acres in extent, the number of such Holdings in certain counties in Ireland from the year 1841.

COUNTY.	YEARS.						
	1851.* (1.)	1857. (2.)	1867. (3.)	1877. (4.)	1887. (5.)	1897. (6.)	1906. (7.)
Donegal, ...	7,875	7,858	7,386	8,028	8,183	8,308	5,224
Sligo, ...	2,534	2,484	2,482	2,592	2,621	2,741	2,689
Leitrim, ...	2,387	2,516	2,409	2,496	2,624	2,661	2,626
Mayo, ...	4,703	5,766	4,188	4,413	5,194	5,398	5,389
Roscommon, ...	2,447	2,992	2,618	3,073	3,100	3,149	3,258
Galway, ...	5,967	7,043	6,071	7,131	7,215	7,373	7,354
Kerry, ...	8,752	8,934	8,601	9,470	9,222	9,327	9,484
Clare, ...	6,264	6,586	6,257	7,266	7,350	7,303	7,369
Total, ...	40,929	44,449	40,012	44,469	45,509	46,260	43,393
Total for all Ireland, ...	139,786	146,535	134,321	151,032	153,201	154,576	155,417

* The year 1851 was the first year in which holdings over 30 acres in extent were classified according to acreage.

6.—TABLE showing, as regards Holdings exceeding 200 acres in extent, the number of such Holdings in certain counties in Ireland from the year 1841.

COUNTY.	YEARS.						
	1851.* (1.)	1857. (2.)	1867. (3.)	1877. (4.)	1887. (5.)	1897. (6.)	1906. (7.)
Donegal, ...	459	454	468	451	438	449	420
Sligo, ...	156	161	203	154	153	157	162
Leitrim, ...	57	54	82	54	44	47	42
Mayo, ...	668	751	656	631	728	656	622
Roscommon, ...	279	287	288	285	303	292	282
Galway, ...	909	1,113	984	1,142	1,045	1,039	762
Kerry, ...	786	784	869	741	742	715	691
Clare, ...	395	410	485	392	394	399	421
Total, ...	3,709	4,014	4,035	3,850	3,847	3,754	3,402
Total for all Ireland,	9,304	9,848	11,497	9,676	9,887	9,808	9,617

* The year 1851 was the first year in which holdings above 200 acres in extent were classified according to acreage.

7.—SUMMARY showing the total number of Holdings in certain counties in Ireland from the year 1841.

COUNTY.	YEARS.								
	1841. (1.)	1847. (2.)	1851. (3.)	1857. (4.)	1867. (5.)	1877. (6.)	1887. (7.)	1897. (8.)	1906. (9.)
Donegal, ..	33,724	37,567	32,752	31,835	32,386	31,495	31,393	31,773	32,[illegible]
Sligo, ..	18,584	19,466	14,756	15,367	15,985	16,020	15,224	15,566	15,13[illegible]
Leitrim, ..	18,423	19,082	15,159	15,417	15,233	14,919	14,342	14,474	14,85[illegible]
Mayo, ..	46,521	53,164	34,810	36,301	37,329	36,996	35,700	36,395	36,40[illegible]
Roscommon, ..	27,346	30,641	21,901	22,373	21,938	21,043	20,210	20,098	21,54[illegible]
Galway, ..	44,330	58,448	36,271	37,651	38,451	37,331	35,321	36,158	36,25[illegible]
Kerry, ..	25,759	27,590	17,760	17,787	18,633	18,825	18,998	20,499	22,1[illegible]
Clare, ..	26,928	32,902	18,419	18,774	18,519	18,347	17,852	18,345	19,2[illegible]
Total, ..	241,615	278,860	191,828	195,505	198,474	194,976	189,040	193,308	197,[illegible]
Total for all Ireland,..	685,309	803,025	608,066	594,332	597,118	581,963	563,475	576,975	597,34

C. MEMORANDUM ON THE FINANCIAL ASPECT OF THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS IN IRELAND.

The Rev. Denis O'Hara, a member of the Congested Districts Board, during the course of his examination on the 2nd October last, referred to the amount of money that had been spent on the relief of distress in the West in the last quarter of a century, and expressed the opinion that the expenditure of a somewhat similar sum of money now, properly administered, would almost effect a radical cure of the chronic poverty of the West. (See Question 3618 *et seq.*)* A desire was expressed that official information should be obtained on the point, and with this object the Secretary of the Commission wrote to the Chief Secretary's Office, the Board of Works, the Local Government Board, the Irish Land Commission, and the Department of Agriculture, asking them to give all available information they could, showing the amount advanced by way of grant and loan for the relief of distress since 1878. Information was also sought respecting the source from which the funds came and the body upon which, in the case of loan, liability for repayment fell. It was requested that a distinction should be drawn as far as possible between the money expended in the congested districts and elsewhere, and also between the money expended on reproductive purposes, and that spent on measures of temporary alleviation.

Replies were received from all the bodies mentioned giving much detailed information which, however, it is not easy to summarise. The financial details are necessarily complicated; some advances were free grants, others were loans. The repayment of part of some loans was remitted, and such sums as were remitted may be regarded as free grants. Again, loans were made on varying terms. Some were at the ordinary rates of interest, some were free of interest, others carried only nominal interest; in some cases the interest was defrayed out of Imperial, in some cases out of Irish funds. Such transactions have a double aspect, and have to be considered as in part free grants, and in part loans. Again, some loans were secured on private property, and some on local rates, and in some cases the rates were to be recouped by the persons to whom the loans were made. In some cases the cost of administration, at any rate in part, came out of the advances; in other cases, this item of expenditure was chargeable to other services.

Again, it is not easy to distinguish how far the exact object of certain advances was temporary alleviation or something more. The term "Relief of Distress" is generally understood to refer to the immediate alleviation of exceptional and acute distress, and not to the amelioration of chronic poverty. Providing food and clothes, and supplying seed potatoes were obviously measures of temporary relief, and so also probably were works undertaken where more attention was paid to the amount of employment they would temporarily afford than to how far they would prove reproductive. Assistance to emigrants and the cancellation of arrears are not, however, so easily classified. Moreover many reproductive works, *e.g.*, light railways and harbour works, were utilised to give employment during periods of distress, and as works which tended to relieve chronic poverty necessarily tended also to relieve, as it were by anticipation, exceptional and acute distress, it is obviously difficult to draw a rigid line of demarcation.

Further, it is practically impossible to distinguish between money spent in the congested districts and elsewhere. The general unit of administration for the relief of distress was the Union; the unit of congestion is the Electoral Division; few Unions in the administrative counties containing congested districts are wholly congested or wholly non-congested; and, it must also be remembered, that most of the money referred to below was expended before a legal meaning was attached to the term "Congested Districts." Undoubtedly the bulk of the money expended since 1891 has been spent in the congested districts.

Administration.

Owing, moreover, to the fact that money was advanced under a number of different Acts, which, being framed to meet special emergencies, did not proceed upon uniform lines, and owing to the fact that frequently two or three Departments were concerned in the same loan or grant, the difficulty of giving a clear and comprehensive statement of expenditure is very much increased. The Board of Works handled most of the money. In some cases, *e.g.*, improvement of land, everything connected with the loan or grant was in their hands; in other cases, *e.g.*, Seed Supply Acts and Relief of Distress Acts, their function was confined to making an advance on the recommendation of the Local Government Board, and subsequently obtaining repayment in the case of loans. The Land Commission were concerned in these transactions as the body managing the Irish Church Temporalities Fund, and they had the control of most of the expenditure under the Arrears of Rent Act. With this exception the Board of Works managed the finance of money expended on the relief of distress up to 1890; the Local Government Board doing most of the administration with certain help from the Land Commission in seed supply operations. From 1890 to 1896 the finance was largely worked from the Chief Secretary's Office, and since 1896 the Local Government Board has been the body chiefly concerned. In most of the reproductive works, *e.g.*, light railways, the Board of Works have been solely concerned. The Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction were concerned with the relief of distress only in 1905, when they contributed a sum of £9,500 towards the supply of seed and assisted in the inspection of seed at the port of despatch.

Expenditure, 1880-2.

The Irish Government state that the total outlay on operations for the relief of distress consequent on the failure of the potato crop in 1879, and the exceptionally severe winter of 1880 was £2,562,476 (inclusive of a sum of £267,000 distributed in food and clothing by different charitable organisations). It is not easy to obtain full particulars of this expenditure. Under the Relief of Distress (Ireland) Acts, 1880, £1,250,863 12*s.* 7*d.* was advanced on loan out of the Church Temporalities Fund, the rates of interest charged being 1 per cent. (see Table VI., col. 2, line 1); and a free grant of £19,069 3*s.* 0*d.* was made out of the same source, and was expended on food and fuel (see Table I., col. 10, line 8; and Table VI., col. 3, line 1). Of the money lent, £893,977 3*s.* 6*d.* had been repaid up to 31st March, 1905, and £21,151 8*s.* 4*d.* had been written off, leaving a balance due of £335,735 0*s.* 9*d.*, of which £6,238 1*s.* 9*d.* is regarded as irrecoverable.

The money advanced on loan was made up as follows:—

(1.) £923,620 was advanced for the improvement of lands, and the repayment was charged on the lands so improved. Of this sum, the repayment of £21,275 has been remitted, and consequently that figure may be regarded as a free grant (see Table I., col. 4, line 1), and £902,345 as a loan (see Table II., col. 6, line 1).

(2.) £271,189 was advanced for baronial works, repayment of which was charged on local rates. £7 of this sum was subsequently remitted, and consequently may be regarded as a free grant. (See Table I., col. 4, line 2); and £271,182 as a loan (see Table II., col. 5, line 2).

* See Appendix to the First Report of the Commission [Cd. 3267, 1906], p. 156.

(3.) £6,136 was advanced for arterial drainage, repayment being charged on private property. Of this, £716 was subsequently remitted, and may therefore be regarded as a free grant (see Table I., col. 4, line 3) and £5,420 as a loan. (See Table II., col. 6, line 4).

(4.) £38,536 was advanced for public health purposes, repayment being charged on the local rates (see Table II., col. 5, line 3).

(5.) £11,384 was advanced to the Boards of Guardians for relief purposes, the repayment being charged on local rates. (See Table II., col. 11, line 6). A sum of £15,756 was advanced out of Imperial funds (for providing food and clothing), at the ordinary rate of interest, repayment being charged on local rates; £10,856 was subsequently made a charge against the Irish Church Fund (the interest being reduced to 1 per cent.), and is included in the above-mentioned item of £11,384 (see Table II., col. 11, line 6); consequently the net loan made out of the Imperial funds at the ordinary rate of interest and charged on the local rates, was £4,900. (See Table V., col. 11, line 2).

Under one of the same Relief Acts a free grant of £48,202 was made from Imperial funds (see Table I., col. 3, line 12) for the construction of piers and harbours in the West of Ireland, one-fourth of the cost of each work being provided from other sources. £16,015 was thus spent out of charitable funds (see Table I., col. 7, line 12).

Under the Seed Supply Act of 1880, £647,562 was lent out of Imperial funds free of interest, but recoverable from the persons to whom the seed was supplied, the repayment being charged on local rates. Of this amount, £9,394 was subsequently remitted, and may therefore be regarded as a free grant (see Table I., col. 9, line 4); and £638,168 as a loan (see Table II., col. 11, line 5).

Under the Relief of Distress Amendment Act, 1880, £198,346 was lent out of Imperial funds at ordinary rates of interest, the repayment being guaranteed by the baronies concerned. Of the sum mentioned, £63,346 was devoted to railway works (see Table IV., col. 5, line 1); and £135,000 to harbour works (see Table IV., col. 5, line 2).

Expenditure, 1882–3

Under the Arrears of Rent Act, 1882, a loan of £27,010 2*s.* 11*d.* was made out of the Irish Church Fund at the ordinary rate of interest (see Table VI., col. 2, line 2), and was devoted towards the cancellation of arrears of rent on certain holdings, and the repayment was charged on these holdings. Of this sum £14,175 14*s.* 3*d.* had been repaid on 31st March, 1905, £418 10*s.* 11*d.* had been written off, and the amount outstanding was £12,415 17*s.* 9*d.* A free grant was also made from the same fund of £780,492 15*s.* 6*d.* for the cancellation of arrears of rent and rent-charges on certain holdings (see Table VI., col. 3, line 2); and under the same Act as amended by the Public Tramways Act, 1883, a free grant of £133,173 10*s.* 2*d.* was made out of the Irish Church Fund towards assisting emigration (see Table I., col. 10, line 13, and Table VI., col. 3, line 3). Under the emigration clauses of the Arrears of Rent Act, £11,755 was lent out of Imperial Funds at ordinary rates of interest to Boards of Guardians and was charged on local rates for the purpose of assisting emigration (see Table V., col. 11 line 3).

Under the Relief of Distressed Unions (Ireland) Act, 1883, £10,257 15*s.* 0*d.* was given out of the Irish Church Fund as a free grant to five unions, to enable the Guardians to meet their liabilities. (See Table I., col. 10, line 9, and Table VI., col. 3, line 4).

Expenditure, 1885–6.

Under the Poor Relief Act of 1886 £20,000 was given as a free grant out of the Irish Church Funds to the Guardians of Belmullet, Clifden, Galway, Oughterard, Swinford, and Westport Unions, to aid in defraying cost of relief (see Table I., col. 10, line 10, and Table VI., col. 3, line 5); and another £20,000 was similarly given under the same Act for piers and roads (see Table I., col. 4, line 11, and Table VI., col. 3, line 6), and £913 was supplied by voluntary charitable funds for the same purposes (see Table I., col. 7, line 11).

The following is a statement of the expenditure upon the relief of distress in 1890-91:— Expenditure, 1890-1

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Wages to labourers,	128,496	0	0
Tools and materials,	12,745	0	0
Royal Engineer officers and Royal Marines,	3,049	0	0
Royal Engineer Supervisors and members of the Royal Irish Constabulary,	23,133	0	0
County Surveyors and assistants,	4,999	0	0
Local Government Board Inspectors and Relieving Officers,	4,266	0	0
Extra remuneration (civil departments),	1,397	0	0
Hire of steamers,	7,088	0	0
Extra cost (railways),	35,798	0	0
Miscellaneous expenses,	3,351	15	0
Chargeable to distress,	224,322	15	0
Seed Inspectors,	4,000	0	0
Completion works contract,	8,000	0	0
Forestry operations,	2,508	0	0
Chargeable to other services,	14,508	0	0
Total,	238,830	15	0

Particulars of the expenditure upon the relief works undertaken during this period will be found in Returns presented to Parliament on the 6th March, 1891, and the 25th February, 1892, Nos. 132 and 85 respectively.

Under the Seed Supply Act of 1890, £273,620 was advanced by way of loan out of Imperial funds. The repayment of £766 was subsequently remitted, and this sum may consequently be regarded as a free grant (see Table I., col. 9, line 5); and the balance, £272,854, as a loan (see Table III., col. 11, line 1). All charges by way of discounts on cash sales (see Table I., col. 10, line 5), and all interest, was borne by the Irish Church Fund, the total amount so chargeable being £17,563 19*s.* 6*d.*, which may therefore be regarded as an additional free grant. (See Table VI., col. 3, line 7). It should be noted that the repayment of all money advanced for the supply of seed under this Act, as under the Seed Supply Act of 1880, and the similar Acts of 1895 and 1900, was charged in the local rates, but the bulk was recovered from the persons to whom the seed was supplied.

The relief of distress expenditure in 1894-5 was as follows:— Expenditure, 1894-5.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Wages to labourers,	47,550	11	1
Tools and materials,	4,373	2	9
Royal Engineer officers and Royal Marines,	1,462	2	6
Royal Engineer Supervisors and members of the Royal Irish Constabulary,	8,713	13	2
County Surveyors and Assistants,	1,596	8	8
Local Government Board Inspectors and Relieving Officers,	3,000	0	0
Extra remuneration (civil departments),	842	0	0
Hire of steamers,			
Extra cost (railways),			
Miscellaneous expenses,	800	14	5
Chargeable to distress,	68,338	12	7
Seed Inspectors,	3,873	6	7
Completion works contract,	6,262	15	0
Spraying machines,	650	0	0
Extra cost (railways),	900	0	0
Forestry operations,			
Chargeable to other services,	11,686	1	7
Total,	80,024	14	2

Some particulars of the expenditure upon relief works during this period will be found in a Return presented to Parliament on the 31st May, 1895, No. 287.

Under the Seed Supply Act of 1895, £62,034 was advanced from Imperial funds (see Table III., col. 11, line 2). The payments for cash discounts (see Table I., col. 10, line 6), and interest were charged against the Irish Church Fund, and these payments amounted in all to £3,738, which may be regarded as a free grant. (See Table VI., col. 3, line 8).

The expenditure out of Imperial funds (voted money) upon relief works during the winter of 1897, and the spring and summer of 1898, was 75 per cent. of such expenditure of Boards of Guardians in this behalf as was approved by the Local Government Board and amounted to £22,182 18*s*. All this money was spent upon works of utility such as road-making, and may therefore be classed as reproductive.

Additional Government Grants amounting to £3,994 were given for the purpose of reducing the rates in certain distressed Electoral Divisions where the cost of the exceptional relief pressed heavily, and a sum of £3,038 was given to Belmullet Union in respect of the year 1897.

Free grants of seed were also made which cost £3,867 15*s*., and the whole of the produce of this seed was subsequently sprayed under the supervision of the Agricultural Department of the Land Commission at the Government expense, a sum of £1,909 17*s*. 6*d*. being mainly accounted for in this way.

The following additional expenditure was incurred by the Government during this period of distress:—

	£	*s*.	*d*.
Extra remuneration and expenses of Relieving Officers, - -	1,125	4	11
Extra remuneration and expenses of County Surveyors, - -	644	15	0
Salaries and expenses of inspectors, &c., - - - -	7,070	7	7
	£8,840	7	6

Under the Seed Supply Act, 1898, £77,763 was advanced out of the Imperial funds as before (see Table III., col. 11, line 3), the charges for cash discount (see Table I., col. 10, line 7) and interest being borne by the Irish Church Fund, this amounting in all to £4,769 18*s*. 8*d*., which may therefore be regarded as a free grant (see Table VI., col. 3, line 9).

In 1904-5 the Boards of Guardians of seven Unions expended £17,191 10*s*. 8*d*. upon relief works in their Unions in pursuance of Section 13 of the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, of which £12,241 1*s*. 3*d*. was recouped by the Government from Imperial funds, and the remainder was defrayed from local rates.

This money was expended on works of public utility such as the repair and construction of roads, which could be carried out mainly by unskilled labour, and may, therefore, be classed as reproductive. A further sum of £2,394 8*s*. 10*d*. from Imperial funds was expended in connection with the employment of engineers, the work of supervision, and the completion of some of the relief works. This expenditure might also be classed as reproductive.

Under the Seed Supply Act of 1905 loans were made from Imperial funds amounting to £70,018 (see Table V., col. 11, line 1), and a free grant of £9,500 was made by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction towards decreasing the actual cost to purchasers of seed potatoes under the scheme issued by the Local Government Board. A sum of £209 19*s*. 1*d*. was also expended on the remuneration of four official inspectors lent by the Department to assist the Poor Law Guardians in the selection of the seed. These sums were paid out of the Department's Endowment Fund, nearly one-half of which is derived from the Irish Church Fund, the remainder coming from Imperial sources. The remuneration of the inspectors employed by the Local Government Board to inspect the seed amounted to £1,949 19*s*. 2*d*.

The difficulties in the way of accurately summarising the expenditure incurred in connection with the relief of distress during the period 1880 to 1905 will be obvious from the foregoing remarks; but the following is thought to be as fair a summarisation as can be attempted, and if any exception is taken to the inclusion of certain items, the detailed information given above will enable anyone so objecting to correct the following table according to the view taken.

TABLE showing AMOUNTS of FREE GRANTS and LOANS made in connection with the RELIEF of DISTRESS in IRELAND from 1880 to 1905, distinguishing IRISH from IMPERIAL SOURCES. APPENDIX IV.

PERIOD.	FREE GRANTS.		LOANS.	
	From Irish Funds.	From Imperial Funds.	From Irish Funds.	From Imperial Funds.
	£	£	£	£
1880-2, ...	41,067	57,596	1,228,867	841,414
1882-3, ...	923 923	—	27,010	11,755
1885-6, ...	40,000	—	—	—
1890-1, ...	17,564	239 597	—	272,854
1894-5, ...	3,733	80,025	—	62,034
1897-8, ...	4,769	43,833	—	77,763
1904-5, ...	9,500	16,585	—	70,018
Total, ...	1,040,561	437,636	1,255,877	1,335,838
	£1,478,197		£2,591,715	
	£4,069,912			

The difficulties of drawing a line of demarcation between relief of distress purposes, properly so called, and reproductive works are, as already mentioned, very great, but undoubtedly nearly all the free grants and half the loans were applied in Relief of Distress.

It will be understood that the above figures understate the case, as it has been found possible to estimate the cost of administration only in a few cases, and where the interest on loans issued free or at less than the ordinary rate of interest was defrayed out of Imperial funds, particulars are not available of the additional amount thus expended, though where the interest was borne by the Irish Church Fund, the amount so paid is included in the figures shown above.

Local Rates

It must be observed that no account has been taken in the above table of the amount of money that has been applied out of local rates, during the period under discussion, towards the relief of exceptional distress, as the materials for making anything like an accurate calculation are not available; but the poor relief expenditure during the years of distress is estimated by the Local Government Board to have exceeded the average expenditure of normal years by about £500,000.

Charitable Funds.

It should also be noted that a large sum was spent out of charitable funds. Naturally, complete information is not available about this, but the following are the chief items:—

In the winter of 1879-80 large sums were collected by the Duchess of Marlborough's Committee and by the Mansion House Committee. The former expended in relief and in the supply of seed, £130,677. The latter spent similarly a total of about £174,125. A sum of £20,000 odd or £21,000 odd was also voted by the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, and was expended mainly in piers and harbours. Considerable sums were also expended in relief, from other charitable funds, such as the Land League Relief Fund, The New York Herald Fund, and the Philadelphia Fund, particulars of which are not readily obtainable. In 1885-6 seed potatoes were distributed by Mr. Tuke and other charitable persons, but no exact information is available as to the expenditure incurred. In 1898 the Mansion House Committee collected a sum of £11,155 2*s*. 10*d*., which was expended in the form of grants to schools, foods, employment, supply of seed, expenses of mangement, &c.

In 1906 a grant of £300 was received from the Discretionary Committee of the Queen's Unemployed Fund, and was expended upon Relief Works in congested divisions of Westport and Clifden Unions.

Light Railways, &c

If account is taken of the money spent on light railways and other undoubtedly reproductive purposes (details of which are given in the statements following Table VIII.), the expenditure already mentioned must be increased by over £3,000,000.

WALTER CALLAN.
Secretary.

12th August, 1907.

APPENDIX V.

STATEMENT of MONEY SPENT in RELIEF of DISTRESS since 1878, through the Commissioners of Public

TABLE I.—GOVERNMENT FREE GRANTS AND REMISSIONS

Purpose.	Act.	REPRODUCTIVE WORKS WHICH ALSO GAVE EMPLOYMENT DURING THE PERIOD OF DISTRESS. Charged on Imperial Funds.	Charged on Irish Church Fund.	Charged on Local Rates.	Charged on Lands. (Private Property.)	Supplied by Voluntary Charitable Funds.	Total.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Improvement of Lands, .	43 Vic., c. 4, and 43 & 44 Vic., c. 14.		21,275 (remission)				21,275
Baronial Works (Roads, &c.), .	do., .		7 (remission)				7
Arterial Drainage, . .	do., .		716 (remission)				716
Seed Supply, 1880, . .	43 Vic., c. 1, . .						
Do., 1890, . .	54 Vic., c. 1, . .						
Do., 1895, . .	58 Vic., c. 2, . .						
Do., 1898, . .	61 & 62 Vic., c. 50, .						
Relief of Distress (Food and Fuel).	43 Vic., c. 4, . .						
Relief of Distressed Unions, .	46 & 47 Vic., c. 24, .						
Poor Relief Act, 1886, . .	49 Vic., c. 17, . .						
Piers and Roads Commission, .	do., .		20 000			913	20.913
Fishery Piers, . . .	43 & 44 Vic., c. 14, .	48,202				16,015	64.217
Emigration, . . .	45 & 46 Vic., c. 47, sec. 20, &c.						
		48,202	41,998			16.928	107,128

TABLE II.—LOANS AT EXCEPTIONAL

Improvement of Lands, .	43 Vic., c. 4, and 43 & 44 Vic., c. 14.				902,345		902,345
Baronial Works, . . .	do., .			271,182			271,182
Public Health, . . .	do., .			38.536			38,536
Arterial Drainage, . .	do., .				5,420		5.420
Seed Supply, 1880, . .	43 Vic., c. 1, . .						
Relief of Distress (Food and Fuel).	43 Vic., c. 4, . .						
				309,718	907,765		1,217.483

TABLE III.—LOANS (at the ordinary rates of interest), THE INTEREST

Seed Supply, 1890, . .	54 Vic., c. 1, . .						
Do., 1895, . .	58 Vic., c. 2, . .						
Do., 1898, . .	61 & 62 Vic., c. 50, .						

TABLE IV.—LOANS (at ordinary rates) THE REPAYMENT OF WHICH IS GUARANTEED

Railways, . . .	43 and 44 Vic., c. 14, sec. 13.			63.346			63.346
Harbours, . . .	do., .			135,000			135.000
				198,346			198,346

TABLE V.—LOANS AT ORDINARY

Seed Supply, 1905, . .	6 Ed. VII., c. 3, .						
Relief of Distress (Food and Fuel).	43 Vic., c. 4, . .						
Emigration, . . .	45 & 46 Vic., c. 47, sec. 20, &c.						
Grand Totals, ...		48,202	41,998	508,064	907,765	16,928	1 522,957

medium of the COMMISSIONERS of PUBLIC WORKS, IRELAND. (Supplied by Works, Ireland.)

OF LOANS AND PRIVATE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

MEASURES OF TEMPORARY ALLEVIATION.					
Charged on Imperial Funds.	Charged on Irish Church Fund.	Charged on Local Rates.	Supplied by Voluntary Charitable Funds.	Total.	Grand Total.
9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.
£	£	£	£	£	£
					21,275
					7
					716
9,394 (remission)				9,394	9,394
766 (remission)	901			1,667	1,667
	239			239	239
	889			889	889
	19,069			19,069	19,069
	10,258			10,258	10,258
	20,000			20,000	20,000
					20,913
					64,217
	133,173			133,173	133,173
10,160	184,529			194,689	301,817

RATES, OR FREE OF INTEREST.

					902,345
					271,182
					38,536
					5,420
		638,168		638,168	638,168
		11,384		11,384	11,384
		649,552		649,552	1,867,035

ON WHICH WAS MET OUT OF THE CHURCH FUND.

		272,854		272,854	272,854
		62,034		62,034	62,034
		77,763		77,763	77,763
		412,651		412,651	412,651

BY BARONIES UNDER THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS AMENDMENT ACT, 1880.

					63,346
					135,000
					198,346

RATES OF INTEREST.

		70,018		70,018	70,018
		4,900		4,900	4,900
		11,755		11,755	11,755
		86,673		86,673	86,673
10,160	184,529	1,148,876		1,343,565	2,866,522

APPENDIX IV.

TABLE VI.

AMOUNT of MONEY EXPENDED in RELIEF of DISTRESS in IRELAND since the year 1878, from the CHURCH TEMPORALITIES FUND. (Supplied by Irish Land Commission.)

Act. 1.	On Loan. 2. £ s. d.	Free Grants. 3. £ s. d.	Total. 4. £ s. d.
Relief of Distress (Ireland) Acts, 1880,	1,250,863 12 7	19,069 3 0	1,269,932 15 7
Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Act, 1882 (Cancellation of Arrears).	27,010 2 11	780,492 15 6	940,675 8 7
Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Act, 1882 (Emigration),	—	133,172 10 2	
Relief of Distressed Unions (Ireland) Act, 1883,	—	10,257 15 0	10,257 15 0
Poor Relief (Ireland) Act, 1886; for Relief,	—	20,000 0 0	40,000 0 0
Poor Relief (Ireland) Act, 1886; Piers and Roads Commission.	—	20,000 0 0	
Seed Potatoes Supply Act, 1890,	—	17,563 19 6	17,563 19 6
Seed Potatoes Supply Act, 1895,	—	3,738 3 3	3,738 3 3
Seed Potatoes Supply Act, 1898,	—	4,769 18 8	4,769 18 8
Totals,	1,277,873 15 6	1,009,064 5 1	2,286,938 0 7

TABLE VII.

SHOWING CERTAIN MONEY EXPENDED in RELIEF of DISTRESS in IRELAND in 1897–8. (Supplied by the Local Government Board).

UNIONS.	No. of Electoral Divisions in which relief works were opened.		Amount recouped by Government, *i.e.* 75 per cent. of approved expenditure upon relief works.	Additional Grants in aid of Rates.	Free Grants of Seed.	Total of Government Grants.
	Congested.	Non-Congested.	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ballinrobe,	4	—	747 19 6	—	194 14 4	942 13 10
Bawnboy,	1	2	255 7 11	—	—	255 7 11
Belmullet,	All	—	4,626 15 11	1,675	624 12 9	6,926 8 8
Caherciveen,	1	—	41 9 9	—	—	41 9 9
Clifden,	14	—	2,379 11 3	500	389 15 7	3,269 6 10
Dunfanaghy,	1	—	50 4 6	—	—	50 4 6
Galway,	3	—	708 5 9	—	102 11 7	810 17 4
Killala,	2	2	1,302 7 4	—	203 10 0	1,505 17 4
Oughterard,	10	—	4,024 4 9	500	651 5 6	5,175 10 3
Swinford,	19	2	5,177 16 9	1,319	1,109 13 5	7,606 10 2
Westport,	9	—	2,868 14 7	—	591 11 10	3,460 6 5
Totals,	—	—	22,182 18 0	3,994	3,867 15 0	30,044 13 0

TABLE VIII.

SHOWING CERTAIN MONEY EXPENDED in RELIEF of DISTRESS in IRELAND in 1904–5. (Supplied by the Local Government Board).

UNION.	No. of Electoral Divisions in which relief works were opened.		Expenditure by Guardians.	Amount recouped by Government.	Proportion of approved Expenditure recouped by Government.	Expenditure defrayed from local rates.
	Congested.	Non-Congested.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Per Cent.	£ s. d.
Bawnboy,	—	6	870 9 10	402 14 11	50	467 14 11
Belmullet,	All	—	4,046 6 10	3,025 18 3	75	1,020 8 7
Clifden,	10	—	1,218 2 6	871 7 2	75	346 15 4
Galway,	3	—	336 5 0	166 17 6	50	169 7 6
Oughterard,	11	—	2,688 14 2	2,005 3 4	75	683 10 10
Swinford,	16	2	5,045 8 6	3,703 1 3	75	1,342 7 3
Westport,	6	—	2,986 3 10	2,065 18 10	75	920 5 0

THE following STATEMENT (supplied by the Commissioners of Public Works) shows the MONEYS SPENT or ALLOCATED out of IMPERIAL and IRISH FUNDS for LIGHT RAILWAYS or cognate works.

IMPERIAL FUNDS.

TRAMWAYS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES' ACTS, 1883.

Dividend on guaranteed Capital of certain Railways: maximum of 2 per cent per annum on £1,536,112 = £30,722.

Capitalized Value, ... £1,024,066

£30,722 is the maximum annual sum payable. The amount that has been actually paid is shown below (see A).

RAILWAYS ACTS, 1889 AND 1893.

Free Grants, ... £1,147,867

Details are given below (see C).

RAILWAYS ACT, 1896.

Free Grants for Railways, Details are given below (see C). £412,175

Free Grants for Coach and Steamer Services, ... 83,332

MARINE WORKS ACT, 1902.

Free Grants for Fishery Piers, &c., . . £100,000

IRISH CHURCH FUND.

Sea Fisheries Act, 1883.

Free Grants for Fishery Piers, . . . £250,000

£3,017,440

Of these sums the Grants for Railways under the Act of 1896 were expressly confined to Railways lying wholly or mainly in congested districts, and the Grants under the Act of 1902 were confined to congested districts, with one exception, amounting to some £6,000. The actual expenditure up to date under the Act of 1902 is about £31,000.

Sums of money were also spent in supplying boats and gear to fishermen out of the Irish Reproductive Loan and Sea and Coast Fisheries Funds which, for some years, were administered by the Board of Public Works; these funds are now in the hands of the Congested Districts Board and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Under the Act of 1883 the guaranteeing areas are liable for the payment of dividends, and also of any deficit on working expenses of the guaranteed lines. The Treasury recoupment is confined to one-half of the sums paid in respect of dividends only, with a maximum of two per cent. on the paid-up capital. The following statements show the total amount so far contributed by the Treasury to 31st December, 1906, and also the total net payments so made out of rates, after deducting the Treasury contributions.

A.—STATEMENT showing total amount contributed to 31st December, 1906, by the Treasury to Railways with Guarantees under the Tramways and Public Companies Act, 1883.

Name of Railway.	Amount of Treasury Contribution.	Amount recouped to Treasury (Surplus Receipts).
	£	£
...ogher Valley, ...	46,372	—
...van and Leitrim, ...	67,588	—
...st Clare, ...	50,587	—
...chelstown and Fermoy, ...	10,991*	—
...ll and Skibbereen, ...	20,612	—
...st Donegal, ...	2,326†	—
...rk and Muskerry, ...	18,557	—
...blin and Blessington, ...	10,289	—
...llinascarthy and Timoleague, ...	10,090	—
...ughrea and Attymon, ...	14,698	—
...e and Dingle, ...	17,665†‡	—
...robe and Claremorris, ...	16,607	—
...th Clare, ...	30,658	—
...am and Claremorris, ...	11,254	—
...oughmore Extension, ...	7,242	—
...ega. and Killybegs, ...	159§	386
...adford and Kenmare, ...	15,189	—
...lin and Valentia, ..	17,690	—
...looney and Swineford, ...	6,243	41
...aremorris and Swineford, ...	3,839	—
...anorlar and Glenties, ...	4§	2,299
	377,660	2,726

Net Treasury Contribution £374,934.

* Treasury liability redeemed 1900.
Treasury liability redeemed, 1898.
In addition, £2,500 was paid out of Parliamentary Grants in the ... 1894-5 to the guaranteeing area in relief of the charges thrown ...t in consequence of the Camp accident.
‡ Treasury and local liability cancelled by Great Northern ... 1) and Mid and Railways Act, 1906, and Treasury's right to ... future surplus receipts surrendered on receipt of £5 000.

B.—STATEMENT showing net amounts paid by each County or other Guaranteeing Area after deducting amount of Treasury Contributions towards Guaranteed Dividends as shown in Statement A, but without making allowance for the sums recouped to the Counties out of the Local Taxation Account.*

Railway.	Guaranteeing Area.	Amount.
		£
Clogher Valley, ...	Co. Tyrone, ...	64,257
Do., ...	,, Fermanagh, ...	12,851
Cavan and Leitrim, ...	,, Cavan, ...	19,709
Do., ...	,, Leitrim, ...	85,499
West Clare, ...	,, Clare, ...	68,438
Mitchelstown and Fermoy, ...	,, Cork, ...	16,055†
Skull and Skibbereen, ...	,, Cork, ...	57,298
West Donegal, ...	,, Donegal, ...	2,563†
Cork and Muskerry, ...	,, Cork, ...	20,326
Dublin and Blessington, ...	,, Dublin, ...	6,800
Do., ...	,, Wicklow, ...	6,800
Ballinascarthy and Timoleague, ...	,, Cork, ...	37,509
Loughrea and Attymon, ...	,, Galway, ...	13,706
Tralee and Dingle, ...	,, Kerry, ...	56,700†
Do., ...	Tralee Urban District Co.	2,967†
Ballinrobe and Claremorris, ...	Co. Mayo, ...	16,653
South Clare, ...	,, Clare, ...	50,446
Tuam and Claremorris, ...	,, Mayo, ...	6,635
Donoughmore Extension, ...	,, Cork, ...	11,922
Donegal and Killybegs, ...	,, Donegal, ...	3,096†
Headford and Kenmare, ...	,, Kerry, ...	18,152
Killorglin and Valentia, ...	,, Kerry, ...	22,353
Collooney and Swineford, ...	,, Sligo, ...	4,996
Claremorris and Swineford, ...	,, Mayo, ...	3 839
Stranorlar and Glenties, ...	,, Donegal, ...	—
		609,570

† To date of cessation of Treasury liability—See Statement A.

C.—STATEMENT showing Light Railways in Ireland constructed by the aid of Government Moneys.

	RAILWAY.	Government Grant.
		£
Railways Acts, 1889 and 1893.	Ballina and Killala, . .	44,000
	Bantry Extension, . .	14,940
	Claremorris and Swineford, / Collooney and Swineford,	146,042
	Downpatrick and Ardglass, .	29,980
	Galway and Clifden, . .	264,600
	Headford and Kenmare, .	49,984
	Killorglin and Valentia, . .	85,000
	Westport and Mallaranny, .	131,400
	Preliminary Expenses, . .	7,321
	Achill Extension, . .	72,578
	Baltimore and Skibbereen, .	56,700
	Donegal and Killybegs, . .	121,436
	Stranorlar and Glenties, .	123,886
Railways Act, 1896.	Buncrana and Carndonagh, .	9 8527
	Letterkenny and Burtonport, .	313,048
		£1,560,042

* By the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, sec. 58, Cl. 4—When the amount required to meet any railway or harbour charge connected with any guarantee given before the passing of the Act or to meet two or more such charges when added together exceeds a sum equal to 6d. in the pound on the rateable value of the area concerned, a sum equal to one-half of such excess is repayable out of the Local Taxation (Ireland) Account.

APPENDIX IV D.—RETURN showing the population in each county in Ireland in 1891 and 1901, the decrease under 20 years of age, between 20 and 65, and over 65; the total number of marriages, birth excess of births over deaths during the period, and the annual average rate per 1,000 inhabitants inhabitants.

COUNTY.	Population.		Decrease in the Population from 1891–1901.	Percentage of decrease of Population.	Percentage of Population in 1901.			Marriages.	
	1891.	1901.			Under 20 years.	Over 20 years and not exceeding 65 years.	Over 65 years.	Number of Marriages during ten years. 1891–1901.	Annual Rate per 1,000.
	(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)	(6.)	(7.)	(8.)	(9.)
Donegal, ...	185,635	173,722	11,913	6·4	41·0	51·4	7·6	7,393	4·1
Sligo, ...	94,416	84,083	10,333	10·9	42·5	50·6	6·9	3,238	3·6
Leitrim, ...	78,618	69,343	9,275	11·8	43·3	49·3	7·4	2,799	3·8
Mayo, ...	218,698	199,166	19,532	8·9	46·3	46·9	6·8	7,167	3·4
Roscommon, ..	116,552	101,791	14,761	12·7	43·0	49·2	7·8	3,976	3·6
Galway, ..	211,227	192,549	18,678	8·8	44·9	48·0	7·1	6,722	3·3
Kerry, ...	179,136	165,726	13,410	7·5	45·8	47·5	6·7	6,797	4·0
Clare, ...	126,244	112,334	13,910	11·0	45·0	49·6	5·4	4,039	3·4
Total, ..	1,210,526	1,098,714	111,812	9·2	43·9	48·9	7·2	42,131	3·6
OTHER COUNTIES:									
Cork, ...	438,432	404,611	33,821	7·7	41·5	52·3	6·2	18,525	4·4
Limerick, ...	158,912	146,098	12,814	8·1	40·5	53·2	6·3	7,193	4·7
Tipperary, ..	175,217	160,232	14,985	8·6	39·2	54·2	6·6	7,098	4·2
Waterford, ..	95,702	87,187	8,515	8·9	39·6	53·7	6·7	3,995	4·4
Longford, ..	52,647	46,672	5,975	11·4	39·7	52·3	8·0	1,984	4·0
Westmeath, ..	68,611	61,629	6,982	10·2	38·4	54·6	7·0	2,663	4·1
Meath, ...	76,111	67,497	8,614	11·3	37·6	55·5	6·9	2,922	4·1
Louth, ...	71,914	65,820	6,094	8·5	40·1	54·0	5·9	2,738	4·0
Dublin, ...	148,210	157,568	9,358 (Increase).	6·3	38·3	56·8	4·9	8,516	4·7
City of Dublin, ..	268,650	290,638	21,988 (Increase).	8·2	39·5	57·0	3·5	21,572	8·5
Kildare, ...	70,206	63,566	6,640	9·4	39·6	54·8	5·6	3,081	4·6
King's Co., ..	65,563	60,187	5,376	8·2	40·1	53·2	6·7	2,576	4·1
Queen's Co., ..	63,855	57,417	6,438	10·1	37·4	54·8	7·8	2,230	3·7
Wicklow, ...	64,492	60,824	3,668	5·7	39·6	53·4	7·0	3,148	5·0
Wexford, ...	112,063	104,104	7,959	7·1	37·3	55·7	7·0	4,958	4·6
Carlow, ...	41,964	37,748	4,216	10·0	38·5	54·5	7·0	1,712	4·3
Kilkenny, ..	87,496	79,159	8,337	9·5	38·5	54·6	6·9	3,517	4·2
Londonderry, ..	152,009	144,404	7,605	5·0	39·9	53·3	6·8	7,849	5·3
Antrim, ...	208,010	196,090	11,920	5·7	41·4	51·2	7·4	10,681	5·6
City of Belfast, ..	273,184	349,180	75,996 (Increase).	27·8	43·1	54·1	2·8	26,981	8·2
Tyrone, ...	171,401	150,567	20,834	12·2	37·7	54·6	7·7	7,207	4·5
Down, ...	219,405	205,889	13,516	6·2	39·9	52·6	7·5	10,780	5·3
Armagh, ...	137,877	125,392	12,485	9·1	40·5	52·3	7·2	7,045	5·4
Monaghan, ..	86,206	74,611	11,595	13·5	37·5	54·5	8·0	3,581	4·5
Fermanagh, ..	74,170	65,430	8,740	11·8	37·9	54·2	7·9	2,905	4·2
Cavan, ...	111,917	97,541	14,376	12·8	40·0	52·7	7·3	3,994	3·8
Total of these Non-Congested Counties.	3,494,224	3,360,061	134,163 (net decrease)	4·0	40·1	53·8	6·1	179,451	5·2

population during these two dates, and the rate of decrease; the percentage of the population deaths during the ten years 1891-1901, and the annual average rate per 1,000 inhabitants; the number of emigrants during the ten years, and the average annual rate of emigration per 1,000

Births.		Deaths.		Excess of Births over Deaths.		Emigration.		
...ber of ...rths ...ring ...years ...1901.	Annual Rate per 1,000.	Number of Deaths during ten years 1891–1901.	Annual Rate per 1,000.	Amount of Excess during ten years 1891–1901.	Excess per 1,000 (annually)	Number of Emigrants from 1st April, 1891, to 31st March, 1901.	Average Annual Rate per 1,000.	COUNTY.
(10.)	(11.)	(12.)	(13.)	(14.)	(15.)	(16.)	(17.)	
37,916	21·1	27,010	15·0	10,906	6·1	12,977	7·2	Donegal.
18,074	20·3	13,002	14·6	5,072	5·7	14,065	15·8	Sligo.
15,117	20·4	10,608	14·3	4,509	6·1	9,830	13·3	Leitrim.
47,216	22·6	29,095	13·9	18,121	8·7	40,703	19·5	Mayo.
21,195	19·4	15,452	14·2	5,743	5·3	16,332	14·9	Roscommon.
44,912	22·2	30,779	15·2	14,133	7·0	36,820	18·2	Galway.
40,599	23·5	24,463	14·2	16,136	9·4	38,599	22·4	Kerry.
24,716	20·7	18,547	15·5	6,169	5·2	18,031	15·1	Clare.
249,745	21·6	168,956	14·6	80,789	7·0	187,357	16·2	Total.
								OTHER COUNTIES.
93,926	22·3	75,054	17·8	18,872	4·5	77,072	18·3	Cork.
34,510	22·6	27,482	18·0	7,028	4·6	14,426	9·5	Limerick.
35,025	20·9	29,024	17·3	6,001	3·6	19,050	11·4	Tipperary.
20,099	22·0	17,893	19·6	2,206	2·4	10,058	11·0	Waterford.
9,696	19·5	8,114	16·3	1,582	3·2	5,071	10·3	Longford.
13,201	20·3	11,336	17·4	1,865	2·9	3,354	5·2	Westmeath
13,732	19·1	12,448	17·3	1,284	1·8	4,358	6·1	Meath.
14,603	21·2	12,411	18·0	2,192	3·2	2,803	4·1	Louth.
36,727	20·4	32,469	18·0	4,258	2·8	10,615	2·5	Dublin.
80,634	31·9	75,442	29·9	5,192	1·9			City of Dublin.
14,438	21·6	11,590	17·3	2,848	4·3	2,113	3·2	Kildare.
12,876	20·5	10,595	16·9	2,281	3·6	3,708	5·9	King's Co.
11,901	19·6	10,486	17·3	1,415	2·3	4,434	7·3	Queen's Co.
13,160	21·0	10,726	17·1	2,434	3·9	1,691	2·7	Wicklow.
22,454	20·8	20,671	19·1	1,783	1·6	3,960	3·7	Wexford.
8,325	20·9	7,617	19·1	708	1·8	2,610	6·5	Carlow.
17,325	20·8	15,494	18·6	1,831	2·2	4,835	5·8	Kilkenny.
34,168	23·1	27,205	18·4	6,963	4·7	8,152	5·5	Londonderry.
47,569	24·8	34,830	18·2	12,739	6·3	14,946	2·9	Antrim.
98,797	33·0	77,543	23·6	31,254	10·0			City of Belfast
32,321	20·1	28,790	17·9	3,531	2·2	12,598	7·8	Tyrone.
47,889	23·3	40,017	19·5	7,822	3·7	7,837	3·7	Down.
30,548	23·2	26,068	19·8	4,480	3·4	7,208	5·5	Armagh.
15,227	18·9	14,721	18·3	506	0·6	5,301	6·6	Monaghan.
13,553	19·4	11,708	16·8	1,845	2·6	5,403	7·7	Fermanagh.
20,330	19·4	15,862	15·1	4,468	4·3	12,033	11·5	Cavan.
502,984	23·4	665,596	19·4	137,388	4·0	243,636	7·1	Total of these Non-Congested Counties.

APPENDIX IV.

E.—STATISTICS OF THE NUMBER, VALUATION, ACREAGE, AND POPULATION OF HOLDIN IN CONGESTED DISTRICTS.

(I.)—TABLE showing Total Number of Holdings and Number of each of Eleven Classes of Holdings, arranged according to Valuation, in the Congested Districts.

COUNTY.	Total Number of Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS, AND NUMBER IN EACH CLASS.									
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.
Clare, ..	51	26	14	7	1	2	—	—	—	—	1
Cork, ..	4,709	1,376	2,044	654	289	203	68	29	33	12	1
Donegal, ..	19,606	12,855	5,294	762	282	226	90	29	38	22	5
Galway, ..	11,338	7,150	3,287	393	140	137	61	40	91	31	6
Kerry, ..	10,053	3,769	3,610	1,336	584	450	166	61	58	14	4
Leitrim, ..	6,402	2,042	3,292	653	195	122	46	21	23	5	3
Mayo, ..	22,102	13,239	7,078	938	306	234	88	46	112	46	10
Roscommon, ..	5,890	2,787	2,465	366	107	74	32	13	29	11	3
Sligo, ..	4,803	1,894	2,191	369	146	87	45	17	32	20	2
Total, ..	84,954	45,138	29,275	5,478	2,050	1,535	596	256	416	161	35

(II.)—TABLE showing Total Area and Area of each of Eleven Classes of Holdings, arranged according to Valuation, in Congested Districts.

COUNTY.	Total Acreage occupied by Agricultural Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS ACCORDING TO RATEABLE VALUATION WITH THE AREA UNDER EACH CLASS.									
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Clare, ..	3,989	495	577	486	82	218	—	—	—	—	2,131
Cork, ..	206,797	24,880	76,084	41,176	23,282	21,123	7,500	4,107	5,939	2,506	200
Donegal, ..	671,929	307,124	212,484	51,344	28,138	26,039	9,060	4,109	10,378	15,890	5,875
Galway, ..	464,356	136,848	128,237	30,843	15,072	37,424	25,712	11,946	43,548	27,267	4,590
Kerry, ..	579,889	69,170	214,244	119,733	67,524	57,985	23,431	8,484	10,973	4,581	2,313
Leitrim, ..	143,339	23,112	67,562	23,105	9,573	8,234	4,443	1,934	2,987	1,009	1,380
Mayo, ..	690,413	190,162	226,765	51,417	33,839	49,603	26,699	12,713	46,836	17,609	6,157
Roscommon, ..	109,364	30,087	45,108	11,364	4,343	4,371	2,718	1,220	4,134	2,469	1,107
Sligo, ..	116,605	19,573	43,927	11,851	8,092	10,166	5,414	1,928	6,853	7,314	1,487
Total, ..	2,986,681	801,451	1,014,988	341,319	184,945	215,163	104,977	46,441	131,648	78,645	25,240

(I.)—TABLE showing Total Valuation and Valuation of each of Eleven Classes of Holdings, arranged according to Valuation, in the Congested Districts.

NTY.	Total Valuation.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS AND TOTAL RATEABLE VALUATION OF THOSE IN EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
..	583	54	89	83	16	56	—	—	—	—	285	—
.	42,849	3,360	13,793	8,078	5,005	4,946	2,397	1,291	2,158	1,608	213	—
..	92,107	27,516	32,228	9,378	4,904	5,421	3,026	1,302	2,668	2,931	1,333	1,400
..	62,915	15,567	19,937	4,780	2,407	3,393	2,123	1,824	6,371	4,018	1,395	1,100
..	85,285	7,758	24,435	16,542	10,161	10,931	5,651	2,755	3,887	1,928	885	352
..	46,116	5,499	21,055	7,977	3,382	2,894	1,583	952	1,522	548	704	—
..	120,468	31,007	43,124	11,375	5,262	5,853	3,053	2,058	8,017	6,173	2,349	2,197
..m. ..	37,477	7,112	15,088	4,535	1,825	1,760	1,097	591	1,924	1,453	673	1,419
..	35,388	4,619	13,955	4,526	2,530	2,089	1,577	765	2,130	2,777	420	—
tal, ..	523,188	102,492	183,704	67,274	35,492	37,343	20,507	11,538	28,677	21,436	8,257	6,468

(IV.)—TABLE showing the Total Population and Population on each of Eleven Classes of Holdings, arranged according to Valuation, in the Congested Districts.

NTY.	Total Population on Agricultural Holdings.	CLASSIFICATION OF HOLDINGS ACCORDING TO RATEABLE VALUATION, AND POPULATION IN EACH CLASS.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
..	355	141	71	45	—	16	—	—	—	—	82	—
.	29,465	6,687	12,553	4,381	2,197	1,651	723	353	595	317	8	—
..	97,772	59,740	27,846	4,538	1,769	1,634	753	280	397	358	131	326
	62,687	37,074	18,877	2,370	959	1,018	452	441	931	344	107	114
	66,920	20,076	23,729	10,128	4,754	4,300	1,556	712	830	332	369	134
	30,794	8,061	16,239	3,739	1,197	823	309	162	164	51	49	—
	120,035	67,868	40,150	5,587	1,895	1,553	545	322	838	572	191	514
.s	29,059	12,312	12,733	2,067	686	476	193	95	190	139	27	141
.	24,160	8,377	11,392	2,069	830	538	259	97	274	299	25	—
al .	404,247	220,336	163,590	34,924	14,287	12,009	4,790	2,462	4,219	2,412	989	1,229

APPENDIX IV.

F.—STATISTICS OF THE NUMBER, VALUATION, ACREAGE, AND POPULATION OF HOLDINGS IN THE EIGHT COUNTIES AND THE FOUR UNIONS OF CORK WHICH CONTAIN CONGESTED DISTRICTS.

I.—TABLE showing Total Number of Holdings and Number of each of Eleven Classes, arranged according to Valuation, in the following eight Counties and four Unions in Co. Cork.

—	Total Number of Holdings.	Classification of Holdings, and Number in each Class.									
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.
Donegal, ..	28,730	14,853	8,355	1,977	1,001	998	524	302	493	177	38
Galway. ..	31,077	12,953	10,375	2,782	1,284	1,247	614	366	794	435	124
Leitrim, ..	13,161	3,421	6,188	1,785	731	529	207	103	154	30	11
Mayo, ..	32,732	15,867	11,920	2,290	848	666	287	158	393	201	47
Roscommon, ..	18,906	5,687	7,762	2,299	935	838	318	190	447	273	83
Sligo, ..	13,493	3,511	5,606	1,817	860	704	289	183	321	146	34
Kerry. ..	19,096	6'484	5,385	2,474	1,427	1,546	712	366	545	120	20
Clare, ..	15,757	3,241	5,103	2,633	1,435	1,378	618	309	653	260	64
Bantry, Castletown, Schull, Skibbereen,	7,368	1,784	2,821	1,212	633	517	184	80	103	28	3
Total, ..	180,320	67,801	63,515	19,269	9,154	8,423	3,753	2,057	3,903	1,670	424

II.—TABLE showing Total Area and Area occupied by each of Eleven Classes of Holdings, arranged according to Valuation, in the following eight Counties and four Unions in Co. Cork.

—	Total Acreage occupied by Agricultural Holdings.	Classification of Holdings according to Rateable Valuation, with the Area under each Class.									
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres
Donegal, ..	1,016,906	335,970	284,217	89,833	50,106	66,628	38,739	24,361	55,383	44,160	15,926
Galway. ..	1,296,321	190,169	270,901	108,369	62,613	103,186	69,725	42,030	148,977	135,334	57,890
Leitrim, ..	328,217	35,855	121,266	55,921	29,591	27,910	15,638	9,135	18,019	6,907	5,072
Mayo, ..	1,088,044	213,701	315,590	95,123	62,988	72,976	50,424	30,159	96,730	57,064	21,667
Roscommon, ..	531,605	49,364	124,079	57,928	30,944	37,439	20,250	15,817	54,499	60,026	29,016
Sligo, ..	385,367	32,106	99,760	49,762	31,179	37,887	21,212	13,023	38,427	34,362	11,446
Kerry, ..	1,053,841	92,046	287,232	183,952	120,429	141,646	67,393	38,099	76,849	24,794	10,441
Clare, ..	766,720	37,445	146,222	105,950	72,346	92,599	51,109	35,332	92,297	64,098	25,911
Bantry, Castletown. Schull. Skibbereen.	316,705	27,392	95,467	62,305	40,079	40,771	18,710	9,033	15,607	5,697	[illegible]
Total, ..	6,783,726	1,014,048	1,744,734	809,143	500,275	621,042	353,200	216,989	596,788	[illegible]	[illegible]

III Table showing Total Valuation and Valuation of each of Eleven Classes of Holdings, arranged according to Valuation, in the following eight Counties and four Unions in Co. Cork.

	Total Valuation.	Classification of Holdings, and Total Rateable Valuation of those in each Case.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
ral, ..	256,121	32,795	52,951	24,555	17,506	24,633	18,137	13,533	33,802	24,067	9,202	4,940
y, ..	421,868	29,379	67,160	34,478	22,325	30,914	21,390	16,447	56,114	59,232	29,760	54,669
n ..	127,199	8,835	41,121	22,024	12,696	12,724	7,110	4,647	10,318	3,827	2,794	1,103
..	283,741	37,839	75,224	28,008	14,800	16,341	9,999	7,041	27,650	27,858	11,452	27,529
mmon, ..	276,346	13,851	51,239	28,407	16,355	20,365	11,011	8,550	31,7 0	37,940	19,887	37,037
..	181,128	8,476	3,756	22,698	14,969	17,361	10,081	8,222	21,970	20,095	7,955	11,545
..	246,035	11,917	37,097	30,535	24,856	38,069	24,337	16,403	36,298	15,353	4,749	6,421
..	297,239	6,650	36,006	32,808	25,037	33,701	21,471	13,883	45,248	36,293	15,756	30,386
own,												
	84,369	4,251	19,371	14,992	10,991	12,515	6,386	3,582	6,791	3,760	673	1,057
reen,												
To al, ..	2,174,046	153,993	417,925	238,505	159,535	206,623	129,922	92,308	269,895	228,425	102,228	174,687

V.—Table showing Total Population and Population of each of Eleven Classes of Holdings, arranged according to Valuation in the following eight Counties and four Unions in Co. Cork.

	Total Population on Agricultural Holdings.	Classification of Holdings according to Rateable Valuation, and Population in each Class.										
		Not exceeding £4.	Above £4 and not exceeding £10.	Above £10 and not exceeding £15.	Above £15 and not exceeding £20.	Above £20 and not exceeding £30.	Above £30 and not exceeding £40.	Above £40 and not exceeding £50.	Above £50 and not exceeding £100.	Above £100 and not exceeding £200.	Above £200 and not exceeding £300.	Above £300 in value.
l, ..	148,881	66,421	40,939	10,423	5,596	6,915	3,850	2,559	6,262	4,006	1,264	646
..	160,007	58,118	53,243	14,962	7,217	6,879	3,438	2,283	5,245	3,478	1,639	3,505
....	63,674	12,889	29,329	9,734	4,097	3,169	1,376	818	1,308	395	366	193
..	174,319	78,271	64,855	13,142	4,996	3,821	1,651	921	2,203	1,939	674	1,846
mon, ..	91,015	22,344	36,599	11,814	4,972	4,394	1,751	1,028	3,091	2,127	1,054	1,841
..	69,451	14,721	27,337	9,488	4,569	4,195	2,050	1,437	2,484	1,842	570	758
..	127,927	32,394	34,829	17,402	10,400	13,127	6,106	3,490	6,242	2,002	750	1,185
	88,004	12,072	26,067	15,121	8,729	9,165	3,999	2,047	5,124	2,851	1,083	1,746
wn												
	46,932	8,331	16,841	7,997	4,606	4,089	1,732	860	1,662	629	29	156
en,												
tal, ..	970,210	305,561	330,039	110,083	55,182	55,754	25,953	15,443	33,621	19,269	7,429	11,876

APPENDIX IV. G.—TABLES showing the Number and Poor Law Valuations of (*a*) Holdings not exceeding £10 in rateable value and (*b*) over £100 in rateable value in Connaught, Donegal, Kerry, Clare, and the four Unions of Cork which contain congested districts.

(*a.*)—RETURN showing for certain Counties of Ireland which are either wholly or partly congested, the Number and Valuation of Holdings not exceeding £10 in rateable value, also the Valuation of the Land (1) for increasing the Valuation of such Holdings up to £10, and the Amount and Valuation of Untenanted Land in occupation of owners which may become available for the Enlargement of Small Holdings.

AREA.	Holdings not exceeding £10 in Rateable Valuation. (2.)		Valuation of Land required to increase to a Uniform Valuation of £10 those Holdings which are under £10. (3.)	Untenanted Land in occupation of Owners, as shown in Return prepared by the Commissioner of Valuation in compliance with an Order of the House of Commons, dated March, 1906. (4.)		Untenanted Land comprised in Col. 4, excluding Demesnes. (5.)		Untenanted Land comprised in Col. 4, *less* Demesnes, Bog, Plantation, Mountain, and other lands valued at 2s. 6d. an acre and under. (6.)	
(1.)	Number.	Rateable Value.		Area.	Poor Law Valuation.	Area.	Poor Law Valuation.	Area.	Poor Law Valuation.
		£	£	Acres.	£	Acres.	£	Acres.	£
Donegal, ...	23,208	85,745	146,335	149,176	15,235	140,728	12,031	21,983	10,461
Cork (Bantry, Castletown, Skibbereen, Schull).	4,605	23,622	22,428	10,795	3,868	9,062	2,456	6,234	2,282
Galway, ...	23,328	96,538	136,742	320,464	89,720	273,603	68,596	139,175	64,116
Leitrim, ...	9,609	49,956	46,134	40,562	6,832	37,882	4,754	9,942	3,941
Mayo, ...	27,787	113,063	164,807	205,546	41,510	183,961	29,693	74,328	27,778
Roscommon, ...	13,449	65,090	69,400	119,405	42,493	102,526	30,222	47,259	26,904
Sligo, ...	9,117	46,232	44,938	69,461	22,785	59,677	15,173	22,830	12,788
Clare, ...	8,344	42,657	40,783	80,264	32,729	68,824	23,362	43,532	21,888
Kerry, ...	11,869	49,414	69,276	86,844	15,149	79,904	12,297	19,290	14,187
Total for the Congested Counties.	131,316	572,317	740,843	1,082,517	270,321	956,167	198,584	384,573	184,299
Total for all Ireland, ..	275,344	1,254,050	1,499,390	2,555,855	1,034,884	2,138,546	673,543	1,017,879	620,298

(*b.*)—RETURN giving the Number and the Poor Law Valuation of Holdings of a rateable value over £100, situate in the eight Counties and the four Unions of Cork of which portions have been scheduled as Congested.

Counties, of which certain portions have been scheduled as Congested.	Poor Law Valuation of Holdings of a rateable value of over £100. Total. (2.)		In landlord's hands. (3.)		In occupation of tenants and tenant purchasers. (4.)	
(1.)	Number of Holdings.	Poor Law Valuation.	Number of Holdings.	Poor Law Valuation.	Number of Holdings.	Poor Law Valuation.
		£		£		
Galway, ...	662	143,661	221	79,964	441	63,697
Leitrim, ...	43	7,724	17	4,454	26	3,270
Mayo, ...	303	66,839	97	35,759	206	31,080
Roscommon, ...	430	94,864	112	39,209	318	55,655
Sligo, ...	202	39,595	62	20,568	140	19,027
Clare, ...	387	82,435	101	28,889	286	53,546
Cork (Bantry, Castletown, Skibbereen, Skull).	34	5,490	14	2,798	20	2,692
Kerry, ...	157	26,523	42	12,708	115	13,815
Donegal, ...	227	38,209	48	11,757	179	26,452
Total, ...	2,445	505,340	714	236,106	1,731	269,234

NOTE.—The figures in column (5) and (6) of Return (*a*) and in column (3) of Return (*b*) are taken from the Tables put in by Mr. Finucane, and printed in the Appendix to the Third Report of the Commission [Cd. 3414, 1907] at pp 319 and 323.

H.—TABLES SHOWING NUMBER OF FISHERMEN IN COUNTIES CONTAINING CONGESTED DISTRICTS.

(*a.*) RETURN showing the number of Fishermen in each of the Counties containing Congested Districts, according to Table XX. of the County Books of the Census of 1901.

COUNTY.	Total for County.	AGES.					
		Under 15 Years.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
(1).	(2).	(3).	(4).	(5).	(6).	(7).	(8).
Donegal, ...	870	5	130	191	372	130	42
Sligo, ...	167	3	31	34	61	28	10
Mayo, ...	159	1	29	29	74	22	4
Galway, ...	919	10	114	205	354	191	45
Kerry, ...	1,025	12	123	238	480	138	34
Clare, ...	367	3	37	54	166	83	24
Cork—							
Bantry, ...							
Castletown, ...	2,249	—	384*	1,865*	—	—	—
Skibbereen, ...							
Skull, ...							
Totals, ...	5,756	34	848	2,616	1,507	592	159

N.B.—There are no fishermen in Counties Leitrim and Roscommon.

* The number of fishermen in each of the Unions named in Co. Cork is not shown, except under the two headings—(A) "Under 20 years" and (B) "Aged 20 years and upwards." It has, therefore, been found necessary to put the number of fishermen "Under 20 years" in Col. 4, and the number of fishermen "Aged 20 years and upwards" in Col. 5 of this Return.

(*b.*)—RETURN showing the number of occupiers of land in each of the Counties containing Congested Districts who are also engaged in Fishing, according to Table XXIII. of the County Books of the Census of 1901.

COUNTY.	Number of occupiers of land who are also engaged in fishing.	Total Number of Fishermen returned in Table A, annexed.	Percentage of Farmer-fishermen (Col. 2), to total Number of Fishermen (Col. 3).
(1).	(2).	(3).	(4).
Donegal, ...	161	870	18·5
Sligo, ...	37	167	22·2
Mayo, ...	34	159	21·4
Galway, ...	102	919	11·1
Kerry, ...	80	1,025	7·8
Clare, ...	33	367	9·0
Cork—			
Bantry, ...			
Castletown, ...	40*	2,249	1·8
Skibbereen, ...			
Skull, ...			
Totals, ...	487	5,756	8·4

N.B.—There are no fishermen in Counties Leitrim and Roscommon.

* There are not separate figures in the Census County Books for *Unions* in the form of Table XXIII., and therefore, the actual number of farmer-fishermen for the four Unions cannot be given, but there are in the whole county of Cork only 87 farmer-fishermen, and it is estimated that about 40 of them reside in the four Unions under consideration.

I. Rulings of Commissioner O'Brien on the Dillon Estate. (See Memorandum A put in by the Secretary of the Congested Districts Board for Ireland, and printed in the Appendix to the First Report on page 233.)

(1.) Memorandum to the Secretary of Congested Districts Board, 16*th December*, 1900.

With reference to the proposed sales on part of this estate, Commissioner O'Brien, before whom the matter is pending, desires me to ask that you will bring this letter before your Board at their next meeting. Copies of the proposed form of agreement have been furnished to him for the purpose of considering whether the completion of the sales might not be expedited by fiating the agreements as provided by section 32 of the Land Act, 1896.

The reservation of game, of the right of entry for shooting and preserving, together with the obligation imposed on each purchaser to allow his name to be used in prosecutions under the Game Laws, are so unusual and so contrary to the spirit of the Act of 1896, which is to give purchasers the full and absolute ownership of the land they buy, that Commissioner O'Brien requests that the Congested Districts Board should reconsider the questions of these reservations.

No exceptions or reservations can be put into a Vesting Order unless they have been approved of by the Land Commission, and the Land Commission are satisfied that the effect of such reservation was explained to and understood by the purchasers.

It is presumed that it is intended to give real effect to these reservations, and they appear most objectionable for the following reasons:—

Game preserving is not advantageous, and is generally positively injurious to agriculture. In thickly-inhabited districts like this the injury is greater than in opposite circumstances. The pursuit of game where enclosures are small causes damage to fences, and shooting is often a danger to the inhabitants and their cattle. Game cannot be preserved without game-keepers, and these are nearly always in a position of hostility to farmers, who resent their right of entry at will upon their farms.

An occasion for ill-will, which in other districts has often led to serious outrages and murders, will be created by the Board setting up a system of game preserving in this district.

It does not appear that any such system has hitherto existed here, that there is any valuable stock of game at present, and that the shooting rights could ever be of any appreciable value or commensurate with the cost of preserving.

The exercise of these rights could not be anything but a nuisance and an injury to tenant purchasers, if the Board does not itself preserve, but allows a game tenant to do so, the matter would be worse, for on small farms it requires the *closest watchfulness to prevent the destruction of game by persons who wish to do so.*

The obligation that every purchaser shall allow his name to be used in game prosecutions is calculated to set the whole country by the ears, and to stir up any amount of quarrels among neighbours.

The tenants in this district being particularly poor, and depending on the Congested Districts Board, it is the more incumbent on the Land Commission to be thoroughly satisfied that each purchaser fully understands the full effect of the reservations and the obligation he is required to undertake as to game prosecutions by the Board.

Even if understood and assented to by the purchasing tenants, it does not follow that the Land Commission ought to or will assent to the reservations proposed. They are moreover calculated to delay the completion of the sale.

Will you be good enough to have this matter considered by your Board at their next meeting, and convey the final decision to the Land Commission, so that the question of this complication being introduced into the agreements may cause as little delay as possible in the proceedings.

I am also to suggest that the paragraph in the agreement forms, "The sale shall be completed by a Vesting Order," might be omitted, as it seems particularly desirable that the completion of the sale shall be expedited, if possible, by fiating the agreements instead of by Vesting Orders.

(2.) Memorandum to the Secretary, Congested Districts Board.

Dillon Estate.

The 43 agreements received will be sent on for inspection at once, but will not be sanctioned subject to the proposed reservation of game and the right of entry for the vendors, and their assigns, for hunting, coursing, shooting, fishing, and preserving

I have explained verbally to the Members of the Congested Districts Board that I would not approve of these exceptions and reservations for the following reasons:—

1. The Land Law Act contemplates the vesting in purchasers of the full and uncontrolled ownership of their holdings. The proposed exceptions and reservations are a substantial detraction from and diminution of the rights of a landowner.

2. Game preserving is distinctly injurious to agriculture, particularly in a small farm district.

3. Hunting, coursing, and the pursuit of game cause damage to fences and cultivation. Shooting in thickly inhabited districts is often a danger to the inhabitants, their cattle, and poultry.

4. There is no provision insuring compensation to the purchasers for damage done by the exercise of the rights reserved.

5. There has been no game preserving hitherto, and it is admitted that there is no stock of preservable game at present in this district. Game cannot be preserved without game-keepers, and these are nearly always on bad terms with farmers, who resent their right of entry at will upon their land.

6. The exercise of the rights reserved could never be anything but a nuisance to the purchasers, and might, as it has been elsewhere, be the cause of outrages and disturbances.

7. If the Board let their rights, as contemplated in their Report of last year, they would have no control over the manner in which they might be exercised

8. Before Vesting Orders are made subject to such reservations and exceptions, the Land Commission must be satisfied that the effect of these exceptions and reservations has been explained to and understood by each purchaser. The tenants in this district are unusually poor and dependent on the vendors. It is the more incumbent on the Land Commission to be satisfied that each purchaser fully understands the full effect of the reservations and of the obligations he is required to undertake as to game prosecutions.

9. With regard to par. 2 of the agreement, this is neither an exception nor reservation, but a contract by the purchaser to allow his name to be used in game prosecutions against any and everybody, but probably against his neighbours. This is calculated to set the whole country by the ears, and to stir up any amount of quarrels and bad feeling.

10. The inspection and vesting of the holdings will be much delayed by the introduction of these complications into the contracts and Vesting Orders.

11. It is to be noted that game preserving, hunting and coursing are not named among the purposes for which statutory powers are given to the Congested Districts Board.

I understand that the Congested Districts Board wish to appeal against my refusal to approve of the exceptions and reservations, and in order that my refusal may not delay the sales, as it would if made on sanctioning the agreements, an order will be made at once refusing generally to approve of the exceptions and reservations in the agreements lodged. But I again suggest to the Congested Districts Board that it would facilitate the sales, expedite their completion, be more consistent with the useful and benevolent purposes for which the Board was created, and be more likely to lead to the effectual preservation of such game as can exist in this district, for the Board after the completion of the sales, when the purchasers are freer agents than at present, to make some amicable arrangement with them as to the sporting, than to compel their tenants by making it a condition of sale to agree to such a restriction on their rights of ownership.

If the Board are going to appeal against my decision on the general principle, I suggest that they should do so at once, but it must be remembered that, apart from the general principle, if it appears that any individual purchaser has not understood the effect of the exceptions, &c., and has not knowingly assented to them, I shall refuse to approve of the reservation in that case.

The Inspectors will be directed to ascertain from each purchaser whether the effect of the reservation has been understood.

M. O'BRIEN.

30th January, 1901.

J.—Correspondence with the Secretary of the Congested Districts Board for Scotland.

Royal Commission on Congestion in Ireland.

29, Bury-street,

St. James's, London, S.W.,

24th March, 1908.

Sir,

I am directed by the Commission to send you the enclosed memorandum of points respecting the treatment of sporting rights by your Board, on which they would be glad to get information. As the Commission is now sitting, it would greatly add to the favour you will confer upon them if you could communicate with me during the course of the next week.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER CALLAN.

Secretary.

The Secretary,

Congested Districts Board for Scotland,

Edinburgh.

MEMORANDUM REFERRED TO IN FOREGOING LETTER.

1. As to method of dealing with sporting rights. When the Board buy a property for purpose of relieving congestion do they always buy the sporting rights, or is it a matter of arrangement, as between the owner and the Board, whether the sporting rights remain vested in the vendor or pass to the Board?

2. If they remain vested in the former owner, what is the nature of arrangements to prevent the crofters settled by the Board on the property from interfering with the preservation of game and fish?

3. If the sporting rights become vested in the Board—

(*a*) Do they subsequently vest sporting rights (power to take and kill game and fish) in the occupier settled on the land?

(*b*) If so, are these rights conveyed by the Board to the occupier for nothing, or have the occupiers to pay for them, and, if so, how?—*e.g.*, do they purchase outright or pay an annual rent?

If the sporting rights are not vested in the occupier by the Board.

(*c*) Do the Board retain all the exclusive rights of sporting and the taking of game and fish, exercised by the former owner, and is any power reserved by the Board to punish by ejectment or otherwise interference with game or fish or their preservation?

(*d*) How do the Board deal with the rights they retain?—*i.e.*, do they lease them?

4. It would be most valuable to have from the Board for Scotland a general outline of the principle and practice of procedure in respect of game, fish, sporting rights and preservation, and a general sketch of its results as affecting the national interests in the game and fish.

N.B.—At page 5 of the Eighth Report of the Congested Districts Board for Scotland there is an account of the terms proposed to crofters to purchase holdings on the estate of Kilmuir, by which it appears that the price of the land was to be 20 years, the price of sporting rights if and when sold to be 16 years; an annuity was to be charged not merely on the price of the holding, but also on "shootings."

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD,

Edinburgh, 27*th March*, 1908.

SIR,

Before replying in detail to the points in the Memorandum which accompanied your letter of the 24th March, regarding sporting rights on the properties purchased by the Congested Districts Board for Scotland, I may explain first as regards killing game that legal authorities appear to agree that the right to kill any game in Scotland is an incident of the right of property in land. This right may be delegated either gratuitously or for payment. It is doubtful whether it can be permanently alienated *in toto*, but it would appear from a case decided in March, 1896, by the Court of Session that the right may be communicated as a servitude in favour of neighbouring lands.

This case is reported in Vol. 23 of Rettie's Reports of cases decided in the Court of Session, 1896, and shortly was as follows:—

In 1808 Innes, proprietor of Ballogie, was infeft in that Estate with a right of fowling in the Forest of Birse, which belonged to the Earl of Aboyne.

In 1896 the Court of Session held that the proprietor of Ballogie was entitled (1) to let his right of shootings in the Forest to any persons whether they were or were not tenants on Ballogie; and (2) to sell the game killed by him for sport.

Fishings.

The right of salmon fishing belongs to the Crown as a separate heritable estate. The right may be given out by the Crown either with the land or separately. Persons now in right of salmon fishings must have acquired these rights by grant from the Crown, either to themselves or to their predecessors. Trout fishing appears to require no express grant or prescriptive possession, but passes, in the cases of private rivers or lakes, as a part and pertinent of the land. The right may, however, be reserved or given out expressly to another, who is not proprietor of the land.

To deal now with the points as numbered in your Memorandum:

1. As to method of dealing with sporting rights. In all cases of purchase of land by the Board they have also acquired the right to kill game, and, with one exception, the fishing rights.

In this exceptional case the block of land purchased by the Board in Sutherlandshire is bounded on the east side by the famous salmon river Naver, and on the north and south sides by smaller streams, tributaries of the Naver. In the conveyance of the estate to the Board the fishing rights were reserved by the Duke of Sutherland.

2. If they remain vested in the former owner, what is the character of arrangements to prevent the crofters settled by the Board on the property from interfering with the preservation of game and fish?

In the case of the Board the above is the only instance of reservation, and the preservation of fish in the Naver is a matter for the owner of the fishings.

3. If the sporting rights become vested in the Congested Districts Board (*a*) do they vest sporting rights (and power to take and kill game or fish) in the occupier settled on the land? (*b*) If so, are these rights conveyed by the Congested Districts Board to the occupier for nothing, or have the occupiers to pay for their acquirement, and if so, how? *e.g.*, purchase out-right, or annual rent?

In purchasing the estates the value of the sporting rights acquired by the Board from the original vendor forms part of the price paid to him by the Board, and when the estate is re-sold to the settlers, the value of these sporting rights is taken into account in the price fixed for the re-sale of the whole subjects to the community settled upon the estate.

These lands in the Highlands consist partly of arable land lotted out into small individual holdings, and partly of hill pasture, held by the Township in common. The grazing on this common pasture and other matters connected with the common property of the Township are managed by a Committee. The sporting rights are part of the common property, and the rent obtained for the sporting rights goes into the common purse, and is divisible according to the shares in the common possessed by each occupier.

Of course, the value of the sporting rights and the rent paid for them by the tenant or tenants vary according to the quality of the sport to be obtained. In no case does the individual occupier retain any sporting rights himself. In all cases these are let and the community really come in place of the single owner.

The settlers pay for the sporting rights just as they pay for other rights in the property. The method of repayment to the Board is by a terminable annuity, usually for fifty years, whereby principal and interest at $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. are repaid by an annuity of £3 14*s.* 1*d.* for each £100 of the price.

4. It would be most valuable to have from the Congested Districts Board for Scotland a general outline of the principle and practice of procedure in respect of game, fish, sporting rights and preservation and a general sketch of its results as affecting the National interests in the game and fish.

The actual experience of the Board is not very great in this matter, but, so far as it goes, they think that settlers are quite alive to the value of their sporting rights and do all they can to keep up the quality of the shootings.

A Township Committee is an awkward body for a man who wants a moor, or his agent, to deal with. Accordingly, in practice the negotiations for sporting leases have hitherto been conducted by the Land Manager of the Board, who has been able to make advantageous arrangements for the leases, and who advises the various committees in all the details that good management of shootings requires.

From their knowledge of shootings and fishings in crofting districts generally in the Highlands, the Board do not think that any interests in game and fish suffer greatly from the presence of small holders. There may, of course, be cases where men poach or otherwise do injury, but there are very good shootings in Scotland over crofter grounds.

With reference to the note at the end of the Memorandum. Matters were not quite ripe in Kilmuir for the sale of the whole estate, including farm lands and crofters' holdings, to settlers. The Board began by offering to sell their holdings to the small tenants on the estate. If and when this was adjusted, and the farm lands sold to new settlers, the Board proposed to re-arrange the shootings on the estate, so that certain of the townships under the new arrangement might be grouped together as the owners of the shootings over their lands. This is no departure from the general principle, but a necessary expedient to enable the sporting rent of a certain area to be allocated to the townships, new or old, to whom that area will belong.

I hope this information may meet the points of the Commission, but I shall be very glad to give you any further particulars I can.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

R. R. M'GREGOR,
Secretary.

WALTER CALLAN, Esq.,
Secretary,
Royal Commission on Congestion
in Ireland,
London.

K.—SCHOOL GARDENS IN CONNECTION WITH NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

Report of a Conference between the Board of National Education and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

A conference between representatives of the Board of National Education and of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction was held at Tyrone House, Marlborough-street, on Tuesday, 17th December, 1907.

The proceedings commenced at 12 o'clock.

There were present :—

Mr. W. J. M. Starkie, M.A., Litt.D., Resident Commissioner of National Education; Reverend Henry Evans, D.D.; Most Reverend Patrick Foley, D.D., Lord Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin; Lieut-General Sir William F. Butler, G.C.B.; Mr. W. J. Dilworth (Secretary), *representing the Commissioners of National Education.*

Mr. T. W. Russell, M.P., Vice-President Department of Agriculture, &c.; Mr. T. P. Gill; Professor J. R. Campbell; Mr. George Fletcher; Mr. J. D. Daly, *representing the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*

(Mr. W. M. Heller, Organising Inspector of Science under the Board of National Education, was also present during portion of the proceedings).

The conference was held in accordance with the following recommendation made by the Consultative Committee of Education, at their meeting on 15th November, 1907 :—

> "That the Department should consider, in consultation with the National Education Board, the feasibility of arranging some special courses in Horticulture suitable for teachers in rural schools; and that they should also consider whether it would be practicable to make arrangements whereby the services of the horticultural instructors employed under the county agricultural schemes could be utilised for supervising and otherwise assisting such instruction."

After a full discussion, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted :—

I.—Course for Teachers in the Training Colleges.

1. That there should be included in the curriculum of the training colleges under the Board of National Education a course of practical instruction intended to fit National Teachers for managing and giving instruction in connection with school gardens.
2. That special instructors for this course should be added to the regular staffs of the training colleges.
3. That the land requisite for plots should be provided at the training colleges.
4. That the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction should assist in this work by supervising the instruction, and inspecting and reporting on it to the Board of National Education.

II.—Courses for Teachers already in National Schools.

1. That where, in the judgment of the Department and the County Committees of Agriculture, the regular work of the Horticultural Instructors under county schemes permits, these Instructors should be utilised for the purpose of training National teachers at central classes, and for organising school gardens in connection with the National Schools; and that, where necessary, special funds should be provided to enable the County Committee to employ an additional Horticultural Instructor for the purpose.
2. That the land and premises of the Department's Agricultural Schools should be utilised, where practicable, for these classes.
3. That the Board of National Education should provide for the travelling expenses of National Teachers attending such central classes in horticulture.

III.—School Gardens for National Schools.

1. That the Local Authorities should be empowered to acquire land compulsorily, where necessary, for the purpose of school garden and agricultural teaching in connection with National Schools.
2. That the Board of National Education should provide for such equipment (tools, tool-house, seeds, manures, &c.), as might be necessary for the efficient working of each school garden.
3. That the Board of National Education should provide fees for qualified National Teachers who give school garden instruction under approved conditions.
4. That the inspection of the school garden work should be undertaken for the Board of National Education by the Department of Agriculture.

IV.—Agricultural Instruction at National Schools.

1. That the teaching of agriculture, as distinct from school garden teaching, in schools under the Board of National Education, should be undertaken only in a school organised as an upper primary centre to which pupils from the National Schools in the neighbourhood could come.
2. That the course should be given by the Agricultural Instructor of the County Committee, or by specially trained teachers under his direction, and working under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

V.—Application to the Treasury.

That an application be forthwith made to the Treasury, both by the Board of National Education and by the Department, for the funds necessary for each, to enable them to carry out their respective shares of the joint scheme of work outlined in the foregoing resolutions.

L.—STATISTICS AS TO EXPENDITURE ON LABOURERS' COTTAGES.*

TABLE showing the Valuation, the number of Labourers' Cottages (built or in course of construction), amount of Loans (sanctioned and received), Exchequer contributions for the year 1906, and other particulars in respect of Labourers' Cottages in the eight counties and four unions of Cork which contain congested districts.

Area.	Valuation.	Number of Labourers' Cottages.		Amount of Loans.		Amount required to be raised annually in repayment of Loans sanctioned.	Amount which would be raised by the maximum rate of one shilling in the pound allowed for purposes of Acts.	Rate per pound required to raise Amount specified in Col. 6.	Amount of Exchequer contribution for the year ended 31st March, 1906.	Amount of rent received from tenants of cottages and plots during year ended 31st March, 1906.
		Built.	In course of Construction.	Sanctioned.	Received.					
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	£			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
negal, ...	305,875	192	39	57,251 0 0	50,386 8 10	2,316 17 8	15,293 15 0	1·82	1,401 18 2	792 8 11
go, ...	191,892	41	11	6,645 0 0	6,641 0 0	135 15 6	9,594 12 0	·17	38 0 0	97 16 6
trim, ...	138,575	112	6	22,375 10 0	16,199 12 10	944 3 8	6,928 15 0	1·64	446 1 4	291 2 6
go, ...	301,366	—	—	—	—	—	15,068 6 0	—	—	—
scommon, ..	301,507	139	38	35,526 15 0	27,721 5 0	1,540 7 0	15,075 7 0	1·23	838 12 5	415 12 7
lway, ...	441,391	44	9	9,858 15 3	8,973 15 0	310 11 2	22,069 11 0	·17	557 0 0	89 14 4
re, ...	313,118	511	8	77,458 19 9	70,413 11 5	3,501 6 4	15,655 18 0	2·68	1,408 4 10	1,008 4 7
ry, ...	278,881	688	25	105,220 17 10	96,769 1 10	4,893 18 0	13,944 1 0	4·21	1,758 13 10	1,670 18 1
rk :—										
Bantry, ..	23,768	26	—	3,577 0 0	3,577 0 0	176 14 0	1,188 8 0	1·78	41 9 5	84 11 9
Castletown, ..	12,408	—	—	—	—	—	620 8 0	—	—	—
Schull, ..	15,581	33	—	4,278 0 0	3,934 0 0	189 18 8	779 1 0	2·93	29 18 9	69 11 7
Skibbereen, ..	42,928	265	6	36,118 0 0	31,720 0 0	1,444 13 10	2,146 8 0	8·08	198 17 1	562 19 10
	2,367,290	2,051	142	358,309 17 10	315,735 14 11	15,454 5 10	118,364 10 0	1·58	6,718 15 10	5,083 0 8

* As given in Parliamentary Paper No. 194 of 1906.

APPENDIX V.

APPENDIX V

CORRESPONDENCE between the CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD and the IRISH GOVERNMENT.

(*Continued from Appendix to First Report of the Commission*, [*Cd.* 3267—1906], *p.* 262.)

Letter No. 8.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD FOR IRELAND,
23, RUTLAND SQUARE, DUBLIN,
15*th April*, 1907.

ESTIMATES, 1907–8.

SIR,

I am directed by the Congested Districts Board to submit for transmission to the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury their Estimates of Receipts and Expenditure for the year 1907-8.

In the Board's letters of 9th October, 1905, and 30th April, 1906, in reference to their financial position, they pointed out that their income was insufficient for the preparation for sale of the estates which had been purchased, or must be purchased, if reasonable progress was to be made in this branch of their work.

The crisis which it was anticipated would occur in 1907-8 has been postponed to 1908-9 owing to the delay in recovering the "enhanced values" of the estates purchased prior to the Act of 1903. In consequence of this delay, the sum available for the improvement of the estates purchased under the Act of 1903 was so largely reduced that in the past year a stay was placed on the execution of improvement works, and only £75,000 was expended out of £108,000 estimated, and although £110,000 is provided for in the year 1907-8 for the improvement of 115 estates, a balance of £40,000 required to complete the preparation of these estates for sale must be deferred to the year 1908-9 owing to the want of funds.

The enclosed estimates for Estates transactions have been framed in strict accordance with the conditions laid down by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury in their letter of the 28th February, 1906—that is, the sum to be borrowed from the Board of Works on each estate has been limited, first by the rule that it shall not exceed the sum to be recovered on re-sale (in excess of the Land Commission advance), and, secondly that it shall not exceed two-thirds of the estimated improvement expenditure under the specified Heads. Subject to these conditions only £47,000 can be borrowed in the coming year on the estates which are being prepared for sale and the Board are enabled to provide for an expenditure of £110,000 (on improvements) only by the estimated receipt of £123,000 for resale values of the older estates, and £35,000 for enhanced value of the newer estates which will be sold in the year. This latter sum would at once be paid to the Board of Works in reduction of the £101,000 which will then have been borrowed, if the position of the Board's funds would permit. Two causes will, however, make this impossible, one being the want of the additional income for the two years 1906-7 and 1907-8 which they declared to be necessary, the other being the higher percentage of loss on estate operations; this was estimated at 8 per cent. in the Board's letter of the 30th April last, but it is now anticipated that it will reach an average of 12 per cent. on the properties purchased since the passing of the Act of 1903. In view of these difficulties, the Board intend to proceed as far as possible with the preparation of the estates for sale, but they cannot, even on the favourable view of the probable re-sales which has been taken in the estimate, and after borrowing the full amount that the regulations permit, provide for more than 70 per cent. of the required expenditure on improvements they desire to carry out in the year, and at its close their liabilities in respect of estates will exceed the assets by about £32,000.

With regard to the progress which has been made in dealing with the estates, I am to report as follows:—

Of the thirty-nine estates purchased prior to the Act of 1903, there have been completely sold fourteen, with sale prices amounting to £56,924; and the remaining twenty-five, sale prices amounting to £586,787, have been sold, with the exception of fragments valued in all at £64,364. These sales represent the value of agreements signed by tenants, but about £60,000 for these sales has not yet been advanced by the Land Commission.

Of the 107 estates bought under the Act of 1903 one has been completely sold for £835, five with estimated sale prices of £42,273 have been sold, with the exception of fragments amounting to £7,506; one will be sold immediately for about £22,019, and seventy-seven, which cost £660,742, are now being prepared for sale in current year leaving thirty, which cost £619,340 to be completed and sold after the 31st March, 1908.

The united prices of the estates purchased under the Act up to date is £1,280,082, including fifteen purchases amounting to £106,893, which have been agreed upon in the year 1906-7.

A Statement of the Board's probable assets and liabilities in regard to Estates at 31st March, 1908, is enclosed.

The general cash balance at the close of the year 1907-8 has not been included.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

F. W. D. MITCHELL.

The Under Secretary,

Dublin Castle.

STATEMENT OF BOARD'S PROBABLE ASSETS AND LIABILITIES IN RESPECT OF ESTATES ON 31ST MARCH, 1908.

On the 1st April, 1908, the Board's account in respect of estates will stand as follows:

Liabilities.

(*a*.) Balance of expenditure necessary to prepare estates for sale excluding twenty-two recent purchases,	£21,000
(*b*.) Due to the Board of Works on loans for improvement of estates bought under Act of 1903,	£101,000
(*c*.) Estimated loss at 12 per cent. on twenty-two estates purchased for £126,000,	£15,000
	£137,000

Assets.

(*d*.) Enhanced value receivable from Land Commission on estates not sold at 1st April, 1908 (excluding (*c*),	£83,000
(*e*.) Price of estates bought by Board without advances from Land Commission,	£8,000
(*f*.) Price of holdings bought and not included in (*d*),	£6,000
(*g*.) Value of cattle on grass lands,	£8,000
	£105,000
Deficit,	£32,000
	£137,000

F. W. D. MITCHELL.

Letter No. 9.

DUBLIN CASTLE, 23*rd May*, 1907.

Immediate.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 15th ultimo relative to the Estimates for your Board for the year 1907-8, I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to transmit, to be laid before the Congested Districts Board, copy of a letter from the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury on the subject.

Having regard to the terms of this letter His Excellency suggests for the Board's consideration that it is undesirable to prosecute any large purchases and that only specially suitable grass lands should be bought, and that only within the limit indicated.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. B. DOUGHERTY.

The Secretary,

Congested Districts Board.

APPENDIX V.

Enclosure for Letter No. 9.

TREASURY CHAMBERS,

17*th May*, 1907.

SIR,

I have laid before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury Sir J. Dougherty's letter of the 18th ultimo (8252), transmitting by direction of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant the Estimates of the Congested Districts Board for Ireland for 1907-8.

My Lords observe that the estimated liabilities of the Board on the 31st March next exceed the estimated assets (excluding the general cash balance) by £32,000, a result which this Board attribute in part to the increased percentage of loss on estates purchased since the passing of the Act of 1903, and in part to insufficiency of funds.

But My Lords have already in previous letters called attention to the obligation which rests upon the Congested Districts Board, as upon all other public Departments, of confining their operations within the limits imposed by the funds supplied them by Parliament, and Their Lordships must therefore ask for a full statement, by way of forecast of the position for 1908-9, and if necessary for later years, showing how it is proposed, on the basis of the existing resources of the Board, to balance the statement of Assets and Liabilities.

My Lords observe also that the Board in their letter of the 15th October last stated that, until the result of the Royal Commision on Congestion has been announced, they would not purchase further lands except such as may be specially suitable for their purposes, and they estimated that £50,000 would cover such special cases. But the estimate of the Board's requirements for Land Purchase for this calendar year as submitted to the Estates Commissioners was £670,000. No explanation is given of this apparent change of policy; nor can My Lords understand (in view of the figures given in your letter (5384) of 11th May, 1906, and its enclosures) how the Board can hope with their existing resources to deal with fresh purchases to anything like this extent.

Unless My Lords can be satisfied on the above points, They would not feel justified in sanctioning the Estimates for 1907-8 as submitted.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

G. H. MURRAY.

The Under Secretary,
Dublin Castle.

Letter No. 10.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD FOR IRELAND,

23, RUTLAND SQUARE, DUBLIN,

17*th June*, 1907.

SIR,

I am directed by the Congested Districts Board to acknowledge the receipt of Sir James Dougherty's letter of the 23rd ultimo, enclosing copy of Treasury letter of the 17th idem on the subject of the Board's Estimate for 1907-8.

The Board desire to refer briefly to the preceding correspondence in order to make the present situation more clear and definite. The Secretary to the Treasury in his letter of 8th August, 1905, criticising the Board's Estimate of Receipts and Expenditure for 1905-6 suggested to the Lord Lieutenant that the Board should be restricted from entering into agreements for the purchase of any more estates until it should appear that the purchase money could be provided within a reasonable time from the date of the agreement in each case, and until the estates already bought, or agreed to be bought, had been so far disposed of as to make it clear that the Board might safely embark on fresh transactions.

In considering these instructions from the Treasury, the Board in its letter of the 9th October, 1905, discussed the extent of its Land Purchase operations both before the Act of 1903 and afterwards, up to the date of the letter, and indicated the sources from which the money necessary for the improvement of the estates before resale would be available. The gist of the Board's explanation was that (1) the re-sale of the estates purchased before the Act of 1903 came into force would be completed by the 31st March, 1906, and would leave the Board in possession of £64,382, which would then be available for dealing with the estates bought under the Act of 1903; (2) with this sum of £64,382 in addition to the Board's normal income it was estimated that the Board would be able to carry out the necessary improvement works on these estates for the ensuing two years on the estates bought under the Act of 1903 (representing in value about £1,200,000), and with further purchases to the extent of £300,000 in each of the years 1906-7 and 1907-8.

The preceding estimate of receipts for the year 1906-7 has not been realised owing to delays in clearing the sales through the Land Commission, and difficulties incident to the sale of the estates, and it may be stated broadly that the £64,382 has not been realised, but it falls for realisation in the current year, as shown in the Budget Estimates already submitted to the Treasury.

For the last year, therefore, the Board's operations in preparing for sale the estates purchased since 1903 have been greatly restricted. It was estimated that estates to the value of about £600,000 would be prepared for re-sale in the current year, but it is improbable that this estimate will be worked up to owing to the Board's ordinary income, supplemented by the recoveries on re-sale, as explained above, being inadequate to its wants.

In view of this curtailment of their available means for dealing with property after purchase, the Board have restricted their purchases in the last year to £108,861, instead of £300,000, and in the current year they have arranged terms for the purchase of only £78,000 worth of estates, which were, in the opinion of the Board, of a desirable character to acquire.

The Board fully appreciate the necessity of restricting its purchases if its income is to remain at its present figure, but this hypothesis, in the Board's opinion, ought not to be insisted upon. I am to forward *herewith copy of a resolution which the Board recorded at their meeting yesterday*, and to invite for it the earliest attention. It is not too much to say that on the answer which the Government will give to the Board's application for extended powers of purchase and for an increased income will depend its usefulness as a body in future.

In conclusion, I am to refer to the remark in the Treasury letter that the inclusion of the sum of £675,000 in the estimate for the Land Commission in December last as the amount of advances which the Board might require during the current year indicated a change of policy on their part and an intention to purchase land far beyond the limit of £300,000 suggested for this year in their letter of 9th October, 1905. I am to explain that of the sum of £675,000 a sum of £130,000 was for advances to tenants on re-sale of estates purchased before the Act of 1903, while £363,000 was for the payment for estates which had been already bought, and which were included in the £1,200,000 worth of property in hand. Only £182,000 were for new purchases, which was obviously well within the £300,000 limit previously referred to.

I am further to observe that the £50,000 referred to in the same paragraph of Their Lordships' letter of 17th May must be taken as an addition to the £184,764 mentioned in the Board's previous letter of 15th October, the resulting aggregate of £234,764 being the limit to which the Board desired to work up to in that year. As pointed out above, the Board in point of fact only purchased estates worth £108,861 last year and £78,000 this year. It will therefore be evident that the limits proposed under the circumstances then existing, whether by the Board or by the Treasury, have not been exceeded.

Finally, in reference to the Treasury demand for a forecast of the position in 1908-9, I am instructed to say that the Board find it impossible to make any forecast at this time of what their precise financial position will be in the ensuing year. This much, however, may be said, that if the £64,382 recoverable on the re-sale of estates purchased before 1903 are brought to account this year, and expended as in the estimate, the amount which the Board can lose on the improvement of estates before re-sale will apparently not exceed £11,000, and that its funds must therefore be altogether inadequate for effective work next year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

F. W. D. MITCHELL.

The Under Secretary,

Dublin Castle.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD FOR IRELAND.

Resolution passed by the Congested Districts Board on 14th June, 1907:—

At the meeting held to-day the Board had under consideration the correspondence which passed between the Treasury, the Irish Government, and the Board since August, 1905. Without entering into details, the Board find the effect of this correspondence to be a limitation to some £11,000 per annum of their income available for the improvement of uneconomic holdings and for the migration of tenants, and consequently a practical suspension of their purchase operations. This limitation and the consequent suspension may have been desirable last year when conditions in the Congested Districts were different from what they are at present. But the circumstances of the country are now such that the maintenance of this suspension of the Board's activities will, beyond doubt, have a most injurious effect not only upon the operations and influence of the Board, but upon the peace of the scheduled districts. The Board are clearly of the opinion that the circumstances of the time call, not for a restriction, but for a large ex-

APPENDIX V.

tension of purchase operations in Connaught, especially in regard to grass lands. The Board may hold grass land up to the value of a million sterling for five years, paying interest only on the purchase money, and they have no doubt that they can easily recover such interest and more from the grazing even if they considered it desirable not to distribute the land earlier. They consider that they should be enabled forthwith to enter into negotiations with landlords of grass lands who are willing to sell, at all events to the extent of £500,000 within the current year. They also consider that their operations in regard to the purchase of ordinary tenanted and congested estates should proceed up to at least the average of purchases for the previous three years. There are many congested estates which they should acquire *pari passu* with the acquisition of the grass land. While the Board consider that their liberty to purchase should thus be restored to them, they are also clearly of the opinion that the funds available for the improvement of estates should be correspondingly increased—in other words, that the £11,000, now available for this purpose, should be increased to not less than £50,000. It is to be remembered that this work of land purchase, migration, and improvement must be done at one time or another, or by one department or another, and that it is in truth an economical procedure and one urgently called for by the actual condition of the country to do the work expeditiously rather than prolong it over a series of years. In conclusion, the Board cannot too earnestly press upon the attention of Government the serious state of portions of the scheduled districts subject to their jurisdiction, and the urgent necessity which exists for the immediate application of the remedial measures indicated above.

Letter No. 11.

23, RUTLAND SQUARE, DUBLIN,

20th July, 1907.

SIR,

With reference to the letter of the Congested Districts Board dated 15th ultimo, forwarding for the consideration of His Excellency a resolution on the subject of the purchase of land for the relief of congestion and on the state of their funds, I am directed to transmit herewith a copy of a further resolution passed at a meeting of the Board on the 19th inst., and to request that His Excellency may be pleased to recommend the matters referred to in these resolutions to the favourable consideration of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

F. W. D. MITCHELL.

The Under Secretary,
Dublin Castle.

Resolution passed by the Congested Districts Board on 19th July, 1907:—

Read again the resolution recorded by the Board at their meeting on the 14th June. Although no answer to the points submitted by the Board in that resolution has yet been received from the Treasury the Board are informed by the Under Secretary, who presided at to-day's meeting, that the Treasury are willing that they should proceed with the purchase of those grass lands which are most suitably situated for their purpose, and which, having regard to the conditions prevailing in the West, it is most desirable to acquire at the earliest date.

The Board desire to impress upon the Irish Government the great necessity which exists of altogether removing the embargo upon the operation of their general powers of purchase, and while appreciating the relaxation of previous restrictions in regard to the purchase of grass lands they desire to bring under special notice the fact that in regard to property valued at £415,450, negotiations had been begun and had proceeded to a considerable length before this restriction had been imposed. While admitting the great desirability of buying those grass lands at once, the Board think it clear that owners of estates with whom negotiations have been entered into will find a legitimate ground for complaint if the purchase of their estates is postponed while other properties are purchased. Such action would tend to have an unsettling effect upon the general purchase operations of the Board.

The Board also desire to point out that lands which ought to be sold to them are passing to tenant purchasers in an unimproved condition, whereby the security of repayment of Government loans is seriously imperilled and congestion is stereotyped.

In conclusion, the Board again desire to express their satisfaction at the statement as regards the purchase of grass lands made to them by the Under Secretary, and they trust that the necessity upon which they dwelt in their resolution referred to above for an adequate increase in their funds will now receive equally sympathetic treatment from the Treasury.

Letter No. 12.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD FOR IRELAND,

23, RUTLAND SQUARE, DUBLIN,

12*th August*, 1907.

Purchase of Estates.

SIR,

I am directed by the Congested Districts Board to again call the attention of Government to their resolution of 20th ultimo, which pointed out that the Board had entered into negotiations for the purchase of estates estimated to cost £415,450.

While the Board have gladly acknowledged the authority given them to proceed with the purchase of grass lands necessary for the relief of congestion, and are taking steps to effect such purchases, they feel they would be wanting in their duty if they did not very earnestly press on the Government the necessity of also completing the purchase of those estates, in reference to which negotiations have been suspended. It must be remembered that the Board can only utilise the grass lands for enlarging uneconomic holdings, and that this presupposes the purchase of such holdings on a large scale. It is true that the Board have on their hands congested estates, but they desire to purchase more.

The Board therefore trust that His Excellency may be pleased to represent to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury the very great importance of allowing them liberty to proceed with the purchase of those tenanted estates in the congested districts, at all events, those estates in respect of which negotiations had been begun before the orders suspending the Board's purchase operations had been issued. The estimated purchase price of those estates is about £400,000. It is probable that only a small portion of this sum would require to be issued during the current financial year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

F. W. D. MITCHELL.

The Under Secretary,

Dublin Castle.

Letter No. 13.

CHIEF SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

DUBLIN CASTLE,

2*nd September*, 1907.

SIR,

With reference to your letters of the 17th June, 20th July, and 12th instant, dealing with questions of land purchase, I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to transmit, for submission to the Congested Districts Board, copy of a letter from the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury authorising the Board to open negotiations with the owners of grazing lands which they desire to acquire for the purpose of enlarging uneconomic holdings.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. B. DOUGHERTY.

The Secretary,

Congested Districts Board.

APPENDIX V

Enclosure in Letter 13.

TREASURY CHAMBERS,
29th August, 1907.

SIR,

With reference to your letters of the 17th June, 20th ultimo, and 20th instant (13229, 16101, 17924), I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury to request you to inform His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant that they authorise the opening of negotiations by the Congested Districts Board with the owners of the grazing lands which it is desired to acquire for the purpose of enlarging uneconomic holdings. My Lords presume that the Board will proceed with the utmost caution in these negotiations, and will not go beyond the absolute necessities of the moment.

When the negotiations have made sufficient progress My Lords would be glad to receive a report on the subject before any purchases are finally decided on, and to be informed of the approximate amount involved in the transactions, both for purchase and for loss on re-sale.

As regards the general question of an increase in the income of the Congested Districts Board for the purpose of improving estates, My Lords are not prepared to arrive at a decision until They have before Them the Report of the Commission which is now enquiring into the operations of the Board.

I am, &c.,

G. H. MURRAY.

The Under Secretary,
Dublin Castle.

Letter No. 14.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD FOR IRELAND,
23, RUTLAND SQUARE, DUBLIN,
16th September, 1907.

SIR,

I am directed by the Congested Districts Board to state that at their meeting to-day they considered Sir James Dougherty's letter of the 2nd instant, enclosing copy of a letter dated 29th ultimo from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury in reply to the Board's application of the 12th August for authority to proceed with the purchase of estates, containing both tenanted and untenanted land for which negotiations have been commenced.

I am to express the Board's great regret that the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury have ignored the strong remonstrance made by the Board against the total suspension of their purchases of the tenanted estates referred to in their letter of the 12th ultimo, for which negotiations had been entered into, and the owners of which are pressing for definite replies to their offers to sell.

In some cases the tenants are aware that their landlords have offered their estates to the Board, and there is good reason to believe that the rents will be withheld if no steps are taken to purchase. I am to enclose a copy of a Report furnished to the Board by their Chief Land Inspector, Mr. Henry Doran, calling attention to the urgent necessity of proceeding with the negotiations in some of these cases.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

F. W. D. MITCHELL.

The Under Secretary,
Dublin Castle.

Enclosure in Letter No. 14.

Re Provision of Purchase Money of Estates.

SECRETARY,

The Treasury letter, of which you sent me a copy, appears to convey that the Board cannot make any purchases, except of estates comprising untenanted lands.

If this be so, and that the Board must now abandon the negotiations opened for the purchase of such very desirable estates as the Lynch-Blosse, E. Thomas O'Donel, O'Conor's of Cloonmore, M'Dermott, and others on the list submitted to the Treasury, I feel it necessary to inform the Board that in my opinion if they withdraw from negotiations for

the purchase of these estates it is certain there will be a refusal by the tenants, except perhaps in the case of the Lynch-Blosse, to pay rents at the approaching collection in November, and there will probably be serious disorder in the districts in which they are situate.

The owners have offered to sell these estates, and the tenants are very anxious to buy. There is a considerable area of grass lands on each of these estates which can be acquired for the enlargement of holdings.

There has been a police hut on one of the grass farms on the Cloonmore (O'Conor's) estate for several years past, and the agent has several decrees against the tenants for rent unpaid.

The Board are tenants of four grass farms on the E. T. O'Donel estate, which they acquired the occupation interest of from three to seven years ago in anticipation of acquiring the fee-simple, and on several occasions in reply to Parliamentary questions it has been stated that the Board intended to offer for the estate, and had taken the necessary preliminary steps in the Land Judge's Court to lodge their offer when the estate was ready for sale.

After waiting for several years the estate was not offered to them until a couple of months ago, and it will be a very objectionable proceeding if they are now compelled to withdraw from negotiations.

I may also point out that except in Land Judge's cases, such as O'Donel and M'Dermott estates, no money would be required either for purchase or improvement expenditure for at least six months after terms of purchase have been agreed upon, as the legal proceedure, preliminary to vesting of estates, usually takes six to twelve months.

H. DORAN.

12/9/07.

Letter No. 15.

DUBLIN CASTLE,
30*th October*, 1907.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 16th ultimo in continuation of previous correspondence on the subject of the purchase of estates by the Congested Districts Board, I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to state, for the Board's information, that a further letter has now been received from the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, in which Their Lordships explain that They considered it probable that the Estimates for 1907-8 would require some modification in the light of further knowledge as to the rate of progress in the improvement and re-sale of land which would be gained during the year.

Their Lordships also point out that since the Estimates were submitted your Board have been given authority to turn their attention to negotiations for the purchase of grazing lands (Treasury letter of 29th August last, communicated to the Board by letter from this office of 2nd September); and Their Lordships think it desirable, before considering the Estimates further, to await the report asked for in the second paragraph of that letter, in order that the financial position may be more clearly defined.

Their Lordships further point out that the Board's statutory income has been fixed by Parliament at a total of £86,250 under the Acts 54 and 55 Vict., cap. 48, sect. 35, 62 and 63 Vict., cap. 18, sect. 5, and 3 Edw. VII., cap. 37, sect. 38, and they conceive that they have no power, without further legislation, to increase that income. They feel, therefore, bound, in considering the annual Estimates submitted by the Board, to see that the proposed expenditure does not exceed the income available.

Their Lordships, therefore, remain of opinion that the Board's purchases should continue to be regulated by the extent of the resources at their disposal; but, provided that this limitation is kept in view, they see no reason why negotiations for the purchase of further properties should not be carried on, subject to the understanding that purchases could only be completed as the necessary funds for improvement, &c., become available.

Their Lordships also express the opinion that, in view of the present difficult conditions under which money is raised for the Irish Land Purchase Fund, involving such serious demands upon the Guarantee Fund, and ultimately on the Irish ratepayers, no steps should be taken which would have the effect of accelerating advances beyond the rate which is absolutely unavoidable.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. B. DOUGHERTY.

The Secretary,
Congested Districts Board.

APPENDIX V.

Letter No. 16.

Memorandum sent by direction of the Congested Districts Board to the Chief Secretary.

Board's Funds, 1907-8.

At the meeting of the Congested Districts Board on the 8th November—the Chief Secretary being in the chair—the necessity of revising the year's Estimates and of providing further funds was under consideration. The Secretary was directed to prepare a Revised Estimate for the Treasury in readiness for the next meeting, fixed for the 13th December.

The financial statement submitted showed that the receipts from the re-sale of estates had since 1st April last amounted to only £34,000 out of a total of £158,000 in the year's Estimates, which included (*a*) £35,000, the "enhanced value" on sales amounting to £658,498 of estates purchased under the Land Act of 1903, and (*b*) £123,000 receivable in cash for the balance of estates purchased before the passing of that Act.

It has not, however, been found possible, up to the present date, to make final arrangements for the sale of more than £200,000 worth of holdings in class (*a*), and, although almost all the estates in class (*b*) are ready for sale, £48,000 of agreements remain to be signed by the tenants.

The result is that it seems very probable that the £35,000 will not be obtained in cash until after 31st March next, and that a considerable portion, perhaps three-fourths of the £48,000, may be in the same position, as it cannot be at present ascertained when these agreements will be fiated. There may be a maximum deficiency of £71,000.

The Estimate for 1907-8 provides for the repayment of £50,000 principal to the Board of Works, including £46,000 borrowed under the former Treasury Regulations, under which the Board were not compelled to repay when an estate was completely sold, the entire sum borrowed for that estate. If this amount, £46,000, be retained until after 31st March next the probable cash deficiency on the current year will be £25,000, and unless the Board are enabled to borrow about £25,000 they will have to suspend operations on their estates.

The stoppage of the improvement works in the middle of the winter months, when all the people are at home, and in a bad season, would be disastrous both to the Board's usefulness and to the peace of the many districts, in all the congested counties, which would be affected.

The Board think it right to mention the fact that two years have elapsed since they drew attention to the necessity of more funds to enable them to make better progress with migration and the enlargement of holdings, and in each of the past two years the works on their estates have been partially suspended for want of funds—the Board having under the Treasury Rules to provide one-third of the expenditure on improvements out of their own funds, and as the amount of land in hands has increased in spite of the reduced amount purchased in each year, the lack of funds has been severely felt.

In the Board's letter of 15th April last, addressed to the Under Secretary, forwarding their Estimates for the present year, they stated as follows:—

"The Board intend to proceed as far as possible with the preparation of the estates for sale, but they cannot *even on the favourable view* of the probable re-sales which has been taken in the Estimate, and after borrowing the full amount that the regulations permit, provide for more than 70 per cent. of the required expenditure on improvements they desire to carry out in the year, and at its close their liabilities in respect of estates will exceed the assets by about £32,000."

F. W. D. MITCHELL,
Secretary,

23 Rutland Square, Dublin.
28*th November*, 1907.

Letter No. 17.

DUBLIN CASTLE,
16*th December*, 1907.

SIR,

With reference to the discussion at the meeting of the Congested Districts Board on the 8th ultimo relative to their funds, I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to transmit, for the information of the Board, copy of a letter from the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury on the subject.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
J. B. DOUGHERTY.

The Secretary,
Congested Districts Board,
Dublin.

Enclosure in Letter No. 17.

TREASURY CHAMBERS,
13th December, 1907.

SIR,

I have laid before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury Sir J. Dougherty's letter of the 4th instant (No. 26871), in which His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant recommends an application from the Congested Districts Board for a loan of £25,000 in order to meet the cost of improvement works, which will not be covered by other receipts of the Board.

It is explained that, in addition to the sum of £47,000 proposed to be borrowed from the Board of Works in respect of improvements, the estimated receipts of the Board contained items of—

(*b*) Resale of estates under Land Act, 1896. Amount of advances paid to Board by Land Commission under Treasury Rule 26 (1), including refund of Sinking Fund, £123,000.

(*a*) Resale of estates under Land Act, 1903. Payments by Land Commission under Section 72 (3) and Treasury Rule 28, £35,000. Total £158,000, which would have been applicable to works of improvement but that the amount expected to be realised in respect of these items within the financial year is—

(*a*) Nil.

(*b*) £87,000, leaving an estimated total deficit of £71,000. The failure to realise this sum is apparently due to delay in concluding the arrangements with tenant purchasers, and appears to have no connection with the alleged insufficiency of the Board's income, to which the Memorandum of the Board alludes.

My Lords do not know as regards item (*a*) why, if final arrangements have been made for the sale of £200,000 worth of estates, or nearly a third of the £658,498, purchases under the Act of 1903, no part of the £35,000 should be received during the year.

As regards the proposal of the Board to borrow £25,000, I am to say that My Lords are not aware of any source from which such a loan could be made, as They do not regard the power to borrow from the Local Loans Fund under section 40 (6) of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891, as applicable to the circumstances, the application of the Board being practically one to overspend its income during the year by the amount of the suggested loan.

In Their Lordships' opinion the only remedy is for the Board to confine its expenditure within its available income. If this is not done, and if the Comptroller and Auditor-General should report to this effect on the accounts of the Board, the responsibility of defending before the Public Accounts Committee the action taken will rest exclusively upon the Irish Government and the Board.

I am, etc.,
G. H. MURRAY.

The Under Secretary,
Dublin Castle.

Letter No. 18.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD FOR IRELAND,
23, RUTLAND SQUARE, DUBLIN,
31st December, 1907.

SIR,

I am directed by the Congested Districts Board to state that they had under consideration to-day the Treasury letter, dated 13th instant, relative to their funds, forwarded with your letter of 16th instant. While the Board agree that it is very unfortunate that their anticipations in regard to the re-sale of their estates have not been realised, they desire to point out that the conclusion of arrangements with tenant-purchasers is only postponed, and that the money they expected to have realised on re-sales will come in during the next year. In the meantime the only way in which the Board could comply with the advice given in the Treasury letter to confine its expenditure within its available income would be by stopping immediately all improvement works on their estates. I am to point out, however, that if the improvement works were stopped the preparation of estates for re-sale would be delayed a year, as little work could be done during the summer. This delay would affect all the estates now in hands, and would disarrange the Board's finances for the ensuing and possibly later years. It would also directly conduce to unrest on the estates, as tenants would resent being retained in the position of tenants for the time the outlay would entail.

Under these circumstances I am directed to again request that the urgent necessity of the issue of a loan of £25,000 from some source may be represented to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury; otherwise the improvement works must be closed on the 15th January.

I have the honour, &c.,
F. W. D. MITCHELL.

The Under Secretary,
Dublin Castle.

APPENDIX V.

Letter No. 19.

TREASURY CHAMBERS,

WHITEHALL, S.W.,

4th January, 1908.

DEAR SIR ANTONY,

I have been considering the question which you mentioned when you were here a few days before Christmas—namely, whether there is any way of helping the Congested Districts Board out of the financial difficulties into which they have got through following the course which (I must say) we have always protested against—namely, trying to do too much at once, and consequently not being able to pay their way.

I have also got your official letter of 2nd instant submitting the question of a loan for reconsideration. I am afraid, however, that it does not contain anything which will help us to do what is asked.

We are bound by the Act of 1891 (which makes the Board's Estimates subject to our control) to see that their transactions are kept within their resources, and we have therefore been obliged to withhold approval of the Estimates for 1907-8 until it is shown how they can be balanced. No attempt has been made to do this, and I think I ought to say at once that if we are to help the Board, the Board must conform to the directions of the Act of 1891, submit their Estimates to us in such form as we can approve, and confine their proceedings within such approved Estimates.

The first thing therefore that we shall have to ask for is a *revised* Estimate of the Income and Expenditure of the Board for 1907-8, accompanied by a statement showing (*a*) the price of Estates already bought this year, (*b*) the probable purchases in the course of the year, and (*c*) the position as regards estimated amount of improvement money which will remain to be spent in 1908-9 and future years on estates still in hand on 31st March, 1907, and how it is proposed to provide for it.

In the next place we should like a clear declaration from the Irish Government that, if we came to the aid of the Board, you will insist with them that, unless and until their income is increased, they shall enter into no new transactions until they have balanced their income and expenditure, and shown that they will again have income available for the purpose of taking in hand other estates, so that the present position shall not recur.

In this connection let me remind you of two things. The Board told us on 15th October, 1906, that they had decided that they would not, until the result of the Royal Commission on Congestion has been announced, purchase further lands, except such as may be specially suitable for their purposes, and they estimated that £50,000 will cover such special cases. Have the Board adhered to this pledge?

Again I may refer to the Board's letter of *9th October*, 1905, in which they told us they anticipated that all the estates bought before the passing of the Act of 1903 would be sold before the end of 1905-6, or early in the following year, and that the Board were then ready to prepare for sale the properties bought under the new Act. Yet the Board's memorandum of *28th November*, 1907, said that there was still £35,000 for enhanced value and £123,000 receivable in cash for the balance of estates purchased before the passing of the Act of 1903. I cannot understand this discrepancy between the two statements. I mention it because it will give you some idea of the difficulties we feel in dealing with proposals from the Board.

I come now to the possible method (if any) in which the Treasury can assist you. We have, as we stated in our reply to you, and as I told you when you were here, no fund from which we could make a loan; nor have the Land Commission any power to advance you money before it can be paid under the Rules under the Act of 1903. The only possibility therefore is by a loan from the Board of Works under the system which allows the Congested Districts Board to borrow for improvements. And here I may refer to the Treasury letter of 28th February, 1906, in which we made you an offer in those terms:—

"My Lords have a further suggestion to make which they hope will convince His Excellency that, so far from wishing to interpose unnecessary difficulties in the exercise by the Congested Districts Board of its legitimate functions, they are anxious to help them to the utmost extent compatible with the principle above contended for. At present it is the rule that one-third of the money spent upon improvements must be found out of the Congested Districts Board's own income, and only two-thirds borrowed from the Board of Works. If His Excellency and the Congested Districts Board would agree that, along with the Board's Estimates for any year, there should be submitted to the Treasury an estimate of the maximum amount to be asked for (subject to its being possible to allocate that amount out of the Irish Land Purchase Fund) for the purchase by the Board of estates or untenanted land in the year, and that this estimate, like the Board's Estimates of income and expenditure, when once approved by the Treasury, should not be exceeded without the sanction of My Lords, they would be prepared to withdraw the condition as to the expenditure of one-third of the improvement money out of the Board's own funds, and to allow the whole of the recoverable expenditure on such improvement work, as those for which the Board of Works could lend to other borrowers under the Land Improvement Acts, to be borrowed from that Board. It is clear that this arrangement would set free considerable sums otherwise chargeable on the Congested Districts Board's own funds, which could then be applied to the other purposes of purchasing tenants' interests, tenant purchasers' farms, etc., and of meeting losses."

This offer was in our judgment a reasonable one, and the conditions were obviously the only conditions that could secure the effective carrying out of the financial provisions in the Act of 1891. No notice appears to have been taken of this offer. But it is still open if the Irish Government will give us such an undertaking as we asked for in the passage I have quoted; and it seems to me to indicate the only means by which we could assist you out of your present difficulties.

But there are further conditions which I think would be desirable both in the interests of the Board and the Treasury. It seems to us that all the difficulties of the Board are due to trying to do too much at once, *i.e.*, spreading improvements over too many estates at the same time, and so keeping them *all* an unreasonable time in hand. I think therefore that it should be a condition that any money which can now be made available should be spent on a *few* estates only, with a view to getting them resold quickly, and that the loan should be repaid in 1908-9 out of the proceeds of sale.

I shall be glad to know whether you can see your way to meet us in the manner which I have indicated. In that case the Treasury would, I think, be prepared to enlarge your borrowing powers from the Board of Works, so as to relieve your present difficulties.

Very truly yours,

G. H. MURRAY.

Letter No. 20.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD,
23, RUTLAND SQUARE, DUBLIN,
13*th January*, 1908.

SIR,

I am directed by the Congested Districts Board to state that at their meeting on the 10th instant they had before them a semi-official letter addressed by Sir George Murray to Sir Antony MacDonnell on the subject of the Board's application for a special loan of £25,000, and in reply I am to state as follows:—

I. A Revised Estimate for the current year was prepared last month, but was withheld pending the decision of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury as to the loan above mentioned. This Estimate is now enclosed.

II. (*a*) The price of estates already agreed to be bought this year is £98,485. The Board, in deference to the views expressed by Their Lordships, have decided to purchase no more tenanted estates this year, but they have to report that acting with the special sanction of the Treasury, they have made offers for £94,700 to owners of grass lands in County Roscommon, and they now request authority to negotiate for further grass lands to the extent of £100,000.

(*b*) Including these three items, the probable purchases which may be made in the current year would amount to £293,185. In connection with the total prices of tenanted estates agreed upon in the past and the present financial years, the Board desire to explain that in their letter of the 15th October, 1906, in reference to the Estimates for 1906-7, they proposed to purchase £234,764 worth of estates, including the £50,000 mentioned in Sir George Murray's letter. The amount actually agreed upon in that year was £108,219, and adding £98,485 for purchases already concluded in 1907-8, the total is £206,704, against £234,764, mentioned on 15th October, 1906. The Board have therefore adhered to the pledge given in that letter. The arrangements for purchase of grass lands were subsequently sanctioned.

It was contemplated by the 74th Section of Land Act of 1903 that the Board might have in their hands at one time a maximum of £1,237,500 worth of untenanted land, but at present, after the Act has been in operation four years, they have only £326,700 worth of untenanted land vested in them and unsold.

(*c*) The amount of improvement money which will remain to be spent in 1908-9 and future years on estates in hand on 31st March, 1908, including the purchase of tenants' interests, will be about £120,000. Deducting £37,000 recoverable on the resale of the remaining holdings on the 1896 Act group of estates, there will remain £83,000 which can be provided out of the Board's existing funds by spreading the expenditure over four, or, at the outside, five years, and exercising economy in other schemes.

III. The expectation expressed by the Board in their letter of 9th October, 1905, that the older estates would be completely sold in 1905-6 or early in the following year has not been realised owing to various unforeseen circumstances, viz.:

(1) Several estates have been retained until untenanted land could be purchased for enlarging the holdings (Vesey Stoney, Dillon, Darcy, Lucan, etc.).

(2) Holdings in towns were retained while there was a possibility of the position of sub-tenants being improved by the Town Tenants Act.

(3) Local opposition to migrants has prevented the sale of several farms.

(4) Some tenants objected to the Board's terms, and refused to buy.

(5) Difficulty in clearing title from intervening interests.

The balance receivable from these old estates was then estimated at £123,000. The further sum of £35,000 mentioned in Sir George Murray's letter was for estates bought under the Act of 1903.

APPENDIX V.

IV. The offer made by the Treasury in their letter of 28th February, 1906, that if the Board would agree to limit their purchases to a definite figure each year the Treasury "would allow them to borrow the whole cost of recoverable improvement works," was not accepted by the Board, as it would not have been of any advantage to them, inasmuch as they already had power to borrow up to the amount of the recoverable expenditure, that is, the "enhanced value," which, as a general rule, represents only one-third of the expenditure on improvements.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

F. W. D. MITCHELL.

The Under Secretary,
Dublin Castle.

Letter No. 21.

DUBLIN CASTLE,

Immediate. *7th February,* 1908.

SIR,

With reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the application of the Congested Districts Board for a special loan of £25,000, I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to transmit, to be laid before the Board, a copy of a further letter from the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury on the subject, and I am to suggest that the letter is one calling for the earliest attention possible.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

F. J. CULLINAN.

The Secretary,
Congested Districts Board.

Enclosure in Letter No. 21.

TREASURY CHAMBERS,

6*th February,* 1908.

SIR,

With reference to your further letter (789) of 14th ultimo and its enclosures on the subject of the request of the Congested Districts Board for a temporary loan of £25,000, I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury to request you to inform His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant that the only method which they consider open to them of assisting the Board would be by an advance from the Civil Contingencies Fund to be repaid within a short time.

But before the advance of the sum of £25,000, if so much were available, or any less sum can be sanctioned, it is necessary that My Lords should have further information and further assurances on certain points. My Lords must in the first place ask for (1) a statement showing the actual income and expenditure of the Board from 1st April, 1907, to the most recent date to which the accounts can be made up, say, if possible, the 1st instant; (2) an estimate of the further sums (*a*) to be received, (*b*) required for expenditure under all the heads in the Estimates up to 31st March, 1908; (3) an undertaking by the Congested Districts Board that the £25,000 or any less sum advanced will be repaid within the first three months of the financial year 1908-9 with a statement showing out of what specific sums to be received from the Land Commission or otherwise before 30th June, 1908, the advance will be repaid, or what arrangement will be made to earmark so much of the said specific receipts as may be required, so that repayment within the time mentioned will actually be secured.

In addition to the above requirements it will be necessary that My Lords should be satisfied that the present temporary emergency which it is proposed to meet by the suggested advance will not recur, but that the Board will be able to balance their income and expenditure for 1908-9 without asking for further assistance of the kind. My Lords must therefore ask for a forecast of the income and expenditure of the Board for 1908-9 showing that this will be the case, and for an undertaking by the Board that they will keep within the figures to be submitted.

As regards the Revised Estimates, 1907-8, enclosed in your letter, My Lords observe a reduction in expenditure as compared with the original Estimates of £14,000 on account of the purchase of tenants' interests (which is, however, only postponed), but beyond this, notwithstanding the immediate pressure and difficulty as to finding funds for expenditure on improvements, they do not find evidence of any endeavour to curtail expenditure in other directions to any material extent, except indeed by postponing the repayment of large sums due to the Board of Works. On the other hand, Their Lordships observe that the Congested Districts Board have found it possible to insert such items as £2,930 for "the purchase of two Motor Cars, &c.," and £2,500 for a Steam Drifter.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

G. H. MURRAY.

Letter No. 22.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD,

23, RUTLAND SQUARE, DUBLIN,

18*th February*, 1908.

SIR,

With reference to Sir Frederic Cullinan's letter of 7th instant, enclosing copy of a letter from The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, dated 6th February, I am directed by the Congested Districts Board to state that the reason why the Board are under the necessity of applying to the Treasury for this advance of £25,000 is the disappointment of their expectation of receiving from the Land Commission £123,000, payable in respect of agreements concerning the estates purchased before the Act of 1903. Agreements covering only £76,000 out of the £123,000 have as yet been deposited with the Land Commission, and the Board expect to receive the whole of the £76,000 before the 31st March. There remains over a balance of £47,000, in respect of which the Board confidently hope that agreements covering £30,000 will be lodged before the 1st June next, and the payment of this £30,000 to the Board will then only depend on the vesting proceedings of the Land Commission. This sum of £30,000 can be earmarked to pay off the advance of £25,000 which the Board ask for from the Treasury. The Board, however, trust that the Treasury will permit this advance to be paid off by instalments, as in the case of other loans. Otherwise their difficulties in the way of preparing a budget for next year, already very great, will be magnified.

The returns called for by Their Lordships are enclosed herewith. They show that the sum provided for the improvement of estates for the year 1908-9 can be no more from the Board's existing means than £25,000, a sum of which is only procured by making no provision for the Parish Committee Works (which the Board regard as a disaster), and by reducing Fisheries, Industries, and Engineering Works to their lowest possible figure. As the income during the first six months will be absorbed by fixed charges, the works for the Improvement of Estates must be suspended from the 1st April next until further funds are obtained.

At least £85,000 will be required if the improvement of the estates now in hand is to be continued, and the Board is to fulfil the functions it was created to discharge. The Estimate shows that to provide this sum an additional grant of at least £60,000 must be placed on the Votes for next year.

With regard to the payments to the Board of Works referred to in the Treasury letter, I am to state that the Congested Districts Board have paid to the Commissioners of Public Works all that has become due under the deeds by which money has been borrowed.

I am to add that the two motors mentioned cost together £800, not £2,900, and that the purchase was decided upon in June last before the necessity for retrenchment became known.

The Board desire to refer to their letter of the 8th October, 1905, in which they stated that unless their income were increased their estates operations must be reduced to a merely nominal figure.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

F. W. D. MITCHELL.

The Under Secretary,

Dublin Castle.

APPENDIX V.

Letter No. 23.

TREASURY CHAMBERS,

5th March, 1908.

SIR,

I have laid before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury Sir J. Dougherty's letter of the 19th ultimo, further respecting the application of the Congested Districts Board for a temporary loan of £25,000.

My Lords observe that the Board express their readiness to pay off the proposed advance out of a sum of £30,000, which they expect to receive early in next financial year in respect of the resale of Estates purchased prior to the Irish Land Act, 1903; but they ask that, in order to provide for Improvement Expenditure in 1908–9, estimated at £85,000, an additional grant of "at least £60,000" be placed on Votes of Parliament for next year.

In reply I am to state that my Lords cannot now consider the provision of any additional funds in excess of their statutory income for 1908–9 being placed at the disposal of the Board, having regard to the fact that the Royal Commission on Congestion in Ireland has not yet reported; and I am to request you to remind His Excellency that an intimation to this effect was conveyed to the Irish Government in their Lordships' letter of the 28th February, 1906, and repeated in their letter of the 19th June, 1906. It cannot therefore be suggested that the Congested Districts Board were not made aware of their position in this respect.

The Board have also been repeatedly warned that their expenditure must be restricted within the limit assigned to them by Parliament, and very serious responsibility will rest upon them if this elementary obligation is neglected.

I am further to point out that the estimates of the Board's expenditure for the current year have not yet been approved by my Lords, and that by section 40 (6) of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891, the Board are precluded from spending any money except after such approval. In these circumstances it is clear that the whole of the Board's expenditure during the current year (which has already involved them in a deficit) has been incurred without proper authority. My Lords think that, as the Comptroller and Auditor-General will undoubtedly draw the attention of the House of Commons to this state of things, the Irish Government should ascertain forthwith on whom the responsibility rests for the irregularities which have been committed.

As regards the remainder of the current year, I am to state that, before my Lords can sanction any further advances to meet current expenditure, they must ask for a definite statement of the commitments and liabilities of the Board to the 31st instant, showing what expenditure is optional and what is absolutely necessary, with full details as to the precise purposes for which it is being incurred. They observe that, although the Board have asked for a temporary advance of £25,000, the accounts transmitted with your letter of the 19th ultimo show a balance, after allowing for the advance, of about £11,600 carried forward to 1908–9.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

G. H. MURRAY.

The Under Secretary,
Dublin Castle.

Letter No. 24.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD,

23 RUTLAND SQUARE, DUBLIN,

13th March, 1908.

SIR,

I am directed by the Congested Districts Board to state that the letter of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury dated 5th instant, forwarded to them by the Under Secretary, was read at their meeting to-day.

The Board regret that their Lordships decline to consider the provision of any additional funds for the coming financial year and in this connection they desire to refer to Mr. George Wyndham's Memorandum dated 4th July, 1902, printed at page 336 of the Appendix of the First Report of the Royal Commission on Congestion, from which it will be seen that the Treasury then agreed to an increase of the Board's income in advance of legislation.

If the Board did not expend on improvement works on their estates their expected balance, including economies recently effected under great pressure, the improvement works should be practically discontinued at the beginning of April. The economies effected are as follows:—

Estate Improvements,	£10,000
Technical Instruction (Lace Classes)	1,000
Industries, Grants,	1,000
Piers and Roads,	1,000

The balance shown in the revised estimate which includes £3,000 carried over for Parish Committee Grants promised last summer, would not be available at the end of this financial year did the Board not calculate upon receiving the full loan of £25,000. That loan will enable them to carry on their improvement works, though on a contracted scale, during the current financial year. At the end of the current financial year a practical suspension of their works will be necessary, and no works can be undertaken after 31st May, as is manifest from the revised estimate for 1908–9 (now submitted) which shows that a sum of only £18,000 can be provided under this head, after effecting economies in all branches of their expenditure except in regard to their establishment. Having considered the question of their establishment they have come to the conclusion that it would be highly inexpedient in the public interest to reduce at this stage an

establishment which has been brought to its present level for the purpose of enabling the Board to fulfil the duties imposed upon them by the Act of 1903.

The Board's purchases of land during the past four years have been :—

In	1904–5	£649,544
,,	1905–6	£346,706
,,	1906–7	£108,861
,,	1907–8	£125,885

The rapid reduction here shown has been due to the want of the increased funds asked for by the Board in 1905, while a great expansion of their operations was clearly contemplated in the Act of 1903, which provided that they might hold at one time as much as £1,237,500 worth of untenanted land.

With regard to the excess of expenditure over receipts in the current year the Board beg to point out that they expressed their readiness early in December last to effect immediate economies if the loan then applied for could not be issued. Two sources from which the Board could obtain such an advance are indicated in the Land Purchase Act of 1891. As the Board were not informed that the loan would not be issued they allowed the expenditure to continue, but cannot admit that in these circumstances they are responsible for the difficulty which has arisen since December last.

The enclosed statement shows that in past years the Board's Estimates have never been approved by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury until after a portion of the year, and in one case a whole year, had elapsed and the expenditure had frequently gone on for several months before the approval of the Estimates was notified to the Board. No objection has been made to this expenditure either by Their Lordships or by the Comptroller and Auditor-General.

No grants to Parish Committees have been provided for in the Estimates for next year, but as about £3,000 promised to these Committees for the current year cannot be paid until after 1st April, 1908, this sum should be carried over in the Board's balance and paid to these Committees early in the coming year, when their accounts are vouched.

The balance of £11,000, referred to by the Treasury, does not exceed the Board's normal requirements at the beginning of a new year, and great difficulty was experienced in carrying on the business last year with a balance of only £4,430.

The statements called for by the Treasury are forwarded herewith.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

F. W. D. MITCHELL

The Under Secretary,
Dublin Castle.

STATEMENT showing Dates on which the Board's Estimates were forwarded, and the Dates on which they were approved by the Treasury.

Year.	Date when Submitted.	Date when Approved.
1892–3,	12th March, 1892,	8th April, 1892.
1893–4,	18th May, 1893,	15th June, 1893.
1894–5,	6th March, 1894, 20th April, 1894,	11th May, 1894.
1895–6,	14th March, 1895,	2nd April, 1895.
1896–7,	26th March, 1896, 28th May, 1896,	23rd April, 1896. 17th June, 1896.
1897–8,	24th March, 1897,	5th May, 1897.
1898–9,	26th March, 1898, 26th May, 1898,	23rd July, 1898.
1899–1900,	16th March, 1899,	8th May, 1899.
1900–1,	3rd March, 1900, 16th March, 1901,	19th April, 1901. (Not approved in the year).
1901–2,	26th March, 1901,	4th May, 1901.
1902–3,	24th April, 1902,	7th June, 1902.
1903–4,	25th March, 1903,	22nd April, 1903.
1904–5,	29th March, 1904,	23rd May, 1904.
1905–6,	16th March, 1905,	8th August, 1905.
1906–7,	30th April, 1906,	24th October, 1906.
1907–8,	15th April, 1907,	(Not yet sanctioned).

In 13 of the years 23 Revised Estimates were furnished at various dates during the year

Letter No. 25.

TREASURY CHAMBERS,
18th March, 1908.

SIR,

I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, to acknowledge the receipt of Sir J. Dougherty's letter (5566), dated 14th instant, but received here late in the afternoon of yesterday, the 17th instant, transmitting, by direction of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, a copy of a letter dated 13th instant, with enclosures from the Congested Districts Board

My Lords think it unnecessary to reply at length to the Board's letter, but there are certain statements in it which they cannot allow to pass without immediate comment.

1. The Board state that they expressed their readiness early in December last, to effect immediate economies, if the loan then applied for could not be granted.

The Board's memorandum, enclosed in Sir J. Dougherty's letter of 4th December, is apparently, here referred to, but My Lords find in it nothing that they could interpret in this way. The terms of the memorandum suggested the very contrary, the paragraphs on the subject running as follows :—

> "The stoppage of the improvement works in the middle of the winter months, when all the people are at home, and in a bad season, would be disastrous, both to the Board's usefulness, and to the peace of the many districts, in all the congested counties, which would be affected."

2. The Board state that, as they were not informed that the loan would not be issued, they allowed the expenditure to continue, but cannot admit that in these circumstances, they are responsible for the difficulty which has arisen since December last.

As a matter of fact, the Treasury letter of 13th December to the Irish Government did state that My Lords could not sanction a loan, and that, in Their Lordships' opinion, the only remedy was for the Board to confine their expenditure within their available income.

3. The Board give a list of dates showing how long a time was spent in correspondence in previous years before their Estimates were approved.

The argument sought to be based thereon is irrelevant, because the Estimates for 1907-8 were the first, so far as My Lords are aware, which showed a large excess of liabilities over assets. This made it necessary for My Lords definitely to refuse sanction to those Estimates until the Board showed how they could balance their accounts. The Treasury letter refusing to sanction the Estimates was dated 17th May, 1907, so that the Board had full warning, and every opportunity of satisfying Their Lordships' requirements had they seen fit.

I am, &c.,

G. H. MURRAY.

THE UNDER SECRETARY,
Dublin Castle.

Letter No. 26.

TREASURY CHAMBERS,
4th April, 1908.

SIR,

The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury have had under further consideration Sir J. Dougherty's letter (5566) of the 14th ultimo, enclosing copy of a letter from the Congested Districts Board, dated 13th ult., with the Board's revised Estimates for the year 1908–9.

It will be in the recollection of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant that the Board had already submitted in their letter of 18th February (enclosed in Sir J. Dougherty's letter of 19th February), an approximate estimate of their income and expenditure for 1908–9, upon which the Board stated that on the assumption of an advance of £25,000 being made to the Board in 1907–8 and repaid in 1908–9, they would require an additional grant of £60,000, in order to make the Estimates for 1908–9 balance.

The Board having been informed that My Lords could not consider the provision of any funds in excess of their statutory income for 1908–9, having regard to the fact that the Royal Commission on Congestion in Ireland had not reported, it became necessary for the Board to revise its Estimates for 1908–9, in such a way as to avoid the deficit of £60,000. It would seem that among so many different items of expenditure as are included in the Estimates it should have been possible to make reductions in a number of directions. Yet, My Lords find that the whole £60,000 and £7,000 besides, has been taken off the item of Improvement Works, no other items showing a reduction except that for Technical Instruction (£830), and two others actually showing increases of £3,000 and £2,901 respectively.

The effect of the particular method chosen by the Board of making the necessary reductions is plain ; it is, indeed, indicated in the fourth paragraph of the Board's letter of 13th March stating that "no works can be undertaken after 31st May."

It is not the province of this Board to suggest the items on which reductions should be made in order to find money for improvement works ; but My Lords desire to make it clear that they can accept no responsibility for any stoppage of works consequent on the Board's choosing to restrict the provision for them to £18,000, or any particular figure. If, therefore, My Lords approve of the Estimates for 1908–9, it can only be on the understanding that the responsibility rests entirely upon the Board.

As the suggested advance of £25,000 was not made in 1907–8, but only £3,000 was advanced from the Civil Contingencies Fund, the Estimates for 1908–9 need only provide for the repayment of this £3,000 instead of £25,000. On the other hand, the balance in hand on 1st April, 1908.

will, presumably, for the same reason, be different from the £12,866 for which credit is taken in the Estimates now under consideration.

Before approving those Estimates, My Lords would be glad to be informed (1) what was the actual balance in hand on 1st instant; (2) whether the Board desire, with reference to what has been said above, to alter the Estimates in any other respects.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

G. H. MURRAY.

THE UNDER SECRETARY,
Dublin Castle.

Letter No 27.

23, RUTLAND SQUARE, DUBLIN,
15th April, 1908.

SIR,

With reference to the letters from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, dated 18th ultimo and 4th instant, respecting the funds of the Congested Districts Board, I am directed by the Board to state that they greatly regret that there should have been any misunderstanding in regard to their application for a loan of £25,000. They desire to assure the Lords Commissioners that while it was their earnest wish to continue the improvement works if funds were obtainable, they were quite prepared to close them as early as the 15th January last if they had clearly understood that the loan could not be issued.

In their memorandum of 28th November last they stated that "unless the Board are enabled to borrow about £25,000 they will have to suspend operation on their estates," and on 31st December, they stated, in reply to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, that "the only way in which the Board could comply with the advice given in the Treasury letter, to confine its expenditure within its available income, would be by stopping immediately all improvement works on their estate," and in the same letter again drew attention to the urgent necessity of this loan, and added that "otherwise the improvement works must be closed on 15th January." On the 15th January the Board submitted a Revised Estimate for the year and included the proposed loan in the receipts as they did not understand that it had been refused. Even as late as the beginning of February they were ready to close the works, and would have done so if instructions to the contrary had not been given by the Chief Secretary on the 8th of that month.

The sum of £3,000, lodged to their credit from Civil Contingencies on 12th February, was accepted as an instalment of the loan and the full amount £25,000, was therefore again inserted in a Revised Estimate submitted on 13th March. In order to prevent their account being overdrawn on 31st March, the Board after reducing their expenditure on estates by £10,000 had to postpone payments amounting to £7,000. By this means they closed the year with a balance of £3,500.

With regard to the Statement of Assets and Liabilities referred to in Their Lordships' letter of 17th May, the Board replied fully on 17th June, but did not gather either from the letter of 17th May, or the following letter of 29th August, that Their Lordships called for a Revised Estimate.

In connection with the revision of the Estimates for the current year, I am to explain that the £3,000 mentioned in Their Lordships' letter of 4th instant, is as stated in the Board's last letter, a sum due to the Parish Committees, as part of the grants promised to them last summer, but omitted from the first Estimate owing to a misunderstanding. There is always an arrear in the payment of these grants. £2,901 for Fisheries is not a net increase; the Estimate shows that it is more than counterbalanced by the increased receipts under the same head.

Their Lordships are under a misapprehension as to there being other heads of expenditure which might have been reduced. The Board had, as stated in their letter of 18th February, reduced all charges to the sums to which they were committed, and further economy could only be effected by closing the lace classes or dismissing the staff. The item of £17,000 for tenants' interests is the sum which the Board must pay in order to carry out the re-sales of the estates now in hand.

The Board have considered the question of selling their steamer, the *Granuaile*. The vessel is very useful to the fisheries and the estates belonging to the Board on the west coast, as well as for maintaining communication with the islands. The Board have also reason to believe, that if this vessel were sold, the Department of Agriculture would find it necessary to purchase a second steamer for the prevention of illegal trawling, a duty for which the *Granuaile* is now available.

The adjustments caused by the non-receipt of the balance of the loan of £25,000 have been made on the enclosed Revised Estimate. It has, however, been found impossible to provide more than £33,000 for improvement works during the entire year unless the staff be reduced.

Since the close of the past year the estate accounts have been re-examined and it has been found possible to borrow £20,000 instead of £10,000, as proposed in the previous Estimate. All the estates which have been vested in the Board and on which any money can be borrowed have now been included.

The estimated receipts from re-sale of the older estates has been reduced £10,000, owing to further delay in the re-settlement of the O'Grady Leasehold on the Dillon Estate, purchased by the Board last year, and owing to £2,700 for re-sales having come to credit in March instead of in the new year.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

F. W. D. MITCHELL.

THE UNDER SECRETARY
Dublin Castle.

DUBLIN: Printed for His Majesty's Stationery Office.
By ALEX THOM & Co. (Limited), 87, 88, & 89 Abbey-street.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

FINAL REPORT.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

DUBLIN:

PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
BY ALEXANDER THOM & CO. (LIMITED), ABBEY-STREET.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
E. PONSONBY, 116, Grafton-street, Dublin; or
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., Fetter-lane, E.C., and
32, Abingdon-street, Westminster, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, Tweeddale-court, Edinburgh.

1908.

[Cd. 4097.] *Price 3s. 7d.*

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	Page
Warrant appointing Commission,	iii
List of Publications,	v
Analysis of Report,	vi
Report of Commission,	1
Map showing sittings held and places inspected by the Commission,	*to face* 116
Notes incorporated in Report—	
A. Memorandum on Procedure,	117
B. Memorandum on Sporting Rights,	124
C. Statement as to Acts of Parliament affecting the Congested Districts Board,	129
Separate Notes by the Commissioners:—	
Minute of Dissent by Sir A. P. MacDonnell,	153
Memorandum and Diagrams by Sir John Colomb,	175
Memorandum by Dr. O'Donnell,	203
Note by Dr. O'Donnell and Mr. Kavanagh	208
Note by Mr. Kavanagh,	209
Note by Mr. Conor O'Kelly,	210
List of Witnesses examined by the Commission,	211
List of Documents submitted to the Commission,	216

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

WARRANT APPOINTING THE COMMISSION.

EDWARD *R. & I.*

EDWARD THE SEVENTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, to

Our right trusty and right well-beloved Cousin and Councillor WILLIAM HUMBLE, EARL OF DUDLEY, Knight Grand Cross of Our Royal Victorian Order;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor SIR ANTONY PATRICK MACDONNELL, Knight Grand Commander of Our Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, Knight Commander of Our Royal Victorian Order, Under Secretary to Our Lieutenant-General and General Governor of that part of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland called Ireland;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor SIR JOHN CHARLES READY COLOMB, Knight Commander of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor SIR FRANCIS MOWATT, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Companion of Our Imperial Service Order; and

Our trusty and well-beloved :—

The Most Reverend PATRICK O'DONNELL, Doctor in Divinity;

JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esquire;

WALTER INCH KAVANAGH, Esquire;

CONOR O'KELLY, Esquire; and

ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esquire, Chairman of the Fishery Board for Scotland;

GREETING!

Whereas We have deemed it expedient that a Commission should forthwith issue to inquire into and report upon the operation of the Acts dealing with Congestion in Ireland, the working of the Congested Districts Board, and the Land Commission under these Acts, and the relations of the Board with the Land Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction; what areas (if any) outside the districts now scheduled as congested, require to be dealt with as congested; what lands are most conveniently situated for the relief of congestion; what changes in law or administration are needed for dealing with the problem of congestion as a whole, for facilitating the migration of the surplus population from congested areas to other lands, and generally for bettering the condition of the people inhabiting congested areas.

Now know ye that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your knowledge and ability, have nominated, constituted and appointed, and do by these Presents nominate, constitute and appoint you the said William Humble, Earl of Dudley (Chairman); Sir Antony Patrick MacDonnell; Sir John Charles Ready Colomb; Sir Francis Mowatt; Patrick O'Donnell; John Annan Bryce; Walter Inch Kavanagh; Conor O'Kelly; and Angus Sutherland to be Our Commissioners for the purposes of the said Inquiry.

And for the better effecting the purposes of this Our Commission, We do by these Presents give and grant unto you, or any three or more of you, full power to call before you such persons as you shall judge likely to afford you any information upon the subject of this Our Commission; and also to call for, have access to, and examine all such books, documents, registers and records as may afford you the fullest information on the subject; and to inquire of and concerning the premises by all other lawful ways and means whatsoever.

And We do by these Presents authorize and empower you, or any three or more of you, to visit and personally inspect such places as you may deem it expedient so to inspect for the more effectual carrying out of the purposes aforesaid, and to employ such persons as you may think fit to assist you in conducting any inquiry which you may hold.

And We do by these Presents will and ordain that this Our Commission shall continue in full force and virtue, and that you, Our said Commissioners, or any three or more of you, may from time to time proceed in the execution thereof and of every matter and thing therein contained, although the same be not continued from time to time by adjournment.

And We do further ordain that you, or any three or more of you, have liberty to report your proceedings under this Our Commission from time to time, if you shall judge it expedient so to do.

And Our further will and pleasure is that you do, with as little delay as possible, report to Us under your hands and seals, or under the hands and seals of any three or more of you, your opinion upon the matters herein submitted for your consideration.

Given at Our Court at *St. James's*, the 20th day of July, 1906, in the sixth year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

H. J. GLADSTONE.

Appointment of Secretary.

Dublin Castle,
July 24, 1906.

Walter Ernest Everard Callan, Esquire, B.L., The Castle, Dublin, has been appointed to be Secretary of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into and report upon the operation of the Acts dealing with Congestion in Ireland.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION.

I.—1. First Report of the Commission [Cd. 3266, 1906], pp. iv. Price ½*d.*

2. Appendix to the First Report of the Commission [Cd. 3267, 1906], containing minutes of evidence taken in Dublin, 7th September–5th October, 1906, memoranda and statistical tables; pp. vi., 389. Price 4*s.*

II.—3. Second Report of the Commission [Cd. 3318, 1907], pp. iv. Price ½*d.*

4. Appendix to the Second Report of the Commission [Cd. 3319, 1907], containing minutes of evidence taken in Donegal, 8th–19th October, 1906, memoranda and statistical tables; pp xi., 316. Price 2*s.* 7*d.*

III.—5. Third Report of the Commission [Cd. 3413, 1907], pp. iv. Price ½*d.*

6. Appendix to the Third Report of the Commission [Cd. 3414, 1907], containing minutes of evidence taken in London, 3rd–20th November, 1906, memoranda and statistical tables; pp. ix., 384. Price 3*s.* 9*d.*

IV.—7. Fourth Report of the Commission [Cd. 3508, 1907], pp. iv. Price ½*d.*

8. Appendix to the Fourth Report of the Commission [Cd. 3509, 1907], containing minutes of evidence taken in London, 14th–23rd February, 1907, memoranda and statistical tables; pp. viii., 242. Price 3*s.* 6*d.*

V.—9. Fifth Report of the Commission [Cd. 3629, 1907], pp. iv. Price ½*d.*

10. Appendix to the Fifth Report of the Commission [Cd. 3630, 1907], containing minutes of evidence taken in London, 12th–28th March, 1907, memoranda and statistical tables; pp. xxxvii., 303. Price 2*s.* 9*d.*

VI.—11. Sixth Report of the Commission [Cd. 3747, 1907], iv. pp. Price ½*d.*

12. Appendix to the Sixth Report of the Commission [Cd. 3748, 1907], containing minutes of evidence taken in Counties Sligo and Leitrim, 17th–27th April, 1907, memoranda and statistical tables; pp lxxx., 375. Price 3*s.* 7*d.*

VII.—13. Seventh Report of the Commission [Cd. 3784, 1907], pp. iv. Price ½*d.*

14. First Appendix to the Seventh Report of the Commission [Cd. 3785, 1907], containing minutes of evidence taken in the Counties of Down, Antrim, Tyrone, Cavan, Queen's County, Clare, and in Dublin, 16th May–11th June, 1907, memoranda and statistical tables; pp. lxxxiii., 341, Price 3*s.* 5*d.*

15. Second Appendix to the Seventh Report of the Commission [Cd. 3786, 1907], containing statistics relating to the Number, Acreage, Poor Law Valuation, and Population of various classes of Holdings in Ireland; pp. viii., 401. Price 3*s.* 3*d.*

VIII.—16. Eighth Report of the Commission [Cd. 3838, 1907], pp. iv. Price ½*d.*

17. Appendix to the Eighth Report of the Commission [Cd. 3839, 1907], containing minutes of evidence taken in Cork and Kerry, 3rd–19th July, 1907, memoranda and statistical tables; pp. lxx., 403. Price 4*s.* 3*d.*

IX.—18. Ninth Report of the Commission [Cd. 3844, 1907], pp. iv. Price ½*d.*

19. Appendix to the Ninth Report of the Commission [Cd. 3845, 1907], containing minutes of evidence taken in County Mayo, 21st August–3rd September, 1907, memoranda and statistical tables; pp. lxvi., 290. Price 3*s.* 11*d.*

X.—20. Tenth Report of the Commission [Cd. 4006, 1908], pp. iv. Price ½*d.*

21. Appendix to the Tenth Report of the Commission [Cd. 4007, 1908], containing minutes of evidence taken in Counties Galway and Roscommon, 18th September–4th October, 1907. memoranda and statistical tables; pp. xciv., 481. Price 5*s.* 0*d.*

XI.—22. Eleventh Report of the Commission [Cd. 4088, 1908], pp. iv. Price ½*d.*

23. Appendix to the Eleventh Report of the Commission [Cd. 4089, 1908], containing minutes of evidence taken in London, 22nd–24th January, 1908, memoranda and statistical tables; pp. xi., 129. Price 1*s.* 2*d.*

XII.—24. Final Report of the Commission [Cd. 4097, 1908], pp. xii., 222. Price 3*s.* 7*d.*

25. First Appendix to the Final Report of the Commission [Cd. 4098, 1908], containing a subject Index to the evidence taken; pp. xxi., 345. Price 2*s.* 11*d.*

26. Second Appendix to Final Report of the Commission [Cd. 4099, 1908], containing a Digest of the evidence and a list of the memoranda and statistical memoranda published by the Commission; pp. xxi., 629. Price 5*s.* 2*d.*

*** The Appendix to any of the first eleven reports of the Commission is referred to in the Final Report by the Roman numeral corresponding to the number of the report in question: thus, XI., p. 55, refers to the Appendix to the Eleventh Report (No. 23 above), p. 55.

ANALYSIS OF REPORT.

I.—Statement of Proceedings.

		Page
1.	Nature of Inquiries,	1
2.	Enumeration of Public Sessions,	1
3.	Particulars of witnesses examined,	2
4.	Publication of evidence and other information,	2

II.—Definition of Congestion, Condition of Congested Districts, and Causes of Congestion.

5.	Definition of congested district,	3
6.	Districts scheduled under Act of 1891,	3
7.	Defects of definition,	3
8.	Population not dense in congested districts: term "congested" used in a special sense,	4
9.	Majority of inhabitants of congested districts live on uneconomic holdings,	4
10.	Many holdings ill-arranged and agriculture backward,	5
11.	Many "congests" dependent on secondary sources of income,	5
12.	General condition of life,	5
13.	Death-rate comparatively low,	6
14.	Natural increase of population comparatively high, but emigration very great,	6
15.	Two outstanding features of congested districts,	7
16.	Origin of congestion,	7
17.	Historical causes,	7
18.	Course of events up to the Famine,	8
19.	Clearances and sub-division,	8
20.	Twenty-five years of relief measures,	9

III.—Establishment of Congested Districts Board.

21.	Powers of Board,	9
22.	Income of Board,	10

IV.—Work of Land Purchase and Re-settlement prior to 1903.

23.	Difficulties in the way of purchase by Board,	10
24.	System of Guarantees: Purchase of French Estate,	10
25.	Request for increased funds and compulsory powers,	11
26.	Purchase of Clare Island,	11
27.	Purchase of Leonard Estate,	11
28.	Changes effected by Act of 1896,	12
29.	Changes effected by Act of 1899,	12
30.	Provisions of Act of 1901,	12
31	Purchase and re-settlement of Dillon Estate,	12
32.	Method and difficulties of enlarging holdings,	13
33.	Growth of hostility to migrants,	13
34.	Improvements other than enlargement,	14
35.	Suggestion that Board should be more expeditious and should scale down rents to annuity standard,	14
36.	Board's system of financing improvement works,	14
37.	Purchase operations, 1896-1903,	15
38 & 39.	Expenditure on re-settlement of estates bought before 1903,	15
40.	Proportion of cost of administration attributable to land work,	16

V. Work of Land Purchase and Re-settlement under the Act of 1903.

41.	Changes effected by Act,	16
42.	Increasing demand for distribution of grass land among local men only,	16
43.	Effect of power given to Estates Commissioners to create new holdings,	17
44.	Summary of Board's operations to end of 1907,	17

VI.—Delays in Work of Resale, Financial Difficulties, and Restrictions on purchasing power.

		Page
45.	Progress slow since 1905,	18
46–7.	Board's funds sufficient for dealing with only a limited amount of land,	18
48–9.	Statement of Board's financial position,	19
50.	Criticism of Treasury,	20
51.	Board's view,	20
52.	Restrictions placed on Board's purchasing powers,	20
53.	Uncertainty of rate of loss,	20
54.	Cause of present crisis,	21
55.	Effects of restrictions placed on Board's purchasing powers,	21
56.	Representations made by Chairman to Chief Secretary advocating withdrawal of restrictions,	21

VII.—Agricultural Development.

57.	Methods of work,	22
58.	Live stock improvement schemes,	22
59.	Obstacles in the way of effecting permanent improvement,	22
60.	Promotion of poultry breeding and bee-keeping,	23
61.	Forestry work,	23
62.	Potato-spraying; total cost of Board's agricultural work,	23
63.	Government assistance to agriculture prior to 1891,	23
64.	Establishment of Department of Agriculture,	24
65–6.	Dual administration of agriculture and consequent difficulties,	24
67.	Transfer of agricultural work to Department,	25

VIII.—Fisheries.

68.	Progress of Irish fisheries up to the Famine,	25
69.	After the Famine to 1891,	26
70.	Needs of different fishing districts,	26
71–2.	Marine works prior to 1891,	26–7
73.	Marine Works since establishment of Board,	27
74.	Question of maintenance,	27
75.	Board's work north of the Shannon,	27
76.	Fishery development in the South-West,	28
77.	Value of the West coast fisheries,	28
78.	Cost of Work,	28

IX.—Industries.

79.	Task before Board in 1891,	29
80.	Foxford Woollen Mills,	29
81.	Donegal Carpet Factories,	29
82.	Weaving, knitting and sewing industries,	29
83.	Lace classes,	29
84.	Domestic training classes,	30
85.	Little help given to industries for men,	30
86.	Cost of work,	30

X.—Parish Committees.

87.	Constitution and machinery,	30
88–9.	Nature and value of work,	31
90–1.	Criticisms of system,	31–2

XI.—Agricultural Banks.

92.	Importance of co-operative credit associations,	32
93.	Satisfactory nature of results,	32
94.	Cost of Board,	33

XII.—Marine and Inland Works.

95.	Money spent,	33

XIII.—Future Development of Congested Districts.

96.	Policy of Board has been based on sound lines, and in extension and development of their work, especially land re-settlement lies the best hope of the future,	33

XIV.—Question of Continuance of Board.

		Page
97.	Continuance of Board raises question of administrative waste; duplication of machinery for fishery, and industrial development,	34
98.	Dual machinery for land work,	34
99.	Proposed abolition of the Board,	35
100.	Reasons against this course,	35
101.	Recommendation that the Board should be continued and reconstituted,	35

XV.—Future Area of the Board.

102.	Question as to unit of congestion,	36
103.	Advantage of dealing with entire counties,	36
104.	Abolition of present definition; scheduling of all Connaught, Donegal, and Kerry recommended,	36
105.	And, with hesitation, Clare,	37
106.	Also four rural districts in County Cork	37
107.	Statistics of the Board's new area,	38
108.	Treatment of non-scheduled districts,	38

XVI.—Size of Problem of raising Holdings to an Economic Standard.

109.	Main problem is to make holdings economic,	39
110.	What is the size of an economic holding,	39
111.	Maximum number of holdings to be enlarged,	39
112.	Deductions to be made,	40
113.	Land with a rateable valuation of £450,000 required,	42

XVII.—Compulsory Powers required for the Relief of Congestion.

114-5.	The case for compulsion.	43
116-8.	Recommendation that the Board should be given compulsory powers over certain land,	43–4

XVIII.—Amount of Land available for Relief of Congestion.

119.	Meaning of term "grass lands,"	44
120.	Non-residential holdings,	45
121.	Untenanted land,	45
122.	Large residential holdings,	46
123.	Amount available is hardly adequate,	46

XIX.—Comparisons of Claims of Landless Men and of Congests to Grass Lands.

124.	Necessary to meet claims of small farmers in neighbourhood of grass lands,	46
125.	Growth of claims of landless men,	47
126.	These claims cannot be met concurrently with those of the congests,	47
127.	Case for the congests,	47
128.	Case for landless men,	47
129.	Claims of congests superior and should be supported by public opinion,	48
130.	Restriction on power of giving land to sons of tenants recommended,	48
131.	Question of enlarging holdings above £10 standard and of having various types of holdings,	48

XX.—Economic effect of breaking up grass lands.

132.	Importance of question,	49
133.	Present method of raising cattle in Ireland,	49
134.	Argument that the grazier is a necessary link between the small farmer and the fattener,	50
135–6.	Could the small farmers keep their cattle longer than they do at present?	50
137.	Success of change from large grazing ranches to small holdings depends largely on adoption of mixed farming,	51
138–40.	Question whether production of butter, eggs, poultry, and bacon would not pay better than raising store cattle,	51–2
141.	Importance of mixed farming,	52
142.	Necessity of agricultural education and organisation and suitable buildings for farmers,	53
143.	Question of capital,	53
144.	Unsuitability of certain land for tillage,	53
145–8.	Economic arguments in favour of ranching and of small holdings compared,	53–4
149–51.	Summary of conclusions as to redistribution of ranches,	54–5

XXI.—Method of acquiring Land and Question of Price to be paid.

Page

152. The Board should be the purchasing authority as well as the re-settling authority within the new area, ... 55
153–4. Offers for estates at present based on second term rents and net income returns, ... 56
155–6. Valuation, as for as second term rents should be made by the Land Commission, ... 56 & 57
157. Procedure for making offer and, where necessary, applying compulsion, . 57
158. Question of price under compulsion, ... 58
159. Valuation unsatisfactory, ... 58

XXII.—Price to be based on Net Profit Income.

160. Statement of average net profit income basis, ... 58
161. Gross annual income should be taken as one-tenth of actual receipts during last ten years, ... 59
162–3. Adjustment for arrears, ... 59
164. Rent of tenanted land to be scaled down to second term standard, . 60
165. Average agency fees and law costs to be deducted, . . . 60
166. Deduction of poor rate and burdens that cannot be redeemed, . . 60
167. Further deductions to be made to reduce net income to net profit income, . 61
168. Effect of redemption of quit and crown rents, head rents and tithe rent charges, ... 61
169. Rates of redemption, ... 61
170. Pecuniary effect of recommendations as to these charges, . . . 62
171–2. Mortgages should be redeemed by the State, and the annual charge deducted from the income, ... 62 & 63
173–6. Value of Equity of Redemption, ... 63 & 64
177. Court should determine its value, if any, ... 64
178–80. Difficulties in way of dealing with mortgages, . . . 64 & 65
181. Treatment of other charges, ... 65

XXIII.—Objections urged against taking Net Profit Income as a Basis of Price.

182–3. Criticisms as to strict interpretation of net profit income, . . 65 & 66
184. Question of instability of income, especially from grass lands, . . 66
185. Suggestion that fair rents and not grazing rents should be taken as income, 67
186. Suggestion that regard should be had to both grazing rents and fair rents, 67
187. Allowance to be made for the operation of existing economic or natural causes and for the actual condition of the land, . . . 67
188. Further deduction to be made when land not let, ... 68

XXIV.—Other points connected with Price.

189-90. Fixation of price where net income returns not available, . . . 68
191. Compensation for sporting rights, ... 69

XXV.—Rate of Interest to be obtained from Authorised Investments.

192. Securities available for investment, ... 69
193. Dispute as to rate obtainable, ... 69
194. Scheme recommended for determining rate, ... 70
195. Advantages of scheme, ... 70

XXVI. Court to settle Questions arising out of Compulsion.

196. Functions of Court in relation to price, ... 70
197. Recommendations as to Court, ... 71

XXVII. Powers to be exercised over Lands held by Tenant Purchasers and Tenants.

198. Powers over holdings of tenant purchasers and over turf bogs, . . 71
199. Powers over holdings of tenants, ... 72
200–1. Powers possessed by Board, ... 72
202. Existing powers inadequate, ... 73
203. Powers suggested, ... 73
204. Assessment of compensation, ... 74
205. Statement as to proceedure, ... 74

XXVIII. Costs of Sale.

206. Cost of sale should be borne by State, ... 75

XXIX.—Treatment of Uneconomic Holdings already vested in Tenant Purchasers.

Page

207. Number of such cases, ... 75
208. Number to be dealt with, and case of enlargement, . . . 75
209. Difficulties of re-settlement, ... 75

XXX.—Treatment of Pending Cases.

210. Number of such cases, and difficulties they present, . . . 76
211. Cases where the property has not been declared an estate, . . 76
212–3. Suggestions for dealing with property which Estates Commissioners propose to declare an estate, ... 76 & 77
214. Suggested limitation of amount of advances, ... 77
215. Cases where the Estates Commissioners do not propose to declare property an estate, ... 77
216. Case of sales from Landlord to Estates Commissioners, . . . 78

XXXI.—Question of Evicted Tenants.

217. Difficulty about Evicted Tenants, ... 78
218. Recommendation for dealing with such cases, . . . 78

XXXII.—Direct Sales to be allowed only on Certificate of Board.

219. Some estates will not require treatment by the Board, . . . 79
220. Certificate for direct sale might issue in such cases, . . . 79
221. Procedure where part of an estate does not require treatment, . . 79
222. Board should in certain cases obtain undertakings from tenants as to re-sale prices, ... 80
223. Advantages of procedure suggested, ... 80

XXXIII.—The Amount of Land Purchase to be effected by the Board.

224. Difficulties in the way of making an estimate, ... 81
225–6. The land to be bought by the Board and re-settled has a valuation probably of not less than £1,000,000, ... 81
227. Estimate of time required for Board's operations, ... 82

XXXIV.—Provisions against Sub-division and Consolidation of Holdings.

228. Tendency to sub-divide, ... 82
229. Not shown by tenant purchasers, ... 83
230. Question of further restraints, ... 83
231. Prohibition should continue though advance be redeemed, . . 83
232. Restraints on alienation and consolidation, ... 83
233. Price to be paid when Board resumes possession of a holding which they had previously improved and sold, ... 84
234. Sales not frequent, ... 84
235. Defence against involuntary alienation, ... 84

XXXV.—Machinery and Funds for work of Agricultural Development.

236 Agricultural development of immense importance, . . . 84
237. Comparisons drawn between Department and Board, . . . 84
238. Objection to re-transferring agricultural work to Board, . . . 85
239. Necessity for fully utilising facilities afforded by Department, . . 86
240. Desirability of bringing Department into closer touch with Board and poorer districts, ... 86
241–3. Methods of accomplishing this considered, ... 87
244. Annual sum of £23,000 required for agricultural development, . . 87
245. Itinerant *versus* resident instructors, ... 88
246. Question of agricultural training in primary schools, ... 88

XXXVI.—Drainage and Afforestation.

247. Importance of a comprehensive drainage system, ... 88
248. Question of Afforestation, ... 89

XXXVII.—Sporting Rights.

Page

249. Importance of shooting and fishing rights, ... 89

XXXVIII.—Maintenance of Improvements and work of Parish Committees.

250–1. Parish Committees to be regarded as a temporary expedient for effecting improvements, ... 90
252. Maintenance of improvements, ... 91
253. Exemption from taxation in respect of improvements, . . . 91

XXXIX.—Agricultural Co-operation and Re-organisation of credit.

254. Importance of co-operation for small farmers, ... 91
255 Excessive indebtedness of small farmers to shopkeepers, . . 92
256–7. Restrictions suggested on mortgaging and recovery of debts, . . 92
258. Recommendations for re-organisation of rural credit, . . . 93

XL.—Fishery Development

259. Scope for extension of fisheries, ... 93
260. Importance of fishermen following fish all round the coast, . . 93
261. Otherwise the industry insecure, ... 94
262. Effect of increase in number of steam drifters and trawlers, . . 94
263. Kerry and Cork problem ; importance of fishery surveys, . . . 94
264–5. Galway and Mayo problem, ... 95
266. In-shore fishing, ... 95
267. Harbour accommodation and future development, . . . 95
268. Establishment of fishing villages, ... 96

XLI.—Industrial Development and Technical Instruction.

269. Prospects for large industrial developments in the west are unfavourable, 96
270. How far the State can give assistance, ... 96
271 Conclusions as to help to be given by Board, ... 97
272. Large industries suitable for development, ... 97
273. Importance of inquiries and surveys, ... 98
274–5 Cottage industries and their limitations, ... 98
276–7. Question of stability of these industries, ... 99
278. Work of Technical Instruction, ... 99
279. Drawing and experimental science, ... 99
280. Technical Instruction, ... 99
281. Industrial instruction, ... 99
282. Difference between assistance given by the Department and by the Board, 100
283. Recommendations for the prevention of overlapping, . . . 100
284. Educational deficiencies of congested districts, ... 100

XLII.—Constitution of Board.

285. There should be four *ex-officio* members, ... 101
286. Should nominated members be replaced by elected members, . . 101
287. Reasons for recommending that there should be nine elected members, . 101
288. Objections urged against elected members, ... 102
289. Importance of duty of selection entrusted to county councils, . . 102
290. There should also be four nominated members and three paid members, . 102
291. Term of office, ... 102
292. Difficulty of reducing number of Board below twenty, . . . 102
293. Board should be made a corporate body, ... 102
294. Board should hold local inquiries, ... 103

XLIII.—Money necessary for carrying out the recommendations made.

295. Estimate of annual cost, ... 103
296–7. Cost of administration and question of staff, . . . 103 & 104
298. Borrowing powers or floating capital required, ... 104
299. Cost of agricultural development, ... 104
300. Cost of fishery and industrial development, parish committees, steamer services, piers and roads, ... 104
301. Loss on re-sale of estates, ... 104
302. Loss on each class of estates, ... 105
303. Proportions in which each class should be bought, . . . 105
304–5. Amount of untenanted land to be bought, ... 105
306. Estimate of future loss, ... 105
307. Question of increase in rate of loss on untenanted land, . . . 106
308. Summary of conclusions as to loss on estates, ... 106
309. Recommendations as to provision of necessary funds, . . . 106
310. Question of bonus, ... 107

XLIV.—Relief of Congestion outside Board's Area.

		Page
311.	Outside areas of congestion,	107
312.	Machinery by which they should be relieved,	107
313.	Impossible to frame definition for ascertaining such districts,	108
314.	No recommendation made as to giving powers to Department for the promotion of non-rural industries: money required for agricultural development and technical instruction,	108
315.	Difficulty of improving uneconomic holdings which are being sold within the zones,	108
316.	Financial difficulty about dealing with a "congested estate,"	109
317.	Suggested amendments of the definition of a congested estate,	109
318.	Question whether consent of owners should be dispensed with,	109
319.	Recommendations for dealing with uneconomic holdings which are being sold direct, whether or not within the zone limits,	110
320.	Compulsory powers do not seem to be necessary for the Estates Commissioners,	110

XLV.—Miscellaneous Questions.

321.	Importance of transit facilities and Finance of Land Purchase,	110
322.	Beneficent work done by Lady Dudley's Nurses,	111

XLVI.—Summary of conclusions and recommendations, 111

XLVII.—Concluding Remarks.

323	Reference to Public Departments, and Staff in Office of Commission,	115
324.	Reference to Secretary of Commission,	116

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

FINAL REPORT.

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

We, the Commission appointed by your Majesty's Royal Warrant of 20th July, 1906,

> "To inquire into and report upon the operations of the Acts dealing "with congestion in Ireland; the working of the Congested Districts "Board, and the Land Commission under these Acts, and the rela- "tions of the Board with the Land Commission and the Department "of Agriculture and Technical Instruction; what areas (if any) out- "side the districts now scheduled as congested require to be dealt "with as congested; what lands are most conveniently situated for "the relief of congestion; what changes in law or administration are "needed for dealing with the problem of congestion as a whole, for "facilitating the migration of the surplus population from congested "areas to other lands, and generally for bettering the condition of "the people inhabiting congested areas,"

now have the honour to submit the following Report:—

I.—STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS.

1. We held our first meeting in London on July 25th, 1906, for the purpose of making preliminary arrangements for the carrying out of the Inquiry, and we came to the conclusion that our work could be conveniently divided into two divisions:—first, taking evidence in London and Dublin from certain official witnesses as to the working of the Congested Districts Board, the Land Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, and their relations with one another, and also from certain persons nominated to express the views of representative associations, and, secondly, taking evidence in each of the counties containing congested districts, and in certain other places from local witnesses for the purpose of obtaining information as to the conditions prevailing in the poorer parts of Ireland, as to the working of the ameliorative measures that had been introduced, and as to the wants of the different districts. We also came to the conclusion that it would be necessary for us to inspect the congested districts and other poor areas with special reference to estates that had been re-settled by the Board, the grass areas which it had been stated might be utilised for the relief of congestion, and to the condition of the various fishing centres.

2. Our first public session was held in Dublin during the period September 7th-15th, when evidence was taken from witnesses representing the Congested Districts Board. It was then decided to hold some country sittings while the days were still comparatively long, and the weather comparatively fine; and, accordingly, after taking further evidence in Dublin from October 3rd-5th from witnesses nominated by the Congested Districts Board, we proceeded to Donegal, where we took local evidence at four different centres and made inspections from October 7th-19th. We next held three sessions in London in November, 1906, February and March, 1907, for the purpose of taking further evidence from the Congested Districts Board, the Irish Land Commission, the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, and from certain official and unofficial witnesses. In April we resumed our country sittings, being in Co. Sligo and Co. Leitrim from April 16th-28th. We then visited the counties which do not contain scheduled districts,

I.—*Continued.* Statement of Proceedings.

but from which requests had been received that the Commission should inquire into their circumstances. Accordingly, we were in Co. Down, Co. Antrim, Co. Tyrone, Co. Cavan, Queen's County, and Co. Clare from May 15th to June 8th, and we sat in Dublin on the 10th and 11th June. From July 2nd to July 16th we were in Kerry and Cork, from August 20th to September 4th in Co. Mayo, and from September the 17th to October 4th in Galway and Roscommon, and we held a special meeting in London on 22nd-24th January, 1908, for the purpose of re-examining the Secretary and the Chief Land Inspector of the Board. In all we held 116 public sittings, and in addition to this we spent 48 days travelling and inspecting in the counties mentioned above. In order to facilitate our local inquiries the Treasury engaged four motor cars, without which it would have been difficult to accomplish our work. A sketch map of Ireland, showing the country centres at which the Commission sat, and the districts we inspected, is contained in this Report.*

3. We decided at our first meeting to examine any witnesses that the Congested Districts Board, the Irish Land Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, the three bodies mentioned in the terms of reference, chose to put forward, and accordingly the following were examined:—Mr. W. L. Micks, Mr. F. W. D. Mitchell, Mr. H. Doran, Mr. J. R. O'Brien, the Rev. D. O'Hara, the Rev. W. S. Green, Mr. J. O'Connor, Mr. G. W. Russell, Mr. T. S. Porter, the late Mr. A. T. Duthie, Mr. W. J. D. Walker (*on behalf of the Congested Districts Board*); the Right Hon. F. S. Wrench, Mr. M. Finucane, Mr. W. F. Bailey, Mr. C. H. Crookshank, Mr. W. H. Stuart, Mr. J. L. Pigot (*on behalf of the Irish Land Commission*); the Right Hon. Sir Horace Plunkett, Mr. T. W. Russell, Professor J. R. Campbell, and Mr. G. Fletcher (*on behalf of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction*). We invited the Irish Landowners' Convention and the United Irish League to nominate two witnesses to give evidence before the Commission on the general aspect of the questions raised by our terms of reference, and one or two witnesses to give evidence at each of our country sittings on local questions. Mr. W. H. Boyd and The O'Conor Don gave evidence on behalf of the Irish Landowners' Convention, and Mr. Fitzgibbon on behalf of the United Irish League; and numerous other witnesses appeared at the different country sittings on behalf of both bodies. Amongst other witnesses examined in London and Dublin, were the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, the Right Hon. G. Balfour, and the Right Hon. G. Wyndham, as ex-Chief Secretaries and past Chairmen of the Board; Mr. Arthur M'Clintock (Public Trustee); Mr. L. A. Waldron (a member of the Dublin Stock Exchange); Mr. J. A. Mullens (Stockbroker to the Bank of England); Lord Castletown (representing the Irish Forestry Society); Mr. W. D. Talbot Crosbie and Mr. A. J. Crichton (representing the Irish Reform Association); Sir John Barton (Commissioner of Valuation); Mr. R. A. Anderson (Secretary of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society); and Mr. R. R. M'Gregor (Secretary of the Congested Districts Board for Scotland). At our country sittings we heard witnesses nominated by the County Councils, the Rural District Councils, the Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland Bishops of the Dioceses in which we sat, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, the County Committees of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, as well as those nominated by the Irish Landowners' Convention and the United Irish League, and numerous voluntary witnesses. We especially invited the attendance of occupiers of holdings under £10 valuation at all our country sittings; and in County Roscommon we heard witnesses nominated by the Grazing Farmers' Association. In all we examined 560 witnesses, some of whom gave evidence more than once. Of the witnesses about half were farmers (including graziers and cattle dealers), 99 were clergymen, 40 shopkeepers, 27 land agents, 23 landlords, 22 were engaged in the fishing trade, and the remainder followed various other occupations.

4. We met in London on the 26th November, 1907, for the consideration of our Report, and sat in all on thirty-three days between that date and the date when this Report was finally agreed upon. As the evidence taken was very voluminous, it was thought desirable to publish it from time to time instead of waiting for the publication of our Final Report. Accordingly

* See map facing p. 116.

eleven volumes of evidence were published as appendices to eleven preliminary Reports. The evidence contained in these volumes comprises 60,386 questions and answers, and occupies 2,314 pages. In addition to the evidence, these volumes contain 1,779 pages of statistics, notes, memoranda, and summaries or digests of the evidence contained in each volume. A volume of 409 pages, containing special statistics, relating to agricultural holdings, collected for the Commission, was published as a second Appendix to the Seventh Report. As Appendices to this Final Report, two volumes are issued, one containing a digest of, and the other an index to, all the evidence taken.* I.—*Continued.* Statement of Proceedings.

II.—Definition of Congestion, Condition of Congested Districts, and Causes of Congestion.

5. Before considering the problem of congestion as it presented itself to us, it may be well to explain what are the scheduled districts, what appears to us to be their present condition, and what are the main causes of their poverty. When the Government of the day decided in 1891 to create the Congested Districts Board to deal with the problem of the poorer parts of Ireland, the first question that confronted them was the delimitation of the area over which the Board should work. After considering various tests, it was decided that the electoral division (of which there are 3,652 in Ireland) should be the unit of congestion, and that no division should be placed under the Board if the average rateable valuation per head exceeded 30*s.*, unless it was specially scheduled by the Lord Lieutenant. It was obvious that a few electoral divisions in nearly every county in Ireland would satisfy this test, and that it would be desirable to concentrate the energies of the Board upon the counties where there was a large amount of exceptional poverty. It was, therefore, decided that no electoral division in any county should be scheduled unless one-fifth of the total population of the county (or in the case of the County Cork, of either riding thereof) lived in electoral divisions where the average valuation per head did not exceed 30*s.* The Lord Lieutenant had power for one year, under the provisions of the Act, specially to schedule any electoral division with a valuation above 30*s.*, or to exclude any electoral division that came within the terms of the definition, but which it was thought inexpedient to schedule. 54 and 55 Vic., c. 48, sect. 36.

6. It was found that 398 electoral divisions situate in the counties of Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo, Donegal, Kerry and the West Riding of Cork, satisfied both provisions of the definition. The Lord Lieutenant specially scheduled 31 other electoral divisions, in the above counties, in which the average valuation per head was over 30*s.* As no electoral division, in these eight counties, with an average valuation not exceeding 30*s.* was excluded, 429 electoral divisions situate in the eight counties mentioned were declared congested. The scheduled portion of each of these counties is technically known as a "Congested Districts County." Under the Local Government Act of 1898 the boundaries of County Galway were altered, and the electoral division of Mountshannon (which had been originally scheduled through a clerical error) was transferred from County Galway to County Clare.

7. It is obvious that neither the definition adopted, nor any other arbitrary test, could be wholly satisfactory. In the first place a certain number of poor electoral divisions, in the other counties of Ireland, with an average valuation per head of 30*s.* or less were excluded from the Board's operations. The fact that one-fifth of the population did not live in electoral divisions of which the average valuation per head was 30*s.* or under, showed that the exceptional poverty in these counties was not so widespread as in the eight scheduled counties. This exclusion was intentional in order to enable the Board to concentrate their efforts. The definition did not, however, cover all poor divisions in the eight counties as the presence of certain areas, such as large grazing farms, in an otherwise poor electoral division, while in no way relieving the poverty of the poorer part of the electoral division, brought up the average valuation, per head above the 30*s.* limit, and so debarred the division from being brought under the Board, unless the Lord Lieutenant specially scheduled it. This power was restricted to

* For a complete list of the publications of the Commission, see p. v.

II.—*Continued.*
Definition of Congestion, Condition of Congested Districts, and Causes of Congestion.

one year from the passing of the Act, and it might have been useful if it had been continuous. Again, valuation per head, though probably the best test available of the resources of a district, is not perfect, since, apart from the question of areas which, without affording employment, swell the average valuation, it is a complete guide to the wealth or poverty of any particular district only :—(1.) When the people are entirely dependent on the land for their living; that is where there are no supplementary industries such as fishing, weaving, &c., and (2.) Where the valuation corresponds to the present productivity of the land. There are electoral divisions in Ireland with an average valuation per head under £1 where the people are in easier circumstances, on account of fishing and other resources, than they are in electoral divisions with an average valuation of over 30*s.* where there are no subsidiary industries. Again, the valuation was made between 45 and 55 years ago, and it was stated in evidence that the valuation was not even then uniform throughout Ireland, and no alteration has been made in it in order to allow for any improvement or deterioration in the land that may since have taken place. We shall recur to this subject later when considering the question of what areas outside the districts now scheduled as congested require to be dealt with as congested ; it will suffice to remark here that, while the scheduled areas contain most of the exceptionally poor districts, there are other districts, some of them adjoining the scheduled areas, just as much in need of assistance, with which the Board under the present law cannot deal.

Barton, V., Q. 22513, *et seq.* Bailey, III., p. 338–9.

See paragraphs 102 and 303–5.

8. The districts scheduled under the Act of 1891 consist of 3,626,381 acres, or rather more than one-sixth of the total area of Ireland, with a population (in 1901) of 505,723, which is rather more than one-ninth of the total population of Ireland, and with a poor law valuation (in 1901) of £577,043, which is about one twenty-seventh of the total valuation of Ireland. It will be at once seen that the population in the scheduled districts is by no means dense, and that these areas, as a whole, are not congested in the ordinary sense of the word. The term as applied to them means little more than exceptionally poor. The average valuation in the congested districts of each acre of land occupied by agricultural holdings is 3*s.* 6*d.*, whilst the corresponding average for the rest of Ireland is 12*s.* 1*d.* Hence the trouble is not the scarcity of land, but the scarcity of any but the poorest land. So far as we have been able to ascertain, the term "congested" as applied to the very poor districts of the West of Ireland was first used in 1882 in the First Report of the Committee of Mr. Tuke's Fund. No doubt the fact that emigration—a remedy usually reserved for congestion properly so called—was then the panacea for the distress existing in the West of Ireland led to these poor areas being rather inappropriately described as congested districts. The term was, and is, a misnomer, but it is consecrated by the usage of twenty-five years, and accordingly our adherence to it, after this explanation, is not likely to be misunderstood.

9. Ireland, of course, is predominantly an agricultural country, but the predominance is most marked in the congested districts. In the non-scheduled part of Ireland 2,200,000 people (four-sevenths of the population) live on what is described in the Census returns as agricultural holdings, the total number of which is 405,347 with a valuation of £9,500,000. In the scheduled areas 461,247 people, or more than nine-tenths of the population, live upon agricultural holdings. The total number of holdings in these districts is 84,954, with a valuation of £523,188, which gives an average valuation of a little over £6 per holding, as compared with an average of between £22 and £23 per holding in other parts of Ireland. These figures at once suggest the question, how many holdings in the congested districts can be considered capable of supporting a man and his family according to any decent standard of comfort ? The matter will be considered in detail later, but it is sufficient to remark here that, whilst it is uniformly admitted that there must be variation, a holding of which the valuation is £10 has been generally regarded by witnesses as the minimum desirable. Not only is the average valuation in the congested districts below this, but of the total number of holdings (84,954), 74,413, or about seven-eighths, are under £10 valuation, and of these 45,138 (or more than one-half the total number of holdings in the congested districts) are under £4 valuation. We shall refer to these figures when considering the size of the land problem to be solved, but it may now be pointed out

See paragraphs 109–12.

that, whilst nine-tenths of the population in the congested districts live upon agricultural holdings, over three-quarters are living on holdings that are not in themselves adequate to support them according to a proper standard of living. They have consequently either to supplement the produce of their holdings from other sources, or to live below the proper standard of comfort; in point of fact, the great majority do both.

II.—*Continued.* Definition of Congestion, Condition of Congested Districts, and Causes of Congestion.

10. Not only are most of the holdings in the scheduled districts quite inadequate in size, at any rate in regard to the cultivable land, but many of them are also arranged in a way that makes good agriculture impossible. On many estates in the West, especially where the houses are clustered together in "villages," and where the people have been in occupation for generations, the land is held in rundale—a survival, according to some authorities, of the old communal or tribal system of land-holding—and in other parts the people have sub-divided the holdings from time to time in their own way, in consequence of which their holdings now consist of intermixed plots. The result is that the farm of one tenant often consists not of one or two or even three separate portions of land, but of many detached plots within fenced fields, scattered amongst similar fragments of other holdings. A field of one acre may belong to a dozen persons, each of whom has a plot of his own while the land is under cultivation, and very frequently matters are still further complicated by various fractions of plots being held in "undivided shares." As might be expected, under such conditions, agriculture is extremely backward in many places. Most of the holdings consist mainly of rough grazing land, and potatoes and oats are the only crops usually grown. The methods of cultivation are primitive, with but little rotation of crops, insufficient drainage and inadequate manuring. The breeds of live stock were worn out and of little value in the poorest districts when the Board commenced operations, and, though there has been considerable improvement, much remains to be done, and progress in this respect is of great importance, as the calf or yearling that the average small occupier at present sells is often his main source of income.

11. In very many districts the people cannot live on the produce of the land, but have to depend very largely upon secondary sources of income of an uncertain and varying nature. They pay rent for a holding not so much for its agricultural value as because it furnishes a home for their family. In some inland districts the small farmer is forced to eke out a living mainly by means of money earned by field labour, mostly in Great Britain, because, owing to the enormous predominance of small holdings, and to the fact that most large holdings in the neighbourhood are grazing ranches, there is little demand for agricultural labour at home. The majority of these Irish migratory labourers come from the congested districts, and it has been estimated that the average earnings they bring home after an absence of five or six months varies from £12 to £15. Along the sea-board the results of sea fishing are sometimes more valuable than the produce of the land, especially where the fisheries have been developed by the Board. The kelp industry though decreasing in value is still of considerable importance, and residents along the coast have the advantage of being able to obtain sea-weed and sea-sand for manure. On the other hand they are frequently not so well off for turf and rough grazing as those who live inland, though on some parts of the coast a considerable sum is made by the sale and export of turf. The woollen industry gives employment in certain parts of the congested districts, and some addition to the family income is derived from weaving, knitting, sewing, lace-making, and other home industries established or developed by the Board, while many "congests" (as the inhabitants of these districts are often called) are largely dependent on remittances from their relatives in America.

II., p. 315.

12. Although these secondary sources of income are of help to many who could not live on the produce of their holdings, still in a "good year" some of them are little more than free from the dread of hunger, whilst a bad year, arising from complete or partial failure of the produce of their holdings, results in a condition of semi-starvation. In the first report of the Board, certain typical family budgets were published, which

Cd. 6908, 1903, pp. 32–7.

II.—*Continued.* Definition of Congestion, Condition of Congested Districts, and Causes of Congestion.

showed that in some cases the value of the produce of the farm, together with the earnings and receipts of the family from other sources, did not exceed a total of £15 a year, whilst in other cases the annual resources of an ordinary family were worth nearly as much as £80. Even in the more prosperous districts the standard of living is low. In the poorer districts the food consists largely of potatoes from harvest time until the spring, and of flour and Indian meal during the "hungry" months, supplemented by bread and tea. Oatmeal seems to be little used; milk is scarce, and the diet is entirely vegetable, with the exception of salt fish at times, which is generally used more as a relish than as an ordinary article of food, or a little fat bacon used as "kitchen." Some beer and whiskey, and a comparatively large amount of tobacco are used, whilst in many districts the consumption of tea seems excessive. Most of these articles may, however, be regarded as stimulants for a badly fed population rather than as ordinary luxuries. Lord Balfour of Burleigh and Lord Blair Balfour, in their joint recommendations, in the Report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation, thus described the condition of the people :—

Cd. 1068–1902, p. 23.

> "In the congested districts there are two classes mainly, the poor and the destitute. There are hardly any resident gentry, there are a very few traders and officials, but nearly all the inhabitants are either poor or on the verge of poverty. . . . In these districts, which are the very poorest in Ireland, the taxation is by far the highest; but the local resources are so low that even with a high rate of taxation the indispensable needs of the locality cannot be properly met. . . . The workhouses and infirmaries in most of the congested districts, owing to the poverty of the people, are necessarily in a worse condition than the infirmaries and poor law institutions elsewhere in Ireland. . . . Very little is spent on out-door relief. . . . . Moreover, there are very few indoor paupers. The people are very helpful to one another. The poor mainly support the destitute."

XI., pp. 98–9.

13. Nevertheless the death rate is low—a testimony to the virility of the race. The nine Irish counties with the lowest average annual death rate for the period 1891 to 1901 are as follows:—Mayo, 13·9 per 1,000 inhabitants; Roscommon, 14·2; Kerry, 14·2; Leitrim, 14·3; Sligo, 14·6; Donegal, 15·0; Cavan, 15·1; Galway, 15·2; Clare, 15·5. Of these Cavan is the only county, some part of which is not scheduled as congested. The average of the eight counties which contain scheduled districts, excluding Cork,* is 14·6, whilst that of the rest of Ireland is 19·4. This difference is even more striking than would appear at first sight, for, owing to the poverty of these districts, the emigration of the able-bodied is greater than elsewhere, and consequently there is an undue proportion of the very young and the very old in these counties. In six out of the eight counties containing congested districts (omitting Cork), less than half the population is between 20 and 65 years of age, whilst in every other county in Ireland the number between these ages is over half the total population. In the eight counties 51·1 per cent. of the population are under 20 years or over 65, whilst in the rest of Ireland only 46·2 per cent. of the population are within these limits. Consequently, other things being equal, a higher death rate might have been expected in these eight counties than elsewhere, since they contain an excessive proportion of the classes amongst whom the average mortality is highest, the young and the old, and the comparative lowness of the death rate is therefore even greater than appears at first sight.

14. As might have been expected from the undue proportion of young and old in these counties, and from their poverty, the marriage rate is also low. The average for the eight counties is 3·6 per thousand inhabitants as compared with 5·2 in the rest of Ireland. Similarly the birth rate is lower in the West than elsewhere, the average being 21·6 per thousand inhabitants in the eight counties as against 23·4 for the rest of Ireland. The latter figure, however, is swollen by the high birth rate in Belfast and Dublin (33·0 and 31·9 respectively), and if these two large urban centres were excluded, the average birth rate in the eight counties is higher than in

* In many of the comparisons which are made in this report between the counties containing congested districts and the rest of Ireland, Cork is included in the latter rather than in the former class, because though there is a limited area of acute poverty in the south west corner of the West Riding, Cork is such a large county, and on the whole so comparatively rich, that its inclusion in the former class would produce misleading results.

II.—*Continued.*
Definition of Congestion, Condition of Congested Districts, and Causes of Congestion.

the rest of Ireland, which is somewhat remarkable in view of the smaller adult population, the lower marriage rate, and the fact that much fewer illegitimate births occur in these counties than in any other part of Ireland. The result of the very low death rate and the comparatively high birth rate is that in the excess of births over deaths the eight counties are considerably in advance of the rest of Ireland. The excess in Belfast is 10·0 per thousand inhabitants; in Kerry, 9·4; Mayo, 8·7; Galway, 7·0; Antrim, 6·3; Leitrim, 6·1; Donegal, 6·1; Sligo, 5·7; Roscommon, 5·3; and Clare, 5·2; thus eight of the ten highest places, are furnished by the counties part of which is congested, and the average for the whole of these counties is 7·0, as compared with 4·0 for the rest of Ireland. These counties are, however, the places whence emigration is greatest, the average annual rate for the period 1891-1901 being 16·2, or more than double the rate for the rest of Ireland, namely, 7·1. Hence in some of these counties the decrease in population during the period 1891–1901 has been very marked. The average decrease in population in the eight counties was 9·2 per cent., or more than double that of the rest of Ireland (4·0 per cent.), despite the fact that the natural increase by excess of births over deaths was far higher.

15. The outstanding feature of the congested districts, and, indeed, of the greater part of the nine counties which contain such districts is not an excessive population, but, first, a fairly dense population in certain areas, mostly along the sea coast, where the land is hardly capable of supporting any population at all, and, secondly, excessive population in districts mainly consisting of poor land but adjacent to extremely thinly populated districts of better land. The population of the scheduled districts, depending as it does mainly upon agriculture, is excessive for the land having regard to its value, and no redistribution of the population within the scheduled areas could, to any considerable extent, remedy the existing congestion. The richer portions and the less thinly populated portions of the counties containing congested districts are excluded from the schedule, by reason of the land being good and the valuation, therefore, comparatively high, or by reason of the population being small, which brings the average valuation per head above the 30*s.* limit. There are in the non-scheduled areas very many uneconomic holdings, but there also are a large number of very large holdings. If no distinction is drawn between the scheduled and the non-scheduled areas, the total population living on the land in the whole of the counties, part of which are scheduled as congested, would not be very excessive if the people were more evenly distributed. To accomplish this would go far to solve the immediate problem of congestion.

16. Before considering the measures which have been, and should be, taken to improve the condition of these districts it may be desirable to consider very briefly how the present state of affairs arose. Two questions naturally present themselves corresponding to the two types of congested districts mentioned above. First, how did districts so little capable of supporting any population at all come to be populated very thickly, not indeed for the acreage, but having regard to the productive capacity of the land; and, secondly, how is it that in large districts where the land is mostly good, there are very few people on the good land, but great numbers on the bad land adjoining? It may be that some settlers were attracted from the interior to the first class of congested districts which are mainly on the seaboard, partly by the success of the west coast fisheries during the Elizabethan age (though these were mainly carried on by foreigners), and to the comparative immunity these districts afforded from the ever-threatening danger of devastation, consequent upon the frequent wars waged during the Tudor period in inland districts. There can be little doubt that the introduction of the potato enabled the descendants of some of these settlers to continue to eke out an existence in these districts in increased numbers, when otherwise they would have been forced to seek a living on kindlier soil.

17. The main answer to both inquiries is, however, to be found in the course of Irish history during the last three hundred years, though of course economic causes have also contributed to congestion, especially during the nineteenth century. The various Plantations of Ireland, the Acts of Settle-

II.—*Continued.* Definition of Congestion, Condition of Congested Districts, and Causes of Congestion.

ment and Confiscation and the substitution of English land tenures for the traditional Irish methods of land-holding have profoundly affected the agrarian development of Ireland. The chief incident in history, however, which led to congestion in the West was the Cromwellian Act of Settlement, under which most of the landowning population implicated on the Royalist side in the war of 1641 were banished west of the Shannon. Irish land bonds had been issued in England in 1642 to the "Adventurers," who had advanced money for the equipment of an army to deal with the rising in Ireland —an army, by the way, which never left England, but remained to fight at Edgehill—and to meet these claims, and also to discharge the arrears of pay due to Cromwell's army, the most thorough measure of confiscation known in Irish history was enacted. The swordsmen had passed into foreign armies, and many others had been transhipped to the West Indies, but a large portion of the native population in Ulster, Leinster, and Munster, were banished to Connaught in 1653 and 1654.* Only two classes of persons were exempted from the transplantation, those who could prove "constant good affection," and the mere earth-tillers, viz., "All husbandmen, plowmen, labourers, artificers, and others of an inferior sort." The weaker portion of the population already resident in Connaught, and of those now transplanted there, were pushed further west to the poorer land, whilst the stronger portion remained or settled more inland. The restoration of the Monarchy brought little relief to most of the native Irish, and after the Battle of the Boyne the Williamite Acts of Settlement intensified the effects of the Cromwellian and earlier plantations.

18. The commercial restrictions from which Ireland suffered during the following century forced the people to look for subsistence to the land, and the agrarian unrest was not relieved by legislation but rather intensified by the operation of the Penal Laws which prevented the greater part of the population from acquiring any beneficial interest in the land. Moreover the wave of industrial prosperity, which spread over Ireland towards the end of the eighteenth century, hardly made its way to Connaught, and not at all to the more westerly part, except so far as the fisheries were concerned. The high prices obtained for agricultural produce during the Napoleonic Wars tended to extend the area under cultivation, and increased the number of cottiers and other agricultural labourers. Congestion did not cease when prices fell, but, increased by sub-division, went on until the great crash of the Famine came, when the upheaval of society that ensued was attended with a great decrease in the number of holdings. In some cases the tenants, especially those who were really labourers with allotments, gave up their holdings, as those who had survived the famine found less demand than ever for their labour. In many cases the landlords were forced to effect clearances, either by their creditors or because they were confronted with the difficulty of obtaining rents from pauper tenants. In certain districts the greater part of the population died, and whatever may be the most potent causes of the consolidation of holdings that was effected about the time of the Famine, there can be no doubt about its extent.

19. Between 1847—the first year in which there is a return of holdings under one acre—and 1851 the number of such holdings in the Counties of Donegal, Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo, Kerry and Clare fell from 18,639 to 8,354. Between 1841 and 1851 the number of holdings between 1 and 15 acres in the same counties fell from 216,798 to 91,894, while in the same period the number of holdings between 15 and 30 acres rose from 15,619 to 46,942, and of those over 30 acres from 9,198 to 44,638. Between 1851 and 1881 the number of holdings between 1 and 15 acres fell 11 per cent., while the larger holdings increased. In the case of those between 15 acres and 30 acres, the increase was seven per cent.; between 30 acres and 100 acres, six per cent.; and of those over 100 acres, eight per cent. Hence, while part of the land formerly occupied by small holdings was utilised for the creation of large grazing farms, some of it was employed for the enlargement of other small holdings. Many of the small farms swept away were uneconomic, but the

* The number has been estimated by some, *e.g.*, D'Arcy M'Gee, at about 100,000, or about one-eighth of the total population of Ireland.

sudden nature of the changes undoubtedly caused great suffering and, in many cases, left bitter memories. This tendency to consolidate farms was given an impetus by the passing of the Encumbered Estates Act in 1848, which replaced many of the old landlords by new men, a large number of whom, looking upon the owning of land as purely a commercial transaction and disregarding traditional rights of the tenants, raised rents or evicted tenants and consolidated the holdings thus vacated. Another cause that contributed to the process was the repeal of the Corn Laws, which exposed Irish cereals to outside competition with the world—though the full effects of this were not felt for many years. The rise in the price of beef—which was unaffected by competition—led to more land being cleared and thrown into large grazing farms. On the poorer land, however, many of the inhabitants were left undisturbed because it was not thought worth while to resume possession of the holdings. Many of those who were cleared from the good land and did not go to America settled upon unreclaimed pieces of land in the neighbourhood and added to the congestion already existing there. It is probable that others went further west, and took the place of those on the seaboard who had died during the Famine or had been forced to emigrate, and some carved out new holdings for themselves on the waste land along the western littoral, and started the almost impossible task of winning a living from land incapable in itself of supporting life according to any decent standard. There can be no doubt that sub-division went on even after the Famine on these small holdings, especially on the seaboard where the utmost utility of the holding was to supply a home and produce potatoes.

II.—*Continued.*
Definition of Congestion, Condition of Congested Districts, and Causes of Congestion.

20. The insufficiency of the resources of these poor districts—most of which are now known as congested—to support their population, despite the reduction by death during the Famine period and the subsequent emigration, is shown by the numerous relief measures which have had to be introduced since 1879, of which an account specially prepared for the Commission will be found in the Appendix to our Eleventh Report. In a quarter of a century four millions were spent on measures of relief, taking the expression in its wider meaning, namely, the amelioration of chronic poverty. Over three millions were spent in the same period on the construction of light railways and on other improvements in the means of communication, and by far the greatest portion of this money has been spent in the scheduled districts. Even yet, bad harvests render further relief measures inevitable every second or third year in certain districts, and although distress is not now as acute and widespread as it was twenty years ago, this seems to be more due to the decline in population and the change of diet to food other than the potato, than to permanent amelioration in the conditions of life.

XI., pp. 91-7.

III.—Establishment of Congested Districts Board.

21. There has, however, been considerable permanent improvement in these districts, largely owing to the work of the Congested Districts Board, which was established in 1891. Mr. Arthur Balfour, the founder of the Board, decided to entrust to a small body of Irishmen, selected irrespective of party considerations, the task of making an experiment as to what could be done to relieve the poorest parts of Ireland, and with this object the Board, though endowed with only small funds, were given the widest powers over the area scheduled in the manner already described. They were empowered to take such steps as they thought proper for :—

54 & 55 Vic., c. 48, ss. 34-41.

(1.) Aiding migration or emigration from the congested districts, and settling the migrant or emigrant in his new home.

(2.) Aiding and developing agriculture, forestry, the breeding of live stock and poultry, weaving, spinning, fishing (including the construction of piers and harbours, and supplying fishing boats and gear, and industries subservient to and connected with fishing), and any other suitable industries.

III.—*Continued.* Establishment of Congested Districts Board.

22. The Board's income consisted in the first instance of £41,250, being the interest at $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. on the Church Surplus Grant—one and a half millions charged—on the Irish Church Temporalities Fund. Two capital funds were transferred to the Board from the Commissioners of Public Works:—the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund, which amounted in securities, cash and outstanding loans, to £70,394, and a portion of the Sea and Coast Fisheries Fund amounting to £18,866. The Board have since received two additions to its annual income; a Parliamentary grant of £25,000 in the year 1899, and, in 1903, a subsidy of £20,000 out of the Ireland Development Grant. The actual addition made by the former grant was less than the nominal amount, as the Board were henceforth obliged to defray out of their funds, salaries and travelling expenses, amounting to about £6,000, formerly borne on the Parliamentary Vote, also the cost of office maintenance, repairs, and coal (hitherto borne by the Board of Works), printing and stationery (hitherto borne by the Stationery Office), and postage and telegrams (hitherto borne by the General Post Office). The result was that the net increase of income to the Board was only about £17,000. The original staff was largely recruited from the Irish Land Commission and the salaries of its permanent officials appeared till 1899 in the Land Commission Vote. The Treasury have refused to allow any additions to be made to the permanent staff, and consequently over 75 per cent. of the clerical staff consist of temporary clerks. All the salaries have now to be paid out of the Board's endowment. An expenditure of £50,000 on various public works, chiefly piers and roads, has been met from the capital funds of the Board. A sum of about £23,000 was made in dealings with Guaranteed Land Stock, and the receipts on certain estates, during the time they were held by the Board, have exceeded the outgoings. Apart from these incidental aids, all the Board's expenditure that has not been recovered in the shape of repayments, has been provided out of money borrowed from the Board of Works or has been met out of its annual income, which has varied from £41,250 to £86,250.

IV.—Work of Land Purchase and Re-settlement prior to 1903.

23. The work which is now regarded as far the most important function of the Board—the purchase and re-settlement of estates—does not seem to have been clearly contemplated in the Act which constituted the Board, though that Act did attempt to provide for the amalgamation and enlargement of holdings on an estate still in the hands of a landlord. Experience, however, soon proved that it is practically impossible for the Board to do this work without buying the estate, and that it is extremely difficult to re-settle a cluster of uneconomic holdings which have been bought by the occupiers under the Land Purchase Acts. Though the general powers given to the Board for the relief of congestion by the Act of 1891 were very wide, and though the Act indicated the amalgamation and enlargement of holdings as one of the objects to which attention might be directed, the purchase of estates for this purpose, as has been noted, was not specified. Hence, when the Board in 1893 proposed to buy a property that badly required re-settlement, the French Estate, there was at first some doubt expressed whether the Act authorised the purchase by the Board of properties merely for the purpose of enlarging small holdings. Finally the Land Commission agreed to buy the estate for the Board, but as an advance under the Land Purchase Acts could not be obtained for this purpose, the money had to be provided out of their own funds. Even then, as the Board had no power to hold land—though property could be held in trust for them by the Land Commission—it was considered doubtful whether the tenants on the French Estate could obtain advances under the Land Purchase Acts, in order to buy their holdings from the Board, since that body was not technically a "landlord."

56 & 57 Vic. c. 35.

24. To remove some of these difficulties an Act was passed in 1893 giving the Board power to acquire land for the enlargement of holdings and to have such land held by two of their members as trustees. When the Board resold to the tenants a further legal difficulty arose, as the Land Commission proposed to exercise their rights of retaining part of the price as a guarantee

IV.—*Continued.*

Work of Land Purchase and Re-settlement prior to 1903.

deposit on the grounds of insufficient security. The result was the passing of a second amending Act in 1894 which enabled the Board to guarantee the repayment of advances instead of having part of the price retained as a guarantee deposit. Though the system of guarantee deposits has been done away with, a guarantee is still given by the Board in a somewhat modified form under the Act of 1903, the reason being that the Land Commission do not inspect, for security, holdings sold by the Board, as they do in the case of sales outside the zones by other vendors. In addition to the tenanted land on the French Estate which was held by 77 tenants, two-thirds of whose holdings were valued at under £5, there was a comparatively large grazing farm which enabled the Board to give the poorer tenants enlargements, though it was not sufficient to enable them to carry out an entirely adequate re-settlement. Some of the holdings were re-arranged, and the rest obtained stripes of turf and cut-away bog. Several new houses were built, others were repaired, and over £700 was expended on making roads, drains and fences, &c. The estate had been purchased in the Land Judge's Court for £7,600, and the Board were able to recover on re-selling to the tenants such part of the money expended on improvements, as was not covered by the excess of the rents and the revenue collected from the grass farm over the outgoings. We consider it desirable to mention these and similar details in order that the nature of the Board's operations may be fully understood.

Sect. 3, Ed. VII c. 37, sections 80–1.

25. The Board were so satisfied with the result of their operation on the French Estate that they tried to obtain further estates for similar treatment and also tracts of untenanted land for the enlargement of holdings, but having failed, the following resolution was adopted and made public in their Fourth Report :—

[Cd. 7791–1895, p. 10.]

> "That the Congested Districts Board are in possession of information through their Inspectors, that there are large tracts of land that could be used to enlarge the holdings of small occupiers, and promote schemes of migration in the congested districts. The Board are, however, of opinion that it will be impossible for them to give due effect to this important department of their work unless more funds are placed at their disposal, and compulsory powers given to them to acquire such lands at their just value."

26. The Board took no further action towards trying to get the powers they asked for. On the 15th March, 1895, Clare Island was bought for £5,000, and, after re-settling it, the Board re-sold to the tenants direct, *i.e.*, not by means of advances under the Land Purchase Acts, as they were afraid that the Land Commission might demand a considerable guarantee under the Act of 1894. The tenants did not pay the Board the prices of their holdings in a lump sum, but in annuities of 3¼ per cent. upon the agreed prices. It may be noted that this was the annuity rate subsequently adopted in the Land Act of 1903. The greater part of the island was at the time of purchase held in rundale, and few tenants knew where their land or their rights began or ended. As there were no fences, the cattle and sheep roamed over the whole island, and when the crop was in the ground the tillage land had to be guarded against the incursions of the cattle by the members of the tenants' families. Hence the first work undertaken was the building at a cost of £1,600 of a stone wall, about five miles long, across the island separating the cultivable land from the mountain grazing, and over fifty miles of fences were constructed running from the wall to the sea, partitioning the cultivable land amongst the tenants. The Board spent more on the estate than they had paid for the fee, but as they re-sold for £10,000, they recovered a large part of their expenditure from the tenants in the shape of enhanced price, and lost on the whole transaction only a comparatively trifling amount.

57 & 58 Vic., c. 50, s. 1

27. On the 14th August, 1896, the Board bought in the Land Judge's Court the Leonard property, a poor estate, which was purchased at a price (£9,545) considerably in excess of the value put upon it by the Board's Inspector. Extensive improvement works had to be carried out, which cost more than the original price of the fee, and the net loss on the estate was over £3,000. This concluded the first period of the Board's land operations, during which they bought three estates, all out of their own funds. The total amount so purchased was 6,690 acres, of which a little more

IV.—*Continued.* Work of Land Purchase and Re-settlement prior to 1903.

than two-thirds was tenanted, and a little less than one-third untenanted, mostly rough grazing land. The total poor law valuation was £1,268, and the total price given by the Board was £18,799.

59 & 60 Vic., c. 47, ss. 43–5.

28. After the passing of the Land Law (Ireland) Act of 1896, the second stage of the Board's purchases began. The most important change made by the Act was the power given of getting advances from the Land Commission for the purchase of estates from landlords instead of having to buy them out of their own funds. The advances were made, as were all advances at the time, in Guaranteed Land Stock, and the Board realised at the price of the day and paid the landlord the agreed price. When the stock stood above par, as was the case until 1900, they made a profit; when it stood below par they lost; in all the Board made a net profit of about £2,000. They paid a 4 per cent. annuity (interest and sinking fund) on the amount thus advanced to buy an estate, until it was re-sold, and as each holding was re-sold to the tenants the Land Commission "wrote off" a corresponding amount from the Board's debt and refunded to them the amount of sinking fund they had paid. The Board, however, had the option of buying stock and lodging it in redemption of their debt, and this they generally did after the passing of the Act of 1903. They were not, however, authorised to get advances for the purchase of a tenant's interest, and were therefore forced to buy out of their own funds, a practice which still continues and to which reference will be made later.

See paragraph 47.

See paragraph 199.

62 & 63 Vic., c. 18.

29. There was a curious provision in the Act of 1896 which prohibited the Board from selling to a tenant a holding under £10 valuation by means of an advance under the Land Purchase Acts. No doubt it was, and is, desirable that uneconomic holdings should not be stereotyped and £10 valuation is probably as fair a standard of an economic holding as can be devised, but holdings below even £5 valuation were, and are still, passing by direct sale from landlord to tenant all over Ireland. Moreover some holdings below the £10 limit do not require enlargement even if land were available for this purpose. The Board considered that owing to the difficulty which they experienced in buying untenanted land, especially in proximity to the small holdings, this restriction threw obstacles in the way of the work of re-settlement, and accordingly it was repealed by the amending Act passed in 1899. This Act also enabled the Board to get advances from the Land Commission to redeem head rents and incumbrances on estates the Board purchased. Formerly they were compelled to find this money out of their own funds. The same Act gave the Board the first increase in their income, £25,000 a year, which brought the total fixed income of the Board up to £66,250. This nominal increase of £25,000, as has been already pointed out, meant a real addition of about £17,000 only.

30. We have said that many of the holdings bought by the Board were in rundale or intermixed plots. In some cases a holding of ten acres consisted of forty or fifty different plots and where there were a number of such holdings on an estate the re-arrangement was a matter of much difficulty as one unreasonable person could stop the whole scheme of re-settlement to his own detriment as well as to that of others. As the Act of 1899 brought no relief in this respect an attempt was made to meet this difficulty by an Act passed in 1901, but—as will be explained later—without success.

I. Edw. VII., c. 34.

31. After the passing of the Act of 1896, the Board bought a number of small estates in 1897 and 1898, but it was the purchase of the Dillon Estate in 1899 which marks the close of the chapter of small experiments, and the beginning of the period when land re-settlement became far the most important work. This estate was nearly four times as large as the whole of the seventeen estates previously bought by the Board, and its re-settlement is, perhaps, their most important operation, though at the same time it furnishes some examples of the disadvantages inherent in the system under which their work had to be carried out. The area of the estate was 93,000 acres, on which there were over 4,000 tenants paying a nominal rental of

£20,000. The great majority of the tenants had uneconomic holdings, and were largely dependent for their subsistence upon their earnings as migratory labourers in Great Britain. As there was little untenanted land in the neighbourhood, and as, in the opinion of the Board, it was not found possible to do much in the way of migration to a distance, the improvements effected were mainly re-arrangement of holdings, fencing, reclamation and drainage, and the Board's Chief Land Inspector stated before the Commission that in his opinion half the holdings were still uneconomic, though half that moiety might be made economic during the next ten years by agricultural improvements. The estate was bought for £325,000, of which £290,000 was paid to the landlord, and £35,000 was expended on the redemption of charges and purchase of tenancy interests. The estate was re-sold without any loss to the Board, though nearly £70,000 was expended on improvements, a result which is explained by the fact that £29,000 was available out of the excess of receipts over payments during the time the estate was in the Board's hands, and that the balance was recovered as enhanced price. The Board did not find it possible to enlarge most of the holdings on the Dillon Estate to any considerable extent, but were able to effect very great improvements in the condition of the holdings without loss, owing to the length of time the estate was kept in their hands. This gives rise to considerations of great importance in connection with the land work of the Board.

IV.—*Continued.*
Work of Land Purchase and Re-settlement prior to 1903.

I., Q. 3109–20.

32. It is obvious from the fact that seven-eighths of the holdings in the congested districts are under £10 valuation, that the first thing to be done is to increase the size of as many farms as possible. Where the small holdings are in proximity to untenanted land the work of enlargement is comparatively simple. Where the untenanted land is within a couple of miles of the small holdings relief can be effected by giving the tenant a portion of the untenanted land not immediately adjoining his own holding, but capable of being worked in connection therewith, or by inducing several of the tenants to give up their present holdings in the congested area, and to take new farms carved out of the untenanted land, the vacated holdings being divided amongst the remaining small holders. The chief obstacle in the way of this is the expense, as it is generally impossible to recover from the migrant the whole cost of the land and of the equipment of the new holding. Untenanted land cannot be bought cheap, and the highest annuity which it is safe to charge the migrant often does not suffice to pay for much more than the cost of the land, even after allowing for the occupation interest of the migrant in the old holding which he has vacated. Hence a large part of the cost of equipment has generally to be borne by the Board. Where the untenanted land is more than a mile or two away from the congested holdings, as is usually the case, greater difficulties are encountered. Even now the Board do not find it easy in many places to induce tenants to give up their holdings in exchange for better farms several miles away, and, as the Board did not succeed in getting suitable grazing land, they were unable, during the earlier stages of their work, to offer holdings sufficiently attractive to induce any but the poorest landholders to migrate to a distance. This fact was attended with several disadvantages, for very small farmers are less likely to succeed on a new holding than more substantial farmers, and the holdings they vacate do not go far towards relieving congestion amongst those who remain behind. Moreover, their migration is comparatively more costly than that of larger farmers, for, as the loss is chiefly on the buildings, the smaller the quantity of land sold with each house, the greater is the proportionate loss.

33. When the Board began to operate upon a larger scale, and specially when they commenced to buy untenanted land outside the scheduled areas, for the relief of the congested holdings, a new difficulty began to make itself felt. Those who lived in the vicinity of the grazing lands expressed with increasing strength their disapproval of the utilisation of these lands for relieving congestion in other parts of the country, and the knowledge that they were not likely to receive a friendly welcome, did not increase the willingness of the congests to migrate. The Board do not seem to have found it necessary to call attention in their

IV.—*Continued.* Work of Land Purchase and Re-settlement prior to 1903.

annual reports to this obstacle until their Thirteenth Report for the year ending March 31st, 1904, and undoubtedly this difficulty began to be felt most acutely after the passing of the Act of 1903.

Cd. 2275—1904, p. 17.

34. On some estates in the west of Ireland, any considerable enlargement of the holdings has, in the past, been impossible, owing to the absence of untenanted land in the neighbourhood and the difficulty of getting tenants to migrate. On these estates, however, the Board's intervention is very often required in other ways, though for lack of land it is not possible to make many of the holdings fully adequate for the support of a family. The estate may be susceptible of immense improvement, as was the Dillon Estate, by careful treatment in the shape of drainage, fencing, reclamation, and agricultural improvements, or the holdings may be in such a state of rundale or intermixed plots that a complete re-arrangement is most desirable, as was the case on Clare Island. In both such cases the Board considered it absolutely necessary to hold the estate in their own hands for a considerable time in order to carry out the improvements, and it is their practice to spend on these improvements, in addition to other funds, all the revenue collected from the tenants that is not required to pay interest on the purchase-money.

35. This action has been criticised on the grounds that the Board should be more expeditious, and, also, that as soon as an estate has been bought the rents payable by the tenants should be scaled down to the amounts that will subsequently be payable as purchase annuities. It has been suggested that a tenant may have some cause of complaint, if the difference between the rent paid by him during this period and the amount of interest that the Board have to pay on the purchase-money of his holding, is not devoted to carrying out improvements on his own holding. We desire to say very emphatically that we have no sympathy with these criticisms, and that if they are persisted in, the effect will be disastrous to the tenants themselves. It is easy to be expeditious when little transformation has to be affected in an estate, but work such as was carried out on the Dillon Estate and Clare Island requires time, and cannot be unduly hastened. As regards the other objection, we are of opinion that the Board should think of the estate as a whole and not of individuals, and that, so long as no tenant is charged more than his former rent, *less* a reasonable abatement (such as grading down a non-judicial rent to a second-term basis), where cause for abatement can be shown, he has no ground for complaint if the Board spend part of the rent he has paid upon other holdings on the estate, in the same way as an improving landlord might spend part of his rental on any holding. Under their present powers it is impossible to buy up all the estates in any particular district at the same time, and though the tenants on the Dillon Estate were obliged to go on paying rent for several years after the Board purchased the property, they were far better off than the tenants on the neighbouring estates that had not been purchased, since the latter were also paying rents, without having the excess of their payments over outgoings expended on improvements, and without any immediate prospect of becoming tenant-purchasers. Moreover most of the money paid by the tenants comes back to them in the shape of wages paid in connection with improvement works.

36. In order to understand the danger of persistence in this objection to the policy of the Board, it is necessary briefly to explain their system of financing their land work. Since 1896, when they buy an estate, the Land Commission advance the price of the fee, and, since 1899, the additional amount necessary to redeem superior interests. If the Board wish to purchase a tenant's interest in a holding the money has to be provided out of their own funds, and if they wish to make any improvements the money has to be paid either out of their income or borrowed from the Board of Works, and the Congested Districts Board are restricted both as to the amount and as to the purpose for which they can borrow. These loans and advances are repaid to a certain extent out of the excess of revenue over outgoings on the estate during the time it is held by the Board, some of the expenditure is recovered on resale to the

IV.—*Continued.* Work of Land Purchase and Re-settlement prior to 1903.

enants, and the balance remains a permanent loss to the Board. The amount hat can be thus lost is limited by the amount of their income available for his purpose. The amount that can be safely recovered from the tenants in he shape of enhanced price is also limited. It is most important, therefore, hat the Board should obtain as much revenue as they legitimately can, luring the time the estate is in their hands, either in the shape of grazing ents or by excess of rents over payments of interest. If they were not to do o their power to re-settle estates would be considerably lessened to the ermanent disadvantage of the tenants.

37. After the purchase of the Dillon estate the Board bought several more roperties prior to the passing of the Land Act of 1903, which marked a new tage in the land work of the Board as regards funds, powers, and extent f work, and it may be useful to summarise the progress made between 1896 and 903. In that period the Board bought forty-three estates containing 164,489 cres, of which less than one-eighth was untenanted. The total valuation was early £34,000, and the total price paid for the fee, for redemption of charges and enancy interests was about £570,000, whilst the tenants numbered over 6,500. he fact that less than one-eighth of the land bought was untenanted indicates hat, on many of the estates, the relief given by the Board was in the nature of nprovements in the holdings, rather than of enlargements of the area, and hat the majority of the holdings remained inadequate in size. It is only ight to add that the Board were greatly handicapped during this period by heir inability to acquire sufficient untenanted land and by the legal difficulties hich they experienced. On this point, it may suffice to note that, during the welve years that elapsed between the creation of the Board and the legislation f 1903, it was found necessary to introduce no less than six Acts of Parlia- See pp. 129–52.
ient amending the powers of the Board, in respect of their work of land urchase and re-settlement.

38. Up to the time of the passing of the Act of 1903 the Board had resold ss than half of the estates previously bought, and it was not until their ourteenth Report which was signed on the 17th October, 1905, that an esti- Cd. 2757–1905, p. 14.
ate of the financial effect of their dealings with these estates was made public. t was necessarily an incomplete estimate and even at present it is impossible o give the exact figures, as part of some of the estates remain unsold, but the llowing figures relating to the forty-six estates purchased prior to the pass- ng of the Land Act of 1903, may be taken as almost final :—

Payments.		Receipts.		
	£		£	£
1. Price paid to Vendors, ...	470,104	1. Excess of Receipts from Estates over outgoings—		
2. Redemption of Charges, ...	87,581	Receipts, ...	212,050	71,280
3. Purchase of Tenancy Interests,	31,322	Outgoings, ...	140,770	
4. Expenditure on Improvement Works.	171,228	2. Resale Prices, ...	650,635	653,705
		3. Value of land retained,	3,070	
		4. Loss, ...		35,250
Total, ...	760,235	Total, ...		760,235

39. As the Board had to provide out of its own funds or out of borrowed oney £171,228 spent on improvement, £31,321 expended on the purchase of enancy interests and part of the sums paid for the fee, and in redemption of harges, the Board advanced in respect of these estates over £250,000. art of this expenditure has been made since the passing of the 1903 Act, ut most of it took place before. Of the sum thus spent £71,280 was paid out of the excess of revenue over outgoings on the estates, during he time they were held by the Board, £35,250 is irrecoverable and the alance has been or will be recovered from the tenant purchasers on the ompletion of the re-sales. This balance goes in the first instance towards aying off money borrowed for making improvements, and the remainder epresents that part of the past expenditure of the Board out of their income

IV.—*Continued.* Work of Land Purchase and Re-settlement prior to 1903.

on these estates that is being or will be recouped. It is now estimated that of the total amount spent by the Board out of their income on improving these estates, the amount that will be thus recovered is about £92,000, still leaving the loss of £35,250 already mentioned.

40. It has to be noted that the sums mentioned above do not represent all the money expended on the improvement and re-settlement of estates bought up to the end of 1903. There was considerable expenditure through Parish Committees on somewhat similar work, and the cost of administration in connection with land purchase and re-settlement, which was naturally very heavy, had, like all the other administrative costs of the Board's work, to be paid out of their income, since no salaries or office expenses are defrayed by Parliamentary votes, as is the case with Government Departments. It is estimated that, including the proportion of the cost of office maintenance, repairs, printing, stationery, postage, telegrams and legal expenses, and of the salaries and travelling expenses of the staff properly chargeable to estate work—the proportion at present is about two-thirds—the total cost of administrative work connected with the purchase and re-settlement of estates, bought before the end of 1903, has been not less than £100,000.

See paragraphs 87–91.

V.—Work of Land Purchase and Re-settlement under the Act of 1903.

41. The passing of the Act of 1903 marked a new stage in the Board's land work. Quite apart from the provisions of the Act that did not affect the Board's purchases, *e.g.* the zone system, great changes were introduced into the system of land purchase throughout congested as well as non-congested Ireland, such as the reversion to the system of advances in cash (as existed before 1891) instead of in Guaranteed Land Stock, the grant of a bonus of 12 per cent. to bridge the gulf between the offer of the tenant and the demand of the landlord, and the change from an annuity of 4 per cent. payable for a period varying from about 42½ years to 49 years (subject to a thirty years extension if the tenant purchaser accepted a decadal reduction), to an annuity of 3¼ per cent. running for an estimated period of 68½ years. The Act moreover gave the Board an additional grant of £20,000 a year, and paved the way for transferring the agricultural development work to the Department of Agriculture, a change that resulted in £9,000 a year formerly spent on agricultural work being set free for the Board's other work. In many ways it brought financial and administrative ease, and undoubtedly contemplated a very great extension of the Board's work, but, for good or for evil, it contained certain provisions, one result of which has been the hampering of the Board in carrying out schemes of migration. More than one-fifth of the land bought by the Board under the Act of 1903 was untenanted, and consequently they have found it easier during the last four years to enlarge holdings than they did during the earlier stages of their work, when they were forced largely to confine their attention to improving the condition of the holdings in ways other than by enlargements, but the facilities which the Act provided for dealing with untenanted land brought difficulties in their train.

42. Before the Act of 1903, when the Board bought an estate outside the scheduled areas, they could utilise the land only for migrants from the congested districts or for the enlargement of holdings on the estate itself. This latter power was of comparatively little importance, as the Board bought such an estate only for the purpose of getting untenanted land, and consequently they seldom bought estates in non-congested districts on which there were many tenants. The Board had no legal power to enlarge the farms of small land-holders situated, not on an estate bought outside the scheduled areas, but in the neighbourhood of such an estate. These men, not unnaturally, felt aggrieved when they saw untenanted land in their vicinity being used, to their own exclusion, for the relief of others who were perhaps not much worse off than themselves, and consequently, as has been already noted, the reception they gave to the migrated congests became less and less friendly. Section 75 of the Act of 1903 sought to remove these difficulties by enabling the Board when they bought an estate outside the scheduled districts to enlarge holdings in the neighbourhood that were under

See paragraph 33.

V.—*Continued.*
Work of Land Purchase and Re-settlement under the Act of 1903

£5 valuation, but the wording of the section confined them to so using only such land as they did not require for migrants from the congested districts, and, as the Board practically never had any surplus untenanted land, the relief that the section afforded was somewhat illusory. Moreover, the Board could not enlarge any holding in the neighbourhood that was over £5 valuation, which is undoubtedly too low a standard. Section 75, moreover, contained a provision that materially affected the Board's progress, namely, the power it gave the Board to give surplus untenanted land to the sons of tenants in the neighbourhood. This created a new body of claimants, the satisfaction of whose demands would undoubtedly prevent the Board from fulfilling their functions of relieving congestion. In point of fact the Board has never had any surplus land available for distribution amongst the sons of tenants; still the legislative recognition given to the claims of landless men has hampered the Board in bringing in migrants, and apparently some of the claimants think that they will eventually obtain part of the land bought by the Board, if they succeed in making the introduction of migrants sufficiently difficult.

43. The seriousness of this situation has been intensified by the fact that the Act of 1903 introduced a new feature into land purchase all over Ireland. Formerly advances could be obtained only for the purchase of holdings actually occupied by tenants, except in three minor cases. The new Act empowered the Estates Commissioners to buy estates whether tenanted or untenanted, and to divide the untenanted land amongst the tenants on the estate and their sons, and small landholders in the neighbourhood. The result has been to create a feeling that all untenanted land should be ear-marked for farmers in the neighbourhood, or for the sons of those who live on the estate, and other landless men. Consequently in some districts, notably in East Galway, the intervention of the Estates Commissioners, who distribute the grass land they buy amongst those who live in the neighbourhood, is preferred to that of the Board, who consider, and we think rightly, that the claims of congests who migrate from the West, if not superior to those of small land-holders in the neighbourhood, are undoubtedly superior to those of the sons of tenants and other landless men who happen to live near the grass lands. We shall refer later to this question, as it goes to the very root of the possibility of relieving congestion; it is sufficient to remark here that the difficulties arising from this question have very seriously impeded the Congested Districts Board during the last three years in their work of re-settlement.

See paragraphs 124–30.

44. Since the passing of the 1903 Act the Board have re-sold most of the land that they have acquired under previous Acts, but they have as yet succeeded in disposing of only a very small portion of the large amount purchased under the Act of 1903. The following figures show the purchases and re-sales of land at the date the new Act came into operation and at certain subsequent periods:—

Date.	(A.) Cost Price of Lands on Board's hands under all Acts at dates in 1st Column.	(B.) Cost Price of Land acquired by Board in each period under 1903 Act.	(C.) Cost Price of Land sold up to 31st Oct., 1903, and subsequently in each period.	(D.) Resale Price of Land sold up to 31st Oct., 1903, and subsequently in each period.	(E.) Cost Price of Land sold during each period which had been purchased since 1st Nov., 1903.	(F.) Resale Price of Land sold during each year which had been purchased since 1st November, 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Period ended 31st Oct., 1903,	345,832	—	211,853	247,868	—	—
Five months ended 31st Mar., 1904.	503,610	183,896	26,118	30,558	—	—
Year ended 31st Mar., 1905,	954,885	649,559	198,284	231,992	—	—
Do., do., 1906,	1,265,068	347,975	37,792	42,577	16,400	17,548
Do., do., 1907,	1,280,066	110,021	95,023	106,675	45,025	48,177
Nine months ended 31st Dec., 1907.	1,279,911	98,485	98,640	108,102	73,067	78,182
Totals, ...	—	1,389,936	667,710	767,772	134,492	143,907

VI.—Delays in work of Re-sale, Financial Difficulties, and Restrictions on Purchasing Power.

45. It will be noticed that during the first two years after the passing of the Act the Board bought a large amount of land and during the last two years comparatively little. Moreover, while they have disposed of a considerable amount of land, it was mostly property that had been in their possession before 1st November, 1903, and during the last two years they have not succeeded in increasing their average output, which has been about £100,000 a year since the passing of the Act.* The difficulties in the way of migration and the law's delays have retarded them to a certain extent, but these have not been the chief causes of the comparatively slow progress made. This has been mainly due to the fact that the work of re-settlement had to proceed slowly, owing to lack of funds, while the reduction in the rate of purchase has been due to restrictions, which the Treasury considered it necessary to impose, in view of the extent to which the funds at the disposal of the Board were mortgaged. The matter is rather complicated, but, as it is of very great importance, we deem it desirable to deal with it in detail.

46. After the passing of the Act the Board started purchasing land on a large scale. As the Board are not only a purchase and sale department, but an improvement agency, it is impossible on poor estates to recover all the money spent, and some of this expenditure must be regarded as an irrecoverable loss to be defrayed out of their income. A considerable amount of the money which the Board expended out of their income on estates purchased before the Act of 1903 came into operation, is repaid as the re-sales are completed, and therefore is available for meeting any future loss on estates or for any other purpose. When the Board started buying under the Act of 1903 they did not know what the exact amount thus available would be, as a considerable amount of the expenditure on the estates bought before the 1st November, 1903, still remained to be provided out of their income after that date, and the greater part of these estates still remained to be sold. It was, however, clear that, unless and until they got another increase in their income, the total amount of money they could afford to lose on estates would be the amount of their old expenditure that was recoverable, *plus* whatever they could set apart for loss under this head out of their annual income, *less* whatever remained at the end of 1903 to be still expended on the old estates. In order to estimate the amount of land they could deal with, it was also necessary to know approximately what the rate of loss was likely to be. It does not appear from the Board's reports whether they felt themselves in a position to make a satisfactory estimate when they commenced purchasing estates under the 1903 Act, but it was not until the issue of the Fourteenth Report, which was signed on the 17th October, 1905, that an estimate of the loss incurred on the old estates was made public. They then estimated the loss at about 5½ per cent. upon the cost price of the estates. It now appears that the loss will be slightly larger.

Cd. 2757—1903, p. 14.

47. After the passing of the new Act, the Board soon found that they had to pay considerably more for land, especially for untenanted land, than under previous Acts, and that this would prevent them from recovering from the tenants as much of their expenditure upon improvements as they formerly had recovered, and would consequently involve a rate of loss higher than before the passing of the Act. On the other hand they gradually found that it would be possible for them to recover more of their expenditure on the old estates than had been originally contemplated, and it also became evident that they were making a considerable profit on the redemption of the advances of Guaranteed Land Stock, which had been made to them for the purchase of the old estates. On re-sales the Board were paid in cash by the Land Commission, and, like everybody else who had received an advance from the Land Commission in Guaranteed Land Stock, they were able to extinguish their debt by buying that stock at a very considerable discount, and handing it to the Land Commission instead of cash in payment of their debt.

See paragraph 28.

* It should be noted that the Board has re-sold land to the value of about £100,000 during the quarter 1st January–31st March, 1908.

VI.—*Continued.*
Delays in work of Re sale, Financial Difficulties, and Restrictions on Purchasing Power.
I., pp. 247–62.
XI., pp. 112–29.

48. When the Board submitted their estimates for 1905-6 to the Treasury, as they were bound to do under the Act of 1891, that body felt it their duty to draw attention to, what seemed to them, the unsound financial condition of the Board. The views both of the Board and the Treasury are set out in the letters that have been printed in the Appendices to our First and Eleventh Reports. The correspondence is lengthy and somewhat hard to follow, but the facts that emerge are these. In October, 1905, the Board's purchases under the Act of 1903 had reached a total of £1,100,000. The Board had by that time realised that the loss on re-sale would not be less than 8 per cent., and that consequently to deal with the land already bought would involve a permanent loss of £88,000. The amounts repayable to the Board on the re-sale of all the estates bought before 1903 and the profits the Board were making, by paying off their debt to the Land Commission with Guaranteed Land Stock, would, when realised, be more than sufficient to make up the £88,000 required. It is now known that the amount of their former expenditure repayable to the Board will be £92,000 and that the profits on the dealings with Guaranteed Land Stock will be £23,000, making a total of £115,000. As regards future sums to be provided for loss the Board stated that they could not devote more than £11,000 a year out of their fixed income towards meeting the loss on re-sale.* On the basis of a loss of 8 per cent. this would mean that, after the Board's reserve was exhausted, their future purchases could not exceed £140,000 annually unless their fixed income was increased. They did not, however, propose to reduce their annual purchases at once to this figure. Apparently there was a suggestion that they might deal with additional land to the value of £100,000 before the end of the financial year 1905–6, and they indicated that it would be desirable to deal with land to the value of £300,000 in each of the years 1906-7 and 1907-8, while they proposed to reduce their purchases after that year to the amount of £140,000 annually, if they did not get an increase in their income.

49. If these tentative estimates as to the amount of land the Board might buy had been carried out, the Board would now have acquired under the Act of 1903 £1,800,000 worth of land, and the loss at 8 per cent. on this figure would require £144,000. Of this amount, part would have been provided out of their income, and the balance from the reserve that arose from repayments on old estates and profits on Guaranteed Land Stock. As this reserve is now estimated to amount to £115,000, the Board's financial position, but for two facts, would have been sound—though, owing to the necessarily speculative nature of the estimates made as to the amount of the reserve, the soundness was not quite evident in October, 1905. Of the two facts, the more important one is not dealt with in the correspondence, namely, that the 8 per cent. loss was only a speculative estimate, and might turn out, as it has, to be very much below the actual figure. The other fact which the Treasury emphasised was that the situation was somewhat more complicated than the Board appeared to think, since the loss of 8 per cent. resulted from the expenditure of a much larger sum upon improvements. Though most of this sum was ultimately repaid by the tenants or met out of the excess of receipts over payments during the time the Board had the estates in hand, it had in the first instance

* The question was raised before the Commission whether the Board might not well have devoted more than £11,000 out of their fixed income to what is their most important work, land purchase and re-settlement. It was pointed out that the Board had devoted £10,000 a year from their income to land re-settlement before the passing of the Act of 1903, and that after that date the amount allocated to this purpose was increased by only £1,000 a year, though the Board had received an annual increase of £20,000, and though the transfer to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, at an annual cost to the Board of only £2,000, of the work of agricultural development, had the effect of setting free for other purposes a sum of £9,000 per annum. In reply, it was explained that the increased grant was not given solely for land purchase, that other branches of the Board's work also required more money, and that in point of fact most of the increased grant had been required for the increase in the cost of administration due to the extension of the land work, and by the increased sums spent, through Parish Committees, upon work which was very similar to that done in the re-settlement of the estates. No doubt if the Board thought they were going to get no further increase of funds they would have arranged to allocate, according as their reserve was used up, a larger proportion of their fixed income to estates work than they did, even though it necessitated decreasing the very useful if less essential work done by other branches.

I., Q. 4077 *et seq.*

VI.—*Continued.* Delays in work of Re-sale, Financial Difficulties, and Restrictions on Purchasing Power.

to be advanced out of the Board's funds or to be borrowed by them. Their borrowing powers were restricted to the amount of the recoverable expenditure, which was seldom more than one-third of the total expenditure. Hence the demands on the Board's income for the balance of the money to be spent on improvements would be heavy. Any delay in re-selling estates bought prior to 1903, and so in recovering part of the reserve, might make the demands on the Board's income heavier than it could bear. In such a contingency the Board would be forced to stop part of their improvement work until more money came in, and so to keep certain estates longer on hands than would otherwise be necessary. This is precisely what has happened.

50. The Treasury held that it would have been a sounder policy for the Board to have bought less land in 1904 and 1905, and so to have avoided the danger of the work of improvement being stopped for want of money, and the administrative difficulties that would arise from having a very large amount of land on hand for a long period. If the Board had bought on a smaller scale at first, the expenditure of their reserve funds would have been spread over a greater number of years, there would have been less danger of financial embarrassment, and the ultimately inevitable reduction of the Board's land purchase operations to the amount of £140,000 a year would have been postponed.

51. The Board's view from 1904 onwards appears to have been that an immense increase in their land work was contemplated by the 1903 Act, under which they were permitted to have on hands at any one time untenanted land to the maximum value of £1,237,500 (thirty times the interest—£41,250—on the Church Surplus Grant, which was their original endowment). The Board seem also to have been of opinion that the additional income given under the Act was not adequate for this increase in the land work, and was largely intended for other purposes, and that consequently, as soon as they had exhausted their reserve, *i.e.*, in two or three years time after the passing of the Act, a large increase of income would be given. Otherwise their land purchase operations would have to be reduced to £140,000 a year.

I. p. 250.

52. The Treasury in their letter of the 8th August, 1905, in which they expressed doubts as to the financial soundness of the Board's position, stated that as the Board already held as much land as the funds apparently at their disposal would enable them to deal with, they should make no further extensive purchases until they had effected considerable re-sales.

I. p. 256.

This opinion was reiterated in their letter of 28th February, 1906, and since then, as it has not been found possible to complete the re-sale of much land, the Board have done little in the way of purchase, beyond completing negotiations to which they were bound, so that the price of land bought under the new Act is now just under £1,390,000.

53. The effect that an increase in the rate of loss would have upon the Board's financial position does not seem to have been adverted to in the correspondence, and it is not clear how far the Board were apprehensive of this factor, at any rate at the end of 1905. The Board apparently considered at the date of signing their Fourteenth Report that their net loss on the re-sale of estates bought before 1903 would be 5½ per

I. p. 253.

cent. on the price of the land. In the Board's letter to the Treasury of the 9th October, 1905, it was stated that they contemplated that the future loss would not be less than 8 per cent. Obviously, a much more serious objection, than those raised by the Treasury, to the extent of the Board's operations, lay in this uncertainty as to the rate of loss. Thus, the Board's reserve fund would be sufficient to meet the loss on all the land bought since the passing of the Act of 1903, only if the rate of loss were not greater than 8 per cent. In point of fact the Board soon realised the loss was likely to be greater than had been anticipated, and in a letter to the Treasury, dated 15th

XI. p. 112.

April, 1907, they estimated the loss as 12 per cent. instead of 8 per cent., and the evidence given before the Commission last January would seem to show that the loss on re-sale may exceed even 12 per cent. A loss of 12 per cent. upon the purchases effected to date would involve a total loss of

£167,000. By assigning all the reserve fund to this purpose, £115,000 can ultimately be provided, and the balance can be met by the amount available out of the Board's annual income since 1st November, 1903, before the end of the present year. If, however, only £11,000 a year were available henceforward, their annual purchases in future would be limited to less than £100,000, and if the rate of loss should rise above 12 per cent. future purchases might be indefinitely stopped.

VI.—*Continued.* Delays in work of Re-sale, Financial Difficulties, and Restrictions on Purchasing Power.

54. The present financial difficulty has arisen from the fact that though only a comparatively small percentage on the cost of an estate will be lost, the improvement works to be carried out on the estates already bought by the Board require the temporary use of larger sums than they can command. Moreover, the Board have not been able to realise as soon as they anticipated that part of the money spent on the old estates which was repayable, owing to delays in effecting re-sales, and they were unable to make up for this deficiency by borrowing. During the last few years very much less land has been re-sold than was anticipated, and the Board found that they would be obliged to stop a number of their improvement works last February unless a special loan of £25,000 was made by the Treasury, and the recent letters from the Board to the Treasury, show that in order to prevent further dislocation of their land work, they have been obliged to abandon or curtail their estimates for other ameliorative work during the financial year 1908–9. It is only fair to point out that, apparently, the Board have at present sufficient assets to meet all their liabilities, unless the loss exceeds 12 per cent, and their difficulties are mainly due to the fact that, owing to their limited borrowing powers, the realisation of these assets is postponed. It is also right to point out that the Board have apparently always considered that their present income was an experimental one, subject to periodical increases as occasion arose.

XI. 121–9.

55. Another and even more serious result has attended the restrictions which the Treasury felt compelled to put upon the purchasing powers of the Board, in view of their doubtful financial position. The Board were restricted to purchasing a limited amount of untenanted land and were restrained from concluding certain negotiations into which they had already entered for the purchase of tenanted estates, a course which led to very grave trouble in the districts affected. It was, moreover, represented to the Commission that the continuance of these restrictions would greatly increase the difficulty of relieving congestion, since many landlords wished to enter into agreements for the sale of their land before the 1st November next, lest the rate of bonus should, as from that date, be changed to their detriment. As the Board were unable to enter into agreements with these landlords, the estates were likely to be sold either to the Estates Commissioners or direct to the tenants. It was stated that in the latter case very many uneconomic holdings would be stereotyped, and that in the former case much of the land required for the relief of congestion would be otherwise utilised.

56. Upon the receipt of this information, in October last, the Chairman of the Commission placed himself in communication with the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, on behalf of the Commission. Referring to the friction that had already arisen, and was likely to increase, by reason of the Board being forced to suspend negotiations, that had been already set on foot for the purchase of over £400,000 worth of tenanted land, he advised that the Board should be empowered forthwith to complete the purchases of these estates. He also recommended that, in addition to the power which they possessed of buying grass land, they should be given a small discretionary power for the acquisition of other tenanted estates, which might be available on favourable terms, and might not be so advantageously acquired, if at all, after a lapse of six months or a year. He stated that while the Commission were not then in a position to submit specific recommendations, it was evident that the purchase of land in the congested districts must be effected through some public authority, having power to resell at a loss after improvement, and that, therefore, it did

VI.—*Continued.* Delays in work of Re-sale, Financial Difficulties, and Restrictions on Purchasing Power.

not seem that any financial advantage could be secured by postponing the acquisition of estates, which were suitable for re-settlement, and might be cheaply acquired at the moment. We have to express our regret that it was not found possible to give effect to this suggestion.

VII.—Agricultural Development.

57. During the early years agricultural development was regarded as perhaps the most important branch of the Board's duties. This work was carried out with the assistance of the Agricultural Branch of the Land Commission from 1891 until 1899, when that Branch was transferred in part to the Department of Agriculture, and in part to the Board. Up to the transfer of this work to the Department of Agriculture at the end of 1903, more money had been spent on it out of the Board's income than upon any other branch of its work. The Board's efforts were directed towards arousing the people's attention to a better knowledge of agricultural processes, and with this purpose object-lessons were given by means of experimental plots and example holdings. Instructors were appointed in many districts who taught and helped farmers to adopt better agricultural methods, and assistance was given towards improving the breeds of live stock and towards sheep-dipping, fencing, potato spraying, and the purchase of agricultural implements and good seeds, as well as in the management of poultry, bee-keeping, and fruit culture. At a later stage inspectors were appointed who in addition to supervising the work of the instructors saw to the improvement of breeds of cattle, horses, sheep and pigs, and concerned themselves generally with the agricultural requirements of the people. Over £22,000 was spent on instruction.

58. Stallions were stationed each season in the congested districts to serve the local mares at a very small fee, the average annual number available being about twenty-six, and a number of stallion asses were also put out. The sires were owned by the Board, and after standing at different centres during the season, were kept during the rest of the year at the Board's stud farm at Chantilly in County Dublin. Of the seventy-two horses that were thus placed out in the twelve years 1891-1903, forty-one were hackneys, and though these sires were popular in some districts the consensus of opinion even in the congested districts seems to have been against their general use. The total net expenditure on horse-breeding schemes was £60,000, and it is extremely doubtful whether the results achieved were at all commensurate with this expenditure. The method of improving cattle that was found to be most successful was the purchase of good bulls by the Board and their re-sale to farmers in the congested districts at considerably less than their cost price. The purchasers were obliged to keep the bulls for at least two or three years, during which time they were available for a stipulated number of cows belonging to small farmers at a maximum service fee of 2*s.* 6*d.* Over 1,000 bulls were thus placed out in the congested districts, of which more than one-third were Shorthorns, nearly one-third Galloways and the remainder were mainly of the Aberdeen Angus breed. The total cost of the cattle scheme was £22,000, and undoubtedly very considerable improvement was effected in the breeds of cattle in the congested districts, though the Board's efforts to improve the Kerry cattle met with little success, especially in the Cahirciveen Peninsula, owing to the scheme not being taken up by the Kerry farmers. Similar efforts were made to improve the produce of swine and sheep, but the prevalence of scab interfered with the Board's plans under the latter head, and led them to devote a great deal of attention to sheep dipping. The net expenditure on the swine scheme was about £1,000, and on the sheep scheme about £4,000.

59. One obstacle that the Board met with, especially in the poorer parts of the country, arose from the number of miserable bulls that are allowed to run loose, as it is often difficult to get people to recognise that the payment of half-a-crown as a service fee for a good bull is more economical than the payment of a shilling, or no payment at all, for the use of an inferior animal. In this connection, it may be mentioned that it was more than

once suggested to us that sires might be licensed, and that no animals should be kept for service, unless they come up to a standard to be settled by the authority responsible for the improvement of live stock. It was also suggested that the licence duty should be collected by, and belong to, the County Council. There seems to be a good deal to be said for this suggestion, at any rate so far as the poorer districts are concerned. The chief difficulty encountered by the Board in effecting a permanent and general improvement in the breeds of all animals was the tendency of the farmers to sell all their best young stock, and to keep the inferior ones for breeding purposes.

60. The Board spent nearly £7,000 on their attempt to improve the breed of poultry, a very important matter for the people in the congested districts, where practically everyone keeps poultry, though a few have no cattle or sheep, and the industry is, no doubt, capable of very great development. Though various schemes were tried, Mr. Porter, the chief agriculturalist employed by the Board, gave evidence that the schemes were not very successful in producing permanent results, and that in not more than five per cent. of the poultry in the congested districts is there now any trace of the work of the Board in the shape of improvement. The lack of sustained popular interest in the scheme seems to have been mainly due to the fact that under the existing conditions of marketing no better price was generally obtained for a large clean fresh egg than for a small dirty stale one. There seems to be a very great field for co-operative organisation in the poultry business, since by it much improvement could be effected in the grading, packing, and marketing of the eggs. Considerable attention was devoted to bee-keeping, the net expenditure being about £1,700, and some good seems to have been done by giving instruction, supplying improved hives, and marketing the produce. Twenty-seven local bee-keeping associations, established under the Board's auspices, were assisted by loans to obtain supplies at cheap rates.

III., Q. 13756.

61. An important item of the Board's expenditure was in connection with the Knockboy plantation, near Carna, in Connemara. The Irish Government had in 1890 bought 820 acres of rough mountain and bog, with the object of making an experiment in forestry, and, incidentally, of relieving local distress. Considerable progress had been made before the establishment of the Board, and on its creation, the work was transferred to them. A sum of over £9,000 was spent and the experiment seems to have been a complete failure. Whatever may have been the causes, about which opinions differ, the Board can hardly be held to be fully responsible for the lack of success, as they had to take over and carry out work which had been started before they came into existence. The Board also spent money on demonstrations and experiments connected with market gardening, early potatoes, the plantation of shelter belts, and fruit trees.

62. A very important part of the Board's work was the attempt made to popularise potato spraying. Instruction was given in spraying in all congested districts, and in the year 1895 spraying materials that cost about £1,400 were given away and subsequently spraying machines were sold at about three-quarters of the cost price; in all about £5,000 was spent on this work. The chief difficulty met with was the tendency displayed to neglect the carrying out of any small repair that was necessary to the spraying machine, and still more to give up spraying after a good season and resume it only when there had been another visitation of blight. The Board spent, in all, over £140,000 on agricultural work in twelve years. They advanced £14,343 in loans for agricultural purposes, and £10,588 was outstanding at 31st March, 1907. The approximate cost of the administration of their agricultural work was over £74,000.

XI. p. 54

63. In 1904, the agricultural work of the Board was transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction and in order to make clear the effect of that change, it may be as well to point out that, prior to 1891, little aid was given to agriculture in any part of Ireland by the Government, outside of the work done in the Albert Institution, Glasnevin, the Munster Institute, Cork, and the rapidly diminishing School Gardens (all of

VII.—*Continued.* Agricultural Development.

which were administered through the Commissioners of National Education). A small sum was expended on the up-keep of the Agricultural Branch of the Land Commission, and £5,000 was assigned out of the probate duties, for the promotion of horse-breeding, and administered by the Royal Dublin Society. The only other assistance given was such help as resulted from the annual expenditure of £1,562 on prizes known as Queen's Plates at certain race meetings in Ireland.

64. In 1891 the Congested Districts Board was established and spent during the next twelve years considerable sums, as already mentioned, in agricultural development within the scheduled areas. In April, 1900, eight years after the creation of the Congested Districts Board, a new department of Government came into existence, charged with the development of agriculture and technical instruction in the non-scheduled portion of Ireland, and for the agricultural work a yearly income of about £100,000 was provided. Most of the work was to be carried out through County Committees and no assistance could be given by the Department to a county which did not raise a rate in aid. The assistance given by the central authority to schemes administered locally takes the form of paying 25*s.* to 30*s.* for every £1 raised by the rate, but a considerable amount of money is spent from head-quarters on agricultural matters of general importance.

62 & 63 Vic., c. 50.

65. The Department was excluded, by section 18 of its Act, from expending any of its endowment within the scheduled areas, within which it could only operate at the Board's request, and with the Board's funds. Thus there were two bodies promoting agriculture in Ireland; one operating over poor western districts, and the other over the remaining five-sixths of Ireland. There were, however, administrative difficulties in the way of drawing a rigid line of demarcation between the activities of the two bodies. The unit of rating for the Department's Act was the county and the rural district, while the unit of congestion was the electoral division, consequently unless the rural district was wholly congested or wholly non-congested there were rating difficulties. In the former case the Board, and in the latter case the Department, alone operated. If, however, the rural district was partly congested and partly non-congested, the Board could operate over only part; if the other authority operated at all, the County Council had to levy a rate over the whole district, though the rate and the grant given in aid of the rate could be spent only in the non-congested portions of the rural district. The complications seem to have done much to hinder and to retard the work of the new Department.

66. To meet the difficulty, the Congested Districts Board in the case of rural districts mainly non-congested, gave for a year a grant in aid in respect of the rate raised off the congested electoral divisions, and the whole sum was administered under the Department. No rate was levied as a rule in rural districts wholly congested or mainly congested, and, while the Board operated in the scheduled portions of the latter districts, nothing could be done to promote agriculture in the non-scheduled portions of such localities. In 1902 an amending Act was passed giving County Councils power to exempt any electoral division from a rate in aid of agriculture, but this Act does not appear to have been made much use of by the local authorities. However, until the next change took place, at the end of 1903, agriculture could be developed in all the non-congested portions of a county, by the Department and the County Committee jointly under a county scheme, and in the congested portions by the Board under different schemes. There were obvious disadvantages in having two separate bodies within the same county promoting different schemes of agricultural development in districts that were not only adjacent but also intermixed. The machinery applied by the two bodies differed, the Congested Districts Board administering their scheme centrally, while most of the work of the Department was done through the County Committee. Invidious comparisons were bound to be drawn and requests made to have the most popular provisions of each scheme applied in districts for which they were not intended.

2 Edw. VII., c. 3.

VII.—*Continued.*

Agricultural Development.

67. The Land Act of 1903 repealed the 18th Section of the Agriculture and Technical Instruction Act of 1899 and made it possible for the Department to expend its funds in the congested districts as elsewhere, but made no addition for this purpose to their endowment, which was originally given for non-congested Ireland. Shortly after the passing of the Act it was agreed, between the Irish Government, the Congested Districts Board, and the Department, that the work of agricultural development should be transferred from the Board to the Department. It is evident from Mr. George Wyndham's minute of the 13th October, 1903, that the transfer was effected in order that the Board might concentrate their attention and their funds upon the primary work of land purchase and re-settlement. In order to make the transfer effective for this end it was arranged that, though the Department were to carry out the work on which the Board had been spending £11,000 a year, the annual contribution to be given by the Board to the Department should be only £2,000 (the equivalent of a penny rate over the congested districts). It was stated by Mr. Wyndham that, as the primary work of the Congested Districts Board was completed, it would be possible and proper to liberate its funds in aid of the secondary work of the Department, which, he declared, was secondary only in order of time and in the sense that it would fluctuate more largely, when super-imposed on the primary work of purchase and the relief of congestion. In the meantime, the Board, it was stated, would be willing to supplement the work of the Department, where especial cases of wide-spread poverty called for special assistance. The scheduled districts would still enjoy exceptional assistance in respect of land purchase and re-settlement, industries, and fisheries, but they would surrender, in respect of agricultural schemes, a part of their right to preferential treatment. It was proper, the minute stated, that the Congested Districts Board should, in common with other departments, effect some economy to push forward the primary work of land re-settlement, and it was also fitting that the Department of Agriculture should make a contribution to the same object, by undertaking labour in a somewhat larger field. The proposed transfer, it was suggested, would not deplete the savings effected by the Department or frustrate the policy it had pursued, for, as the primary work of the Congested Districts Board was completed, further funds would be available for pushing on the secondary work of agriculture and technical instruction on a sound foundation. The result of this change was that since the beginning of 1904, the work of agricultural development has been carried out by the Department, the Board's duty being to contribute an annual sum of £2,000. The effect of this change will be considered later.

I., p. 269.

See paragraphs 236–7.

VIII.—Fisheries.

68. One of the first and most important steps taken by the Board was to develop the resources which, in the shape of sea fisheries, lay at the door of many of the inhabitants of the congested districts. In order to make clear the nature of the fishery development carried out, it is necessary shortly to review the history of the fishing industry in Ireland generally. The fisheries in the south-west and middle west were long ago of great importance, but were mainly carried on, in the 16th century by Spanish boats, and in the 17th century by the French and Dutch, and, so far as modern history is concerned, it was not until the 18th century that the Irish western fisheries became of Irish importance. After the settlements of the 17th century, and the consequent curtailment of the lands held by the majority of the native race, the people began to depend for their food, less on the produce of the flocks and herds and more on the potato, a tendency that increased with the increase in population. Hence fish was sought after, as a useful supplement to potatoes, and the Irish sea fisheries began to be worked with considerable vigour by the native population, and bounties were introduced to stimulate the trade. Towards the end of the 18th century the north-west fisheries were very successful, Burtonport and Killybegs being important centres of the herring fishery, and an export trade in cured herrings was carried on with the West Indies. The early years of the 19th century seem to have been a period of decline, but with the establishment of the Commissioners of Irish Fisheries in 1819 there was a marked though short

VIII.—*Continued.* Fisheries.

revival. In April, 1830, the bounties were withdrawn, and the fisheries which had already begun to decline became further depressed. An important inquiry had been held in 1835 into the condition of the Irish fisheries, but the Bill which was introduced into Parliament to give effect to their recommendations was dropped. There was another temporary revival a few years later, but after the Famine there was a general collapse, there being no efficient authority charged with the development of Irish fisheries.* The artificial state of things produced by the bounties had ceased, and the natural local market had diminished with the fall in population, whilst the fishermen had mostly died or emigrated.

69. Some years later began elsewhere the revolution in the fishing industry, caused by the application of steam to traction on land, and later on sea. Speedy delivery, telegraphic communication, and the general utilisation of ice for packing led to fresh fish being delivered all over England, in places where it had been unknown before, and provided the first opportunity for the revival of the Irish sea fisheries on a large scale. In 1862 the great spring mackerel fishery was established off the coast of Cork, and soon after stations were opened in Kerry. A few years later about 700 boats, of which less than one-half were Irish, were engaged in this fishery, which from various causes has now been declining for some years. In 1887 the autumn mackerel fishing was started, the fish being cured and exported, mostly to America. In 1870 the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries had been appointed as a separate body, but they were given no funds to carry out fishery development, their duties being confined to the administration of the fishery laws and, after 1874 and 1884, to the administration (in conjunction with the Board of Works) of the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund and the Sea and Coast Fisheries Fund respectively—funds that were mainly used for the purpose of making loans for fishing boats. In 1891, as has been already mentioned, these funds, with the exception of £20,000, were transferred to the Congested Districts Board. Eight years later, when the Inspectors of Fisheries were merged in the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, the balance of £20,000 was handed over to that Department, and an annual sum of £10,000, out of their endowment fund, was earmarked for fishery protection and development.

See paragraph 22.

70. At the time of the establishment of the Board the Cork and Kerry fisheries were being conducted on a commercial basis, and modern methods of catching and curing had been adopted there, but north of the mouth of the Shannon the fishing was most indifferent, the once great Donegal herring fishery had almost entirely disappeared, and importation was not unknown. In the south-west the means of transit both by rail and steamship were fairly satisfactory, and landing accommodation rather than market facilities were required. In the northern division the transit facilities were quite inadequate, and the establishment of a market was necessary before modern boats and expensive gear could be profitably introduced. At the same time piers and boat-slips were much wanted at some places.

71. Our attention has been so frequently called during the public sittings to this question of marine works that it may be useful briefly to state what has been done in the past. Between the beginning of the 19th century and the establishment of the Board, a sum of £782,980 was expended in Ireland on piers and harbours, expressly for fishery purposes, and more than double this amount was spent on certain royal harbours, which may have been of some use to the fisheries, but which, being situate on the east coast, are of no importance as regards the congested districts. Of the sum expended on piers and harbours expressly for fishery purposes, £214,880 (including £45,105 provided by local contributions) were expended on piers and harbours in what have been since scheduled as congested districts. Of these sixty-six works, costing £136,280, have been found of some use for fishery purpose during the time that the Board have been at work.

* The Commissioners of the Irish Fisheries were abolished in 1830, and the winding up of their work was left to the Board of Inland Navigation. In 1842 the Board of Works became virtually the Fishery Authority.

72. It has been very generally stated that most of the money spent on Irish marine works up to the last ten years of the 19th century was somewhat injudiciously applied. The object of some of the expenditure seems to have been to provide employment rather than to carry through necessary or even useful works. There seems to have been no continuous administration by a body acquainted with Irish needs. The Board of Works, on at least one occasion, were forced to follow the recommendations of a temporary Commission, which had neither expert nor local knowledge, and the various bodies concerned with the selection of sites had to trust to general indications, there being no important fishing in progress to guide them. They seem to have been bewildered between exaggerated accounts of the fishing possibilities, on the one hand, and the limitations of money, on the other. They were asked nearly everywhere to build deep water harbours for large fishing boats and small slips for small fishing boats. Ideal accommodation, however, could not be provided everywhere and expenditure had to be distributed over the coast. It was stated in evidence that, as they apparently could not decide what was really required, they struck an average expenditure for each district. This average was, however, often extravagant, often niggardly, and sometimes ineffective, as at no place did it suffice to make a harbour good enough for a large boat, and the piers that were built were often quite unnecessary for small boats.

73. Since 1892, 202 piers, slips, or harbour works at 148 different places have been executed by the Board at a net cost of £64,422, of which 185 have been of use to the fisheries, the rest being intended for facilitating other trade, such as the export of turf or the landing of sand or seaweed. Since 1891, certain other works have been carried out by the Board of Works mainly under the Marine Works Act of 1902, which provided about £100,000 to be expended within the congested districts and on the harbour of Liscannor, in County Clare. Towards these works the Board have given certain contributions, and the Department gave a grant in aid of the Liscannor works.* 2 Edw. VII., c. 24.

74. Owing to the poverty of the maritime districts in the West of Ireland and the high rates which prevail it is not easy for the County Councils to undertake the construction of new marine works. In addition to this difficulty of finding funds for building or completing the few large harbours, and the many small piers that seem to be necessary, owing to the peculiar nature of the Irish fisheries, a further difficulty arises as regards maintenance, which in the case of marine works is often heavy. Some of the Councils have been unwilling to take over from the Board existing works, as they are empowered to do by the 18th Section of the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, as they are generally reluctant to add to the rates by incurring liability for maintenance of works, at any rate, where they had no voice in their construction and where, as in some cases, they regard them as of little value. As regards new marine works, the Board generally make a considerable contribution, but try to get the work constructed by or under contract with the local authority, as this devolves upon that authority the duty of maintenance.

75. Over the greater part of the west coast, north of the mouth of the Shannon, little less than the creation of the fishing industry was the task awaiting the Board, and it was here that the chief opportunity for development was found. Among the methods of encouragement adopted by the Board, in addition to the construction of marine works, were the making of loans for the purchase of boats, nets and fishing gear, the supplying of boats on the share system; instruction in fishing and in the care of nets; the promotion of boat-building and barrel-making; and the development of marketing facilities. To aid the development of new fishing centres, the Board frequently acted as buyers and curers at different places until private enterprise came into play.

* The amount of the grant expended to 29th February, 1908, was £33,824, in addition to which a sum of £10,977 has been hypothecated. The amount contributed by the Board has been £2,720, by the Department £1,900, and by local authorities £810, whilst further contributions have been promised.

VIII.—*Continued.* Fisheries.

Thus at one time the Board bought mackerel, herring, cod, and ling all along the Donegal, Mayo, and Galway coast, and cured the fish or despatched it fresh. Now they have withdrawn from this work, and it is stated that there are sixty private firms of fish curers on the Donegal coast alone. Undoubtedly great success has been achieved in Donegal, where a most valuable herring fishery has been established, of which Downings Bay and Burtonport are the chief centres. In 1893 when the autumn and winter herring fishery had been started, the value of the catch was estimated at £1,000, and twelve years later the value had arisen to £40,000, whilst £10,000 was paid for curing and carting, as against £200 in the earlier year. Much of the fish caught is cured, as the prices in foreign markets are better than at home, and as the transit facilities for a fresh fish trade are insufficient in many cases. Nearly all the cured herrings are sent to Germany, Russia, and America, and the Donegal herrings generally obtain the highest price in the foreign markets. The efforts of the Board off the Mayo and Galway coast have not been so successful, and their attempts to establish a mackerel trade at Blacksod Point failed. The Cleggan and Aran Isles fisheries have both been fairly successful, but the efforts to develop the industry in South Connemara have not succeeded.

76. As regards the south-west, there was not so much need for the help of the Board, beyond marine works and loans for boats. The supply of fish during the past sixteen years has varied a good deal, but the fluctuations in the value of the autumn mackerel fishery have depended mostly upon the variations of the American market. There seems, however, to be little doubt that uniformly good curing would have greatly increased the value. It may be noted that whilst big boats do most of the spring mackerel fishing, the autumn fishing has largely to be done by small boats, as the fish lie close to the shore, hence the great number of curing stations that have come into existence, wherever facilities for landing and keeping boats have been provided.

77. It was stated in evidence that the amounts paid for fish and to fishermen from fisheries developed by the Board on the coasts between Galway and North Donegal from 1891 was £353,601, and that during the year 1905 the following sums were paid for fish in the congested districts :—

Spring mackerel fishery, ...	£29,315
Autumn mackerel fishery, . .	£61,101
Summer herring fishery, . .	£14,075
Autumn and winter herring fishery, .	£58,635

78. The Board's expenditure on fisheries may be considered under two heads. The first is instruction in fishing, boat building, net mending, barrel-making, and fish curing, which involved a net expenditure of over £53,000. The second includes the various fishery schemes, such as the supplying of boats, nets and gear, the developing of markets and fishing grounds, curing, &c., which involved a net expenditure of over £60,000. The total net expenditure on the development of fishing has thus been over £113,000 in addition to the £64,422 spent on marine works. The cost of administration is estimated to have been about £70,000. The Board also helped by loans made partly out of the capital funds at their disposal, and partly out of their income, the total amount advanced being £97,914 of which £2,787 has been written off, and the amount outstanding is £28,657. Most of the arrears and bad debts have been incurred in respect of large boats and mainly by Galway fishermen, where the mackerel fishery in recent years has not been very successful. It is worth noting that there have been 56 large boats and 2,723 small boats built in the congested districts at a cost of over £37,000. Most of the original cost of the Board's steamer the *Granuaile* and of the cost of her up-keep should be debited to fishing purposes, though she seems to have been of great assistance both for inspection, and for other schemes of the Board's, *e.g.*, carrying cargoes in connection with live stock, industrial and estates works.

XI., p. 53.

IX.—Industries.

79. The Board were given full powers to aid the development of industries, but the prospect before them in this respect was not encouraging. It was recognised from an early stage that developing industries was the most difficult part of their work, both as regards the selection of fields of work and the methods of assistance, and it could hardly be expected that great permanent results would be achieved. The natural difficulties, which were great, will be considered later; and the Board felt constrained to avoid, where possible, direct ownership or management of industrial enterprises. Leaving out of the question agriculture and fishing and their subsidiary industries, such as boat building, barrel making, &c., there was, when the Board came into existence, practically no industrial employment for men in the congested districts except quarrying and kelp making. The other existing industries afforded employment almost exclusively to women, being of the cottage industry class, *e.g.*, embroidery, the making of shirts and underclothing (both by sewing machines and by hand sewing), hand knitting, hand carding, spinning wool and weaving home-spuns. The home-spun woollen industry was the most important and gave considerable employment.

See paragraphs 269–70.

80. What the Board have done may briefly be summarised. They assisted the Foxford Woollen Mills, which were started by the Sisters of Charity about the time of the creation of the Board, with a loan of £7,000 repayable in 18 years, of which over £5,700 has been repaid. They also built at a cost of nearly £1,200 a mill race in connection with the factory, and gave subsidies during the earlier years, amounting to over £8,000, in the shape of capitation grants for the training of workers. During the last five years the number of hands employed has averaged over 100, and the annual amount of wages paid over £5,000. These woollen mills are the most encouraging instance, in the congested districts, of industrial development on a large scale, either by the Board or by private individuals, especially as the factory was started in a district where the prospects were anything but promising, except that the population was not so scattered as in some areas. The Board have also given capitation grants amounting to over £4,000 and a loan of £3,000 to the Ballaghadereen Hosiery Factory, which had been started by the same Nuns.

XI., p. 54.

81. The other factory development in which the Board have assisted was the establishment by Messrs. Morton and Company, of Darvel, Ayrshire, in Killybegs, Kilcar, Crolly and Annagry, in County Donegal, of four factories for making hand-tufted carpets. The Board made payments amounting to a little over £3,000 in aid of these factories, which formed about 25 per cent. of the cost of the buildings, and they retain certain rights over the Crolly and Annagry factories. The wages paid are not high, but they form an important item in the revenue of a poor district, and it must be remembered that the products of cheap Eastern labour largely enter into competition with the carpets made in these factories.

82. The Board have from time to time given assistance to the South Donegal home-spun weaving industry. They employed an expert to measure and grade webs; gave premiums and made loans for the purchase of improved looms and spinning wheels, besides giving instruction in weaving and dyeing. The knitting, weaving, and sewing industries have been helped, in other districts, by loans for the purchase of looms and machines, and by practical instruction. Up to 1897 when the Board secured the services of Mr. W. J. D. Walker most of its assistance to the home-spun industry was given through the Royal Irish Industries Association, but since then they have given assistance direct.

83. The Board's chief success in developing cottage industries has been in connection with lace and crochet. Owing to the lack of transit facilities in the districts which were most in need of assistance, this industry was specially suitable, as both the raw material and the finished product could be sent by parcels post. Owing to the nature of the industry, a minimum expenditure

IX.—*Continued.* Industries.

on the carriage of the material is associated with a maximum amount of employment on the article produced. Moreover, comparatively little capital outlay was required, the assistance afforded in connection with these classes being largely in the direction of technical or rather industrial instruction. Under their scheme of industrial classes, the Board build or rent a suitable class room in a poor district, pay the salary of the instructress and help in the marketing of the lace. There are now over 70 such classes in existence, from which the value of the output during the last couple of years has averaged over £20,000 per annum, or about one-fifth of the total value of all the lace produced in Ireland. The money distributed for work done at the most important schools, Pullathomas, Derrypark, Foxpoint and Banada has during the last few years amounted to as much as £1,800 per annum per class. In many districts lace-making is most helpful, as the money earned forms a large proportion of the resources of the people. The industry, however, being dependent on the demands of fashion, is not capable of anything like indefinite extension, and is subject to limitations and disadvantages which will be discussed when possible future industrial developments are considered. It was the intention of the Board to make a small deduction from the receipts for the lace sold, in order to pay part of the cost of the instruction and maintenance, but this project has, for the present, been postponed. Within the last few years a new branch of the lace industry, curtain-making, has been started in Connemara by Messrs. Morton and Co. in conjunction with the Board.

See paragraphs 274–7.

84. In November, 1898, the Board started domestic training classes to assist girls in West Donegal, who went each year to the hiring fairs in East Donegal seeking temporary domestic service, to obtain a better class of employment. As the circumstances under which they lived at home gave them no opportunity of learning the ordinary work of domestic service, they were quite untrained, and were fit to undertake only rough work commanding low wages. As these classes proved very successful, they were subsequently extended to other parts of the congested districts, and their object now is as much to teach the pupils to keep their own homes properly, as to fit them for domestic service. Six teachers are now employed by the Board, and the usual course for each class takes four months, during which time a complete course of instruction in cooking, laundry, and domestic economy is given. In this connection it may be remarked that these classes, even more than the lace classes (which also enable the girls to make money), seem to have a decidedly elevating effect upon the home life of the pupils.

85. It will be seen that all the existing industries were mainly for women and so far as can be gathered from the reports of the Board and the evidence of the witnesses, though several attempts were made by the Board, little has been accomplished in the direction of developing quarrying and kelp making. These industries were, with the exception, to some extent, of the woollen industry, the only existing industries in which men were employed, and, apart from those dependent on developments in the utilisation of peat, they are almost the only industries for which the congested districts seem to have any advantage in the way of the raw material. There were however special reasons which hindered the Board from attempting to give any direct aid towards the development of quarrying and kelp-making.

86. The net expenditure by the Board up to the 31st March, 1907, on industries, and technical instruction, other than that connected with agriculture and fisheries, amounted to £64,302, of which about two-thirds were expended on instruction schemes, and one-third on grants to industrial undertakings, &c. About £5,000 has also been expended on domestic economy classes. The cost of administration has been about £27,000. In addition to these sums, the Board made loans for industrial purposes amounting to £14,693, of which about two-thirds have been repaid, £800 has been converted from a loan into a free grant, and £131 written off.

XI., p. 54

X.—Parish Committees.

87. In October, 1897, the Board determined to try, as an experiment, whether the occupiers of land in certain inland congested districts could success-

X.—*Continued.* Parish Committees.

fully be encouraged to make useful and permanent improvement in their holdings, buildings, and surroundings, by means of small grants in aid, administered through local committees. A beginning was made in Swinford Union, where the Board up to that date had found it difficult to carry out any measures likely to improve the resources, comfort, and general condition of the inhabitants. The experiment proved successful, and led to the establishment on a larger scale of what are known as Parish Committees. The persons eligible to be *ex-officio* members of the Committee are the clergymen of all denominations, the poor law guardians for each electoral division in the parish, and the resident landlords or their agents; six additional members are elected by the ratepayers in the parish. Shopkeepers and members of their families are not eligible to act on the Committees. A grant, which generally varies from £50 to £100, is made to the Committee, and they invite occupiers of holdings of which the valuation does not exceed £7, to send in particulars of suitable works, in connection with their holdings, which they are willing to undertake provided they get a small grant in aid; these applications are forwarded to the Board's office, where they are examined, and, if they are considered desirable, approved. The Secretary of the Parish Committee then informs the most deserving applicants that certain grants will be made, provided that the work is carried out in a satisfactory manner, and payment is made only when the work has actually been done. In addition to this local check, the working of each Committee is carefully supervised from headquarters. In Donegal, where a somewhat different scheme has been adopted, there are no elected members, their place being taken by the magistrates resident in the parish. In that county, as an alternative to the system of grants in aid, small prizes are in many cases given to those occupiers who are considered to have done the best work.

88. The principal works carried out through the Committees are the erection and improvement of dwelling-houses, out-offices for cattle, and the making or improvement of drains, fences, accommodation roads, and reclamation works. It is estimated that the value of the work thus effected is generally four or five times the amount of the grant, which is mainly used for purchasing the materials necessary. The net amount thus expended up to the 31st March, 1907, was £52,054, of which about one-half was expended in Mayo, as it was only in more recent years that Parish Committees have been started, on anything like a large scale, in the other counties. There are 207 parishes wholly or mainly in the congested districts, of which 162 now have parish committees.

89. The following Statement gives some details of the work carried out under these Committees during the year ended 31st March, 1907:—

	Estimated value of Work done.	Amount of Grants in Aid or Prizes.	NATURE OF WORK DONE.						
			Erection of New Houses.	Improvement of existing Houses.	Erection of New Out-Offices.	Improvement of existing Out-Offices.	Drainage and Fencing Work.	Road Work.	Reclamation and other Works.
	£	£							
Donegal,	15,252	1,845	115	769	373	109	228	50	210
Other Counties,	31,812	7,294	190	1,465	1,193	395	153	141	21
	£47,064	£9,139	305	2,234	1,566	504	381	191	231

The cost of supervision and inspection seems to vary from 5 per cent. to 25 per cent. of the grants or prizes, and to average about 10 per cent.

90. A condition precedent to the giving of any grants or prizes is the removal of the manure heap from the vicinity of the house, and the turning of cattle out of the dwelling-houses. It has been pointed out that a good deal of the work done is of a sanitary nature, which should be enforced by the sanitary officers, who are paid out of public funds for seeing that this work is done, but it has been contended that it was hard to enforce some of the public health laws in the poorest parts of Ireland, owing to the poverty of the people. This

X.—*Continued.* Parish Committees.

system of grants has been criticised as a system of paying people, through parish doles, for what they should obviously do of their own accord. It may, however, be fairly urged that this criticism does not take sufficient account of the miserable condition under which so many of the inhabitants of the congested districts have lived in the past, and under which many still live, and of the effect past wretchedness has had in stereotyping habits, that would never have been formed under happier conditions. A stimulus and an encouragement that would be unnecessary, and even objectionable, in more favoured districts can be justified in many parts of the West of Ireland. We are of opinion, however, that, when the necessary help has been given to enable sanitary regulations to be carried out, the public health laws should be henceforth enforced.

91. The Board have been so careful to see that the grants given should be barely sufficient to act as a stimulus to the carrying out of the work, that some of the poorest inhabitants have been unable to take advantage of the offers of the Parish Committees owing to the lack of means to start the works. The Board seem to have exercised careful supervision so as to prevent the grants degenerating into parish doles, and it seems to be their expectation that the system of giving grants in cash, on condition that certain work is done, will, when the need for great reforms in the condition of the homesteads becomes less urgent, merge into one of prizes for the best kept houses, offices, or gardens, a system not unknown outside the West of Ireland nor, indeed, in other countries.

XI.—Agricultural Banks.

92. One of the chief difficulties, in the way of agricultural development in the congested districts, is the lack of working capital, from which small farmers suffer. It is for this reason that the Board have co-operated with the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society in founding co-operative credit associations, commonly called Raiffeisen banks. What Raiffeisen did was to join together a number of small farmers, whose individual credit was bad, and by their union create a greater security than the individual farmers could offer. They borrow on their joint and several liability a large sum of money at a low rate of interest, which they lend in varying sums to such of their number as require a loan. All the affairs of the bank are managed by a committee elected by the members. No loan is made except to a member who can be trusted to employ it reproductively, and who is obliged to produce one or two sureties. Their funds are obtained on loan from joint-stock banks and from local depositors, and in the poorer districts the Board have lent to individual societies amounts varying from £30 to £200, upon which the bank pays interest at the rate of from 2½ to 3½ per cent. These small loans serve as a nucleus around which other sums—obtained from joint stock banks or local depositors—gather by degrees, until sufficient capital is acquired. The Raiffeisen banks thus aided, issue numerous small loans to their members—the very poor—who could not obtain credit elsewhere. The profit to the individual borrowers is generally very considerable, and, so far, practically no losses have been incurred by the banks—indeed in nearly every case a small profit has been made and carried to the reserve fund.

93. Under the arrangements made with the Treasury in 1899–1900 for borrowing money from the local loans fund it was provided that the Board should be able to borrow two-thirds of any capital required for loans up to a limit of £100,000. Of this amount £40,000 was set aside for loans to tenants (including loans to agricultural banks). As more money was subsequently required, for estate improvements, than was then available, three-quarters of the sum available for loans to tenants, &c., was diverted to estates. The £10,000 left for loans to tenants, &c., has so far proved sufficient, as the Board in February, 1904, decided to limit the loans to banks to a total of £6,000, but one result of that decision has been that, for several years, very few new banks have been organised. The circumstances of each bank are watched, and as soon as local funds are raised from joint stock banks or private individuals, the Board withdraw part or the whole of

their loan, and transfer the money to another bank, where it is more required, or where no loan has yet been made by them. It is hoped by the Board that in time the banks will accumulate reserve funds which will make them more independent of external assistance. The advantage that, in the Board's opinion, would thus be attained, is one of very great importance to the healthy working of these societies, namely, the growth of a sense of greater independence and self-help, when the members recognise that they possess a property of their own in the bank, which it is their interest to preserve and strengthen, instead of feeling that they are borrowing from a quasi-charitable fund. This building up of a reserve can only be done by avoiding bad debts, and by the members agreeing to pay to the banks higher interest than the rate which the bank is paying. The usual charge is at the rate of one penny per pound for each month. As the members usually make a large percentage of profit on their loan transactions, they can, it is said, afford to pay higher interest. In the present condition of the districts concerned, this somewhat rigid application of self-help must, for the present, be to some extent a counsel of perfection.

XI.—*Continued* Agricultural Banks.

94. At 31st March, 1907, there were in the congested districts 65 banks in working order, and 32 which had not commenced operations, or which had been closed. The net amount lent by the Board was £6,000; £3,000 had been borrowed from joint-stock banks, and local deposits amounted to £7,000. There were 5,756 members to whom 4,169 loans had been made amounting to £17,200. In three cases there had been a slight loss, the total loss being less than £6, whilst the reserve fund amounted to £800. In the five years 1900-1904, the Board made occasional grants to the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society to recoup the expenses of organising banks and auditing accounts in the congested districts. About £1,660 was paid in that period, or an average of £330 a year. From 1904 to 1906, the Board recouped the Society for the salary and expenses of one organiser, who spent all his time in the congested districts. The distances to be travelled made this an uneconomical arrangement. Since February, 1907, the Board have agreed to pay the Society £350 a year regularly, the work to be done by any officers to whom the Society may assign the work. Full details as to the financial working of each bank is contained in each annual report of the Board.

XII.—Marine and Inland Works.

95. An important part of the Board's work has been the construction of piers, boat slips, roads, bridges, and other miscellaneous works. On these there has been a net expenditure of £133,047 up to the 31st March, 1907, of which £50,000 was provided out of the two capital funds at the disposal of the Board, namely, the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund and the Sea and Coast Fisheries Fund, the balance coming out of the Board's income. Of the total amount spent, about half has been expended on maritime works, to which reference has already been made, the inland works costing £68,625. As has already been pointed out in connection with the piers and harbours, most of these works are of the nature that should be undertaken by the local authority, but, owing to the poverty of the districts and the high rates, it is difficult to get such works carried out without a large contribution from the Board, and it is seldom easy and often very difficult to get the local authority to undertake their maintenance. The Board also gave subsidies to various coasting steamer services, and the portion of this expenditure not chargeable to fishery development was £7,399.

XI. p. 53.

See paragraph 74.

XIII.—Future Development of Congested Districts.

96. We may conclude our review of the operations of the Board in the past, and preface our recommendations for the future, by expressing our opinion that, having regard to the limitations both of funds and powers under which the Board worked, and to the fact that their work was of necessity during the early years experimental, they proceeded on judicious lines: and that we believe in the extension and development of the main features of the work they

XIII.—*Continued* Future Development of Congested Districts.

have recently done, lies the best hope of permanently improving the condition of the congested and other exceptionally poor districts. We realise the force of the objections that can be urged against paternalism amongst normal communities, but we believe that a certain amount of paternalism is absolutely necessary for large parts of the West of Ireland. We are convinced that if the past efforts of the Board are not to be deprived of full fruition, and if the districts are not to remain in their present unhappy condition, vigorous efforts must be made to continue and extend the work of the Board, mainly, along the lines which they adopted. The Board have never made any use of their powers to assist emigration, and though resort to such a remedy might, in many cases, be preferable to a perpetuation of the existing conditions, we do not consider that such a course furnishes a practicable alternative to our proposal. While we consider it of the utmost importance that no effort should be spared to develop the possibilities of fishing along the coast, and while we regard it as highly desirable to promote industries where possible, the remedy that seems to us to contain, to the greatest extent, the necessary element of permanence is the re-settlement and enlargement of the majority of the small holdings. This is, in general, a condition precedent to any marked agricultural development, which is all-important in these districts where the great majority of the inhabitants must depend mainly on the land. Such a re-settlement will involve the acquisition of large areas of grass land and an extensive scheme of migration. The migration already effected has been on too small a scale, and is of too recent a date, to justify us in drawing any very definite conclusions as to the general success of future migrants, but the results so far have been most encouraging. Before considering such a remedy in detail, two questions require consideration :—

(1.) What body should carry out the work, and

(2.) " What areas (if any) outside the districts now scheduled as congested require to be dealt with as congested."

XIV.—Question of Continuance of Board.

97. The question has been raised during our deliberations whether the Board should continue to carry out the work, which it is generally recognised must be done by some public body, of improving the condition of the people in the poor districts in the West of Ireland. It was pointed out that the Board is not, from an administrative point of view, an ideal body for carrying out this work. They meet generally but once a month, and sit then for three days at the most. Such a procedure is inconsistent with continuous day-to-day administration. It was suggested that the continuance of the Board would perpetuate dual administration and make for administrative waste. When the Board was created in 1891 there was no other body charged with similar functions over any part of Ireland. It is true that Inspectors of Fisheries were in existence before, and after, the creation of the Board, but they had no power of developing the fisheries except by making loans for boats and gear (in conjunction with the Board of Works), and so there was no clashing with the Congested Districts Board. In 1900 a department of Government came into existence, charged with the duty of carrying out the work of developing agriculture, fisheries, and technical instruction in the non-scheduled portions of Ireland. Between 1900 and 1904, there were two bodies—the Department and the Board—carrying out agricultural development in areas that not only adjoined but were intermixed, and some of the difficulties and administrative waste caused by this system have been already adverted to. Since 1904, these difficulties have been obviated by the transfer of the work of agricultural development, in the congested districts, to the Department. There seems to have been little or no clashing between the Board and the Department as regards other work, but in order to avoid any waste caused by dual administration it was suggested that a similar transfer of the fishery work and the work of technical instruction should now be effected.

See paragraphs 62–7.

98. As regards what we consider much the most important work of the Board, that of land purchase and re-settlement, there was no competing

XIV.—*Continued.* Question of Continuance of Board.

authority in Ireland until the end of 1903, when the Estates Commissioners were established, and given powers somewhat similar to those possessed by the Board, as regards land. A fact that may be significant, and which is at any rate curious, may be worth noting, namely, that the two years in which the bodies that may be regarded as competing with the Board—the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction and the Estates Commissioners—were created, were the two occasions on which Parliament decided to give the Board an increase in their income. There can be no doubt that this duplication of authorities has been attended with some evils as regards the land work. The Estates Commissioners can buy and re-sell land not only in the non-scheduled portions of the congested districts, but also in the scheduled portions. It is quite clear that the existence of two public bodies, buying and re-selling land in the same area or adjoining districts, rendered it inevitable that comparisons would be drawn as to the price at which they acquired land, and as to the rapidity and efficiency of the two bodies. This was not conducive to smooth working and was liable to cause friction. Moreover the division of control and responsibility prevented either body from mapping out a comprehensive scheme of re-settlement, for neither body could be sure that land that was required for their scheme, would not be acquired by the other body.

99. The simplest way, on paper, out of these difficulties would be to merge one body in the other. We have not attached importance to the comparison that has been drawn as to the respective efficiency of the Board and the Estates Commissioners, for their work is not strictly comparable, as the Board have had to deal with a much more depressed population which required special treatment. Hardly anyone has seriously suggested that it was desirable or possible to make the Board the administrators of the Land Purchase Acts, or of the work of agricultural, fishery and industrial development all over Ireland. Hence the cessation of dual administration would involve the abolition of the Board, and the transfer of its work to the Estates Commissioners and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

100. On the other hand it has been urged, and we think with great force, that much of the success of the Congested Districts Board, who were given a very difficult task, has been due to the fact that they did not form an ordinary Government department but were an independent body of Irishmen, who, as regards their work on the Board, were generally regarded as being as free from officialism as from party politics. Rightly or wrongly it seems to be felt by many that a Government department in Ireland, not being responsible to some Irish body but only to the Imperial Parliament, is not readily responsive to Irish public opinion, and does not command the confidence, which seems to be accorded to the Board. Whatever may be the truth of this argument, and whatever it was in the Board, whether their independence of Government or their *personnel*, that commanded confidence, it is obvious that functions such as those which have been discharged by the Board, functions which depend for their success on the consent and active co-operation of the people, might, under existing conditions, suffer from the substitution, for the Board, of a department, no matter how efficient. If no Board had been in existence, and the question merely was what would be the most efficient body for carrying out the work to be done in the West of Ireland, it might be considered desirable to entrust it to existing departments of Government. With things as they are in Ireland, we are strongly of opinion that it would gravely imperil the carrying out of the work, that has to be done, to transfer to any department of Government the functions of the Congested Districts Board, so long as the constitution of Irish Government remains as it is.

101. Accordingly we are clearly of opinion that the Board should be continued, though we are equally of opinion that its constitution must be considerably modified. The exact changes which we recommend will be pointed out at a later stage of the Report, when a full statement has been made of the work which we think should be done by the Board. It is sufficient to state here, as regards some of the arguments advanced against the continuance of the Board, that continuous day-to-day administration may

XIV.—*Continued.* Question of Continuance of Board.

be secured by having on the Board certain paid members or commissioners. We consider that the addition of a certain number of elected members will increase and extend the sense of responsibility for the successful working of the Board, which we desire to see more common among those who live in the area over which the Board is to operate. The evils of dual administration and overlapping may, we think, be avoided to a large extent by drawing a more precise line of demarcation between the technical instruction to be given by the Board and that to be given by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, and by giving the Board exclusive powers for purchasing and re-settling land over a certain area, within which no land should be sold under the Purchase Acts, except to the Board, unless a certificate is given by the Board that the circumstances of the estate justify a sale direct to the occupying tenants.

XV.—Future Area of Board.

102. As regards the question of what additional areas require to be dealt with as congested, we have already considered some of the defects of the present definition of a congested district. It is quite clear that there are areas outside the scheduled electoral divisions, both in the nine counties part of which are scheduled, and in some of the other counties, which stand in as much need of assistance as the greater part of the Board's present area, and there are parts of the congested districts in which the need for exceptional treatment is not marked. The Board have, of course, been unable to deal with the former cases, but as regards the latter, they have been able to differentiate by limiting the amount of work done to the requirements of the districts. Many alternative definitions have been suggested, but most of them were in part subject to the objections raised against the present definition, and nearly all would increase the scattered nature of the districts, which is already so marked as to cause inconvenience. Some of the changes suggested would notably increase it, *e.g.* the proposal that instead of electoral divisions—of which there are 3,652 in Ireland—townlands—of which there are 60,462—or even part of a townland, should be made the unit. Connected with changes of this sort is the suggestion that the power of the Lord Lieutenant to schedule districts should be revived, or that the Board might be given absolute discretion to schedule any district. Proposals have on the other hand been made that the unit of congestion should be increased to a rural district—there are 213 rural districts in Ireland—or to a county, and that the area over which the Board is to operate should be thus rounded off.

See paragraph 7.

See map facing p. 116.

103. One important advantage to be gained by scheduling the whole of a county is simplification of administration, especially the administration of agricultural development. Considerable difficulty has been found in working side by side a general county scheme, and special schemes, confined to the scheduled districts. Another advantage of scheduling the whole of certain counties would be the possible diminution of the present opposition to migration. Undoubtedly the present somewhat arbitrary distinction that is drawn between the scheduled and the non-scheduled portions of a county increases the difficulty of migrating to grass lands in the non-scheduled portions of, say, Roscommon and Galway, the people who live in the scheduled portions of these counties. The removal of these artificial boundaries and the knowledge that the Board are concerned with the whole of certain counties might to some extent diminish parochial prejudice.

104. These two considerations seem so important, and the difficulty of framing any satisfactory definition or test so great, that we are of opinion that the present definition of congestion and the test for scheduling should be abolished, and that (with one exception) entire counties, as distinguished from selected districts of such counties, should be placed under the Board; and we are clearly of opinion that each county in Connaught, and Donegal and Kerry should be so treated. A considerable portion of each of these counties is at present scheduled, and it does not seem practical, even

if it were desirable, to suggest that any of them should be withdrawn from the Board's jurisdiction, but a difficulty arises as regards the other two counties containing divisions scheduled as congested, namely, Clare and Cork.

XV.—*Continued.* Future Area of Board.

105. The case of Clare is peculiar. In 1891 there were several electoral divisions in Clare under the 30*s.* limit, but as they contained less than one-fifth of the population of the entire county, no electoral division in Clare was scheduled. As a result of the re-adjustment of county boundaries under the Local Government Act of 1898, the scheduled electoral division of Mountshannon—formerly in Galway and originally scheduled through a clerical error—was transferred to Clare, and a somewhat anomalous situation was created. There was no power to remove Mountshannon from the schedule, and whilst it was no longer part of the "Congested Districts County of Galway" it was very doubtful whether it constituted the "Congested Districts County of Clare." The Board, as a matter of fact, never spent any money in Mountshannon. In view of the fact that it is very desirable to keep the area of the Board as small as possible, consistent with our recommendations that they should be the body entrusted with the main work of relieving congestion, and that the whole of a county should be taken as the unit of congestion, it is with considerable hesitation that we have decided to recommend the inclusion of Clare. There can be no doubt that the condition of the greater part of Clare is far better than that of the areas at present under the Board, in fact it is better than the average condition of the non-scheduled portions of Connaught, Donegal and Kerry. It is, however, after these counties, the poorest in Ireland with the exception of Cavan, judged by the ratio between valuation and population. An argument of perhaps some importance in favour of scheduling Clare is that otherwise it would be the only non-scheduled county in the west, and that its inclusion will bring the whole of the sea-board from the Foyle to Skibbereen under the jurisdiction of the Board. Moreover, there is a considerable amount of grass land in the county, which might be utilised for the relief of poor districts in other parts of the Board's area. On the whole the balance of advantage seems to us to be in favour of its inclusion.

106. Cork presents special features. All the scheduled districts are in the West Riding, the two Ridings in Cork having been treated as counties for the purpose of scheduling. Four rural districts—Bantry, Castletown, Schull, and Skibbereen—are greatly congested, especially Castletown, the whole of which is scheduled. There are only four electoral divisions scheduled outside these four rural districts. Three of them are in the comparatively rich rural district of Macroom; two of these are now well over 30*s.* valuation per head of population, whilst the third is only a penny below. The remaining scheduled electoral division—Courtmacsherry—is in the rural district of Clonakilty, and is over thirty miles from the nearest congested district. A suggestion was made that the whole of the West Riding, including Macroom and Clonakilty, should be scheduled, but there are three objections. The greater part of the West Riding is comparatively rich, and does not require treatment by the Board; *e.g.*, the rural districts of Clonakilty, Dunmanway, and those parts of Bandon, Kinsale, Macroom, and Millstreet, which are in the West Riding. In the next place the addition of the whole of the West Riding would largely increase the territory of the Board. Finally, scheduling the whole of the West Riding would confer no administrative advantage similar to that gained by scheduling an entire county, since the Ridings in Cork, unlike those in Tipperary, are not administrative, but only baronial, divisions. Of the eighteen rural districts of Cork, six—Bantry, Castletown, Clonakilty, Dunmanway, Skibbereen, and Schull, are wholly situate in the West Riding: whilst Bandon, Kinsale, Macroom, and Millstreet are partly in one Riding and partly in another. The line of division, moreover, between the Ridings is not coterminus even with the boundary lines of electoral divisions; thus five divisions in Bandon and Millstreet are partly in one Riding and partly in the other. As it seems undesirable for many reasons that the whole of the County of Cork should be scheduled, and as it is desirable that the south-west portion—most of which is extremely poor—should have the advantage of treatment by the Board, we recommend that the whole of the four rural districts of Bantry, Castletown, Schull and

XV.—*Continued* Future Area of Board.

Skibbereen should be placed under the Board, and that the four electoral divisions which are not in these rural districts but are at present scheduled, namely, Cleanrath, Bealanageary, Slievereigh (in the rural district of Macroom), and Courtmacsherry (in the rural district of Clonakilty), should be removed from the Board's area. Of the 57 electoral divisions in the four rural districts recommended for inclusion in the Board's area 18 are under the 30*s.* limit and 29 are at present scheduled. The average valuation per head of population of each of the four rural districts mentioned is as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Bantry	1	15	4
Castletown	1	2	2
Skibbereen	1	19	1
Schull	1	10	5

This would mean an addition to the eight counties, already recommended for inclusion, of an area which contains about one-fifth of the rural population and of the acreage, and one-tenth of the valuation of the rural districts of County Cork.

107. The following table shows the number of holdings, the population living on them, their total acreage and valuation, and also the total area, valuation and population in (1) the present scheduled districts, (2) the seven counties which we have no hesitation in recommending should be placed under the Board, (3) the four unions in Cork about which we are similarly agreed, (4) the County of Clare which, with some hesitation, we recommend should be included, (5) the totals for the districts referred to in the last three headings,* and (6) similar totals for the whole of Ireland :—

Area.	Number of Agricultural Holdings. 1.	Population Living on Holdings. 2.	Acreage of Holdings. 3.	Valuation of Holdings. 4.	Total Population. 5.	Total Acreage. 6.	Total Valuation. 7.
			Acres.	£		Acres.	£
(1.) Present Scheduled Areas.	84,954	461,247	2,986,681	523,188	505,723	3,626,381	577,043
(2.) Donegal, Connaught, Kerry,	157,195	835,274	5,700,301	1,792,438	986,380	6,761,400	2,077,646
(3.) Bantry, Castletown, Schull, Skibbereen,	7,368	46,932	316,705	84,369	60,073	352,491	101,118
(4.) Clare, ...	15,757	88,004	766,720	297,239	112,334	852,389	326,214
(5.) Total, ...	180,320	970,210	6,783,726	2,174,046	1,158,787	7,966,280	2,504,978
(6.) All Ireland,	490,301	2,664,204	18,739,644	10,061,667	4,458,772	20,832,745	15,536,768

108. Of the districts in Ireland which are extremely poor, but are not at present scheduled, those situate in counties, part of which are scheduled will, under the foregoing scheme, be dealt with by the Board; as regards the other poor districts situate in counties of which at present no portion is scheduled, there is no one county which contains a sufficient number of such districts to make it necessary for the whole of the county to be placed under the Board, and we do not think it desirable that the Board should deal with small isolated districts in different counties. At a later stage we shall make suggestions for the improvement of these poor outlying areas by a different machinery.

* Throughout the remainder of this Report, the term "the Board's new area," refers to the whole of Connaught, Donegal, Clare, Kerry, and the four rural districts of Bantry, Castletown, Schull, and Skibbereen.

XVI.—Size of Problem of raising Holdings to an Economic Standard.

109. Having considered the two preliminary questions of the agency by which the work of re-settling the West of Ireland should be carried out, and having indicated the area over which the new Board should operate, we may pass to the consideration of the treatment required. We have already stated our opinion that it is to the land that a great majority of the people in the West of Ireland must look for support, and that, as the greater portion of the holdings, there, are not large enough to support a man and his family according to any decent standard of comfort, the first thing that has to be done is to bring as many holdings as possible, up to the standard of what is known as an "economic holding." The term is not a happily chosen one, unrelated as it is either to the "economical" distribution of the land or to the doctrine of "economic rent"; it seems, however, to be consecrated by usage and its interpretation is not doubtful. The meaning that has been attached to it before the Commission is, a holding off the produce of which alone it is possible for the occupier and his family to live according to a standard of comfort, which, if not satisfactory, is at least fairly decent. Such a holding is marked off, on the one hand, from what has been called, by Sir Horace Plunkett, a "hyper-economic" holding, and, on the other, from a labourer's allotment, by two vital characteristics. It can be worked without hired labour by a family of average strength and efficiency, and, so worked, its produce, whether consumed or sold, suffices for the maintenance of the household without supplementary sources of income. A labourer's allotment, though it can be worked by the occupier or his family without hired labour, does not suffice for the sole support of the household; on the other hand, a larger farm, which would support an occupier with a higher standard of comfort, cannot be worked without the assistance of outside labour.

See paragraph 96.

See paragraph 9.

III., p. 380.

110. Different tests have been suggested for determining whether a holding is or is not economic, *e.g.*, whether it requires for its cultivation a horse or, in co-operation with another holding, the use of a plough and a team of horses, but classification by superficial area or by valuation has been more common. Opinions have naturally varied greatly as to what, is the size or value of such a holding. It may be interesting to note that, over sixty years ago, the question was considered in connection with the Devon Commission. The preponderance of opinion as to the size of an economic holding then seems to have varied from $6\frac{1}{4}$ to $10\frac{1}{2}$ acres, the variation depending more on the skill of the occupier than the quality of the land. It seems to have been generally accepted that on "ordinary" land, eight acres, fairly well improved and fairly well farmed, would be as safe a minimum average as could be fixed. The witnesses examined before the present Commission set the average much higher, but most of them agreed that acreage was an uncertain guide, and that valuation was to be preferred. Obviously it is impossible to dogmatise as to the minimum size, measured either by superficial area or valuation, of an economic holding. Quite apart from the varying nature of the relation, in different districts, between the valuation and the productivity of the land, it is evident that what is an economic holding for one family may not be for another, and the position may be reversed in ten years' time, as much depends on the economic efficiency of the family. Still, whilst it is quite clear that there must be variation, it seems safe to say that £10 is a fair average to take as the minimum valuation of an economic holding.

111. With this figure as a rough guide, it may be useful approximately to estimate the size of the land problem before the Board. In the congested districts there are 84,954 agricultural holdings, of which 74,413 do not exceed £10 valuation; the total valuation of these 74,413 holdings is £286,196, the average per holding being £3 17*s*. Therefore, land of which the poor law valuation is £457,934 would be required to bring up every holding in the congested districts to a standard of £10 valuation. If however, the figures are taken not for the congested districts but for the whole of the Board's new area we find that the total number of holdings is 180,320, of which 131,316, or over two-thirds, do not exceed £10 valuation. The total

XI., p. 100.
XI., p. 101.

XI., p. 102.

XVI.—*continued.* Size of Problem of raising Holdings to an Economic Standard.

valuation of these small holdings is £571,918, the average valuation per holding being £4 7*s*. These figures are those of the Census of 1901. Since then the number of small holdings has decreased and the number of larger ones increased as a result of the operations of the Board, and of the Estates Commissioners under sections 6, 7, and 8 of the Act of 1903. Ignoring for the present the effect of these changes, which cannot be numerically estimated until the next Census, and which do not seriously affect our calculations, it appears that to bring every holding within the Board's new area up to a standard of £10 valuation, would require land the valuation of which is £741,242.

XI., p. 103.

112. There is no doubt that this is considerably more land than would be required to make economic (in the sense mentioned above) as many holdings as it would be desirable or possible to enlarge, even if there were no reluctance to migrate and no reluctance to receive migrants. Possible deductions from the maximum mentioned may be considered under six heads :—

(1.) Some holdings though under £10 valuation are in point of fact economic and do not require enlargement, *e.g.*, some holdings, notably in Donegal, of which the valuation is only £5 or £6, and which when the valuation was made consisted mainly of unreclaimed land, have now, owing to improvements, become economic. The deduction to be made under this head, in respect of holdings under £10 valuation but not needing enlargement, is quite uncertain and must be left to the discretion of the Board and its officials.

(2.) A large number of holdings have been bought under the various Land Purchase Acts by the tenants. Including holdings bought and re-sold by the Board and holdings bought by the Estates Commissioners, which have been or will be re-sold, the number bought to 31st December last in the Board's new area under all Purchase Acts is just over 39,000, exclusive of those in the four rural districts in Co. Cork, for which separate figures are not available. No information is forthcoming about their valuation, but, undoubtedly, the majority of these holdings are under £10 valuation. Over two out of every three holdings in the Board's new area are under £10 valuation: it is impossible to say whether there is the same proportion of small holdings among the 39,000 farms that have been sold but for the purpose of calculations this may be assumed. It is more difficult in general to re-settle tenant purchasers than tenants, and in any case tenant purchasers of small holdings are better off than a tenant holding a farm of the same valuation, for they have for a certain number of years been paying a terminable annuity which is less than the rent of a tenant on a corresponding holding, and they have for a varying period enjoyed all the advantages arising out of the "magic of property." Moreover, in many cases, the operations of the Board and the Estates Commissioners have improved the holdings whether the acreage and, consequently, the valuation, has been increased or not. Some of these holdings will, of course, both require and be capable of treatment by the Board, but if we assume, first, that over two-thirds of the farms sold were under £10 valuation in 1901, and secondly that the Board need not concern themselves with any of them, the number to be dealt with would be reduced by about 26,000, or about 20 per cent. of the total number of small holdings.

XI., p. 51.

(3) Agreements between landlords and tenants or landlords and the Estates Commissioners have been already entered into for the transfer of many holdings, though advances have not yet been made. As regards the Board's new area (exclusive of the four rural districts in Co. Cork for which no separate figures can be obtained), these cover, up to 31st December, 1907, about 28,000 holdings. Treating them in the same way as holdings for which advances have been made, it would appear that a further reduction of nearly 20,000 might be made. The question of how far the Board should be empowered to interfere in these cases, which may be described as "pending cases," will

XI., p. 51.

See paragraphs 210-6.

be discussed later. It is only necessary, here, to point out that some of these small holdings cannot be left unimproved, and that, as will be seen later, these holdings may be more easily dealt with than holdings where the sale is already complete. Of course a certain number of these pending cases will have been vested in the tenants before any legislation can be passed concerning the Board and consequently will pass into the foregoing category of completed cases.

XVI.—*continued.*
Size of Problem of raising Holdings to an Economic Standard.

(4.) A further allowance must be made in respect of holdings, the subject of purchase agreements, between 1st January, 1908, and the date of legislation concerning the Board. It is difficult to give anything like an exact estimate of the number of cases because the date of legislation is uncertain, and because, for various reasons, the number of purchase agreements lodged within the last few months shows a considerable increase over the average rate during the last couple of years.

(5.) There are certain districts where the land is so poor that no amount of migration and resettlement could make the holdings economic, *e.g.* parts of Erris and Connemara. To take a very extreme case : there may be 100 families living on 10,000 acres of land of which the total valuation is only £200. The average size of the holding would be 100 acres, valued at £2. To bring the holding up to a £10 standard would necessitate the migration of eighty families. This would be migration on a scale much larger than anything yet attempted, and, even if effected, the twenty families left behind would find it impossible to work their holdings, which, although valued at only £10, would extend over 500 acres. A deduction must also be made for holdings which cannot be enlarged because of the absolute refusal on the part of a sufficient number of surrounding occupiers to migrate. It is quite impossible to give any sort of approximate estimate as to what deductions should be made, in respect of the holdings affected by the considerations referred to in this paragraph.

(6.) Again, it must be borne in mind that a large number of holdings are not really agricultural ; their function is limited to the provision of a house, a potato patch, and perhaps the grazing of a cow. In some of these cases only would it be desirable to give the occupiers enlarged holdings.

(*a.*) Some are not really agriculturalists but fishermen. According to the Census in the Board's new area there are 5,756 fishermen. In addition to regular fishermen, many combine fishing with farming on a small scale. According to the Census returns there were in the area mentioned less than 500 occupiers of land who were also engaged in fishing, but, probably, there were many more who derived some assistance from fishing, but were not sufficiently constantly engaged in the operation to be classified ; and some occupiers derived considerable assistance from industries connected with fishing—*e.g.*, curing and carting. Moreover, the sons of many occupiers were engaged in fishing or in pursuits ancillary to fishing. Mr. Doran was inclined to the opinion that most of the population along the coast, in the area marked " A " on the map printed in connection with his evidence, which he estimated at about one-third of the total population of the congested districts, would look to fishing as their main support. It cannot be hoped that the fishing industry will, in the near future, support the larger proportion of these, but the partial dependence of a certain section of landholders on the fishing industry justifies considerable deductions being made from the number of holdings requiring enlargement, and from the amount of land required for this purpose.

XI., p. 105.

XI., p. 105.

I., Q. 2053, *et seq.*
I. Map facing p. 332.

(*b.*) Some landholders rely much more on other subsidiary sources of income than on their holdings—*i.e.*, kelp making, especially along parts of the coast of Donegal and Galway, the sale of turf, especially in certain parts of Connemara, weaving and carpet making,

XVI.—*continued.*
Size of Problem of raising Holdings to an Economic Standard.

especially in certain parts of Donegal, and lace making, especially in the Pullathomas and Foxpoint districts of Co. Mayo. It would probably be desirable to enlarge most of these holdings, as many of the secondary sources of income referred to are not of a very stable nature, and they are mentioned only because, in some cases, holdings in these districts do not stand so urgently in need of enlargement as in other districts where there are no subsidiary resources. Each of the industries mentioned presents special characteristics, which will be considered later, but it is important here to note that their permanent value as a source of income greatly varies, and that there is a danger in inducing the families of small farmers to devote to these industries time and labour essential to the proper working of a holding that is economic and the utilisation of its produce.

See paragraphs 264–9.

(*c.*) Many small holders rely largely upon remittances from America, but this aid is of course purely personal and temporary, and furnishes no reason against bringing the holdings of the recipients up to a proper standard.

(*d.*) Some of the holdings are really labourers' allotments rather than farms, and the occupiers rely less on the products of the holdings than upon the wages earned in some cases at home, but more generally in England and Scotland. It would be for the welfare of the west of Ireland to afford, by the provision of economic holdings, an opportunity of employing at home the labourer who now goes to Great Britain, but it seems undesirable to attempt to turn *bona-fide* labourers into small farmers. This raises a question of considerable importance; how far labourers' allotments should be increased in size? As a general rule, where there are no subsidiary industries other than that of field labour for hire, a holding should either be merely an allotment on which the labourer can utilise his own spare time and that of his family, or else an economic farm which will require the undivided attention of the occupier and such of his family as are fit to labour on the land. If a compromise is attempted the occupier will fall between two stools; his own holding will require his attention at the very time when there is a good demand for his labour, but it will not suffice to keep him occupied all the year round. It cannot be expected that the substitution of a large number of small holders, even though they go in largely for tillage, for a small number of large landholders, though concerned mainly with grazing, will increase to any considerable extent the permanent demand for hired labour. If the number of labourers' cottages is increased without a corresponding growth in the demand for labour within the Board's area, it may be attended with grave consequences, and lead to a renewal of the evils of congestion. It might be well worth consideration whether, within the more congested portions of the Board's area, the money now available under the Labourers' Act for the erection of labourers' cottages could not be better employed in repairing and improving existing dwelling-houses than in erecting new ones.

See paragraph 268, and also XI. p. 111.

113. It will be seen that while deductions have to be made from the maximum number of holdings to be enlarged, it is only in respect of classes 2 and 3 above that any sort of an estimate can be given. The maximum deductions in respect of these classes amount to 46,000 holdings, and it is clear that a considerable number of these holdings should be enlarged. On the other hand no deduction has been made under heads 2 and 3 in respect of the four rural districts in County Cork (because figures relating to land purchase operations in each rural district as distinct from each county are not available), and there are, moreover, deductions which must be made in respect of the holdings affected by 1, 4, 5, and 6 above. It seems probable that these deductions will far more than counterbalance the number of holdings which, though already affected by the Land Purchase Acts, will require enlargement, and that, therefore, more than 46,000 holdings should be deducted from the total

number not exceeding £10 valuation (131,316), in order to arrive at the actual number that will require enlargement. So many factors of the problem are unknown, and can be ascertained only by an inspection of each holding, that the widest power of discretion must be left to the Board and its inspectors as to what holdings should or should not be enlarged. We think, however, that the maximum size of the problem of the enlargement of holdings cannot be greater than that involved in dealing with 80,000 holdings, of which the rateable valuation is estimated to be £350,000, and that the land necessary for this purpose should not exceed land the valuation of which is £450,000.

XVI.—*continued.* Size of Problem of raising Holdings to an Economic Standard.

See paragraph 226.

XVII.—Compulsory powers required for the Relief of Congestion.

114. For the purpose of accomplishing this work it has been urged before the Commission that the Board should be given power, throughout the districts in which they are to operate, to acquire land by compulsion where voluntary negotiations fail. It has been suggested that this compulsory power should extend to every class of land which it is thought necessary for the Board to acquire, including tenanted land for re-sale to the occupiers, after treatment where necessary, untenanted land,* non-residential holdings and part of large residential farms, whether held by tenants or tenant purchasers. It was urged that they should also be given power to deal compulsorily with tenants of small residential holdings for the purpose of striping and re-settlement. It was pointed out that one unreasonable person, whether he be the landlord of tenanted holdings or the owner of untenanted land, or a tenant or tenant purchaser, could block the Board's scheme of re-settlement throughout an entire district. One thing is quite clear, that the Board cannot carry out their future schemes of re-settlement in the somewhat piece-meal manner which has been the unavoidable result of their present limitations. The Board should in future proceed, not as opportunity may chance to offer, but in accordance with a definite and systematic plan. Without compulsion it may be well that their efforts must continue sporadic. Under any scheme for the re-settlement of the whole of any large district, the inequalities in the condition of the occupiers on two neighbouring estates, one of which has been acquired by the Board and one of which has not been so acquired owing to the unwillingness of the owner to sell, would probably lead to serious trouble and friction such as arose on the de Freyne Estate some years ago after the purchase of the adjoining Dillon Estate.

115. The opinion has been expressed that, if the Board were given compulsory powers, there would be little need to exercise them, as the knowledge of their existence would discourage owners of land from taking up a *non-possumus* attitude. There seems to be much reason for thinking that unless the Board are given these powers, they will in some cases find difficulty in getting all the land necessary for the enlargement of holdings. It has been stated that a higher price would have to be paid for land taken compulsorily than for land acquired voluntarily, and that the existence of compulsory powers would increase the price of land generally, by setting a high standard. On the other hand, the absence of such powers might cause the Board to be met by some landowners with a demand for a quite unreasonable price, owing to the knowledge that their land was absolutely necessary for carrying out the Board's scheme of re-settlement.

116. After careful consideration we have come to the conclusion that compulsory powers are necessary in order to enable the Board to carry out a proper scheme of re-settlement in the west of Ireland, and accordingly we recommend the giving of these powers for the acquisition of any land mentioned in the next paragraph, subject to the exceptions set out. We recommend that in addition to the compulsory powers for the acquisition of estates from landlords, or farms from tenants or tenant purchasers, the Board should have compulsory powers to re-settle any estate they buy, even though this should involve the compulsory re-arrangement of holdings, and the allocation

See paragraphs 190–203.

See paragraph 199.

* By untenanted land is meant land in which no tenancy has been created, and where therefore the owner in fee is also the rated occupier. Such land does not cease to be untenanted by reason of being temporarily let.

XVII.—*Continued.*

Compulsory Powers required for the Relief of Congestion.

See paragraphs 152–97.

of turbary. We are also of opinion that compulsion should not be unilateral only, and that the Board should have the right of declaring any tenant the purchaser of his original holding (or of an enlarged or improved holding). The method in which compulsion should be exercised, the body that should fix the price, and the considerations that should govern the price are set out in a later portion of this Report; but we desire, at once, to emphasise the fact that our recommendation in favour of the granting of compulsory powers is entirely conditional upon our recommendations, in these particulars, being carried out.

117. It is recommended that the Board, in order to carry out their duty of relieving congestion, should be empowered to acquire, within their new area, by compulsion, where necessary, for the enlargement of small holdings, the following :—

(1). The landlord's interest in any tenanted property.

(2). Any untenanted land, *i.e.* land of which the rated occupier is also the owner in fee, provided it does not form part of any demesne, home-farm, garden or pleasure-ground, wood or plantation, or ground used for public recreation, and provided that all interference is avoided with the demesne and the amenity of residence of the owner of the land, or with any home-farm or with land immediately adjoining and customarily occupied with his residence. This treatment of demesnes and home farms, which are exempt under the Evicted Tenants Act, is analogous to the exemption of land, up to the valuation of £100, in occupation of tenants or tenant purchasers, which is suggested below.

(3). On any estate bought by the Board, the tenant's interest in any non-residential holding of any size, unless it is used *bona fide* in conjunction with a residential holding, held by a man whose chief occupation is farming. In this case the amount that may be taken by the Board should be only the excess above £100 valuation of all his holdings.

(4). On any estate bought by the Board, the tenant's interest in any residential holding or holdings, of which the total valuation exceeds £100, so far as such excess is concerned.

(5). The excess over £100 valuation of any residential holding or holdings bought under the Land Purchase Acts, and the whole of any non-residential holding similarly bought, unless it is worked *bona fide* in conjunction with a residential holding (no matter what may be the nature of the interest of the occupier in this holding) by a man whose chief occupation is farming. In such a case only the excess of the holdings above £100 valuation may be taken.

118. We are of opinion that non-residential land should be the first taken, and that no part of a large residential holding should be taken except in the last resort, especially where the holding is being farmed in a husbandlike manner, and is a source of employment to the people living in the neighbourhood. It seems fair that, where the Board desire to acquire part of an estate or holding, it should be in the power of the owner or occupier to insist upon their taking all or none. As regards the acquisition and re-arrangement of tenanted holdings, it may be pointed out that, under the existing Acts, the Board, when they have bought an estate, have power, though in a somewhat roundabout way, to take any holding on it from the occupier for the purpose of migration or the enlargement of holdings.

See paragraphs 199–205.

XVIII.—Amount of Land available for relief of Congestion.

119. Having estimated as approximately as was possible the amount of land that will be required for the enlargement of holdings within the Board's area, and having considered the power that should be given for acquiring land for this purpose, it remains to examine, in the terms of our reference, "what lands are most conveniently situated for the relief of congestion," and to estimate, as approximately as possible, the amount of land that can be made available for this purpose. Such land is commonly referred to as "grass land," which, however, is a somewhat indefinite description, as there is grass land on every holding large or small. What is usually referred to are those large

XVIII.—*Continued.*

Amount of Land available for Relief of Congestion.

racts of grass land in the west of Ireland, whether held by a landlord or a tenant or a tenant purchaser, which are used mainly, if not exclusively, for grazing either by the occupier, or by persons to whom they are let temporarily. These lands are sometimes spoken of as non-residential and sometimes as untenanted, but the terms are by no means synonymous or interchangeable. Their total area and valuation are not the same, and, so far as the area proposed for the Board is concerned, only about half (in area and valuation) of the non-residential land is untenanted, whilst nearly two-thirds in area and over a third in valuation of the untenanted land is residential.

120. A return of non-residential holdings above £25 valuation in the eight counties and the four unions in the West Riding of Cork, which it is recommended should be the Board's new area, was collected, under the supervision of the Board's Chief Land Inspector, by the Board's officials, the local rate collectors, and the Royal Irish Constabulary, and has been printed in the Appendix to the Eleventh Report.* It shows that the total valuation of all the non-residential holdings in this area (about 5,000 in number) is over £355,000, the area being over 800,000 acres. All this land cannot be regarded as available. Part of this non-residential land is worked *bona fide* in conunction with a demesne, home farm or a residential holding, and therefore is, to a certain extent, exempt from compulsory acquisition. Again, some of these non-residential holdings may consist of rich grazing land which would be unsuitable for breaking up (a point to which reference is made later on) or, what is more usual, of land, especially mountain land, so poor as to be of little use for the enlargement of holdings. On the other hand, it must be remembered that the return takes no account of the non-residential holdings under £25 valuation. It is impossible to gauge the exact amount of non-residential land which will be available, but undoubtedly it furnishes the chief hope for the relief of congestion.

XI., pp. 48-9.

XI., p. 49, col. 9.

See paragraph 144.

121. A return of untenanted land was prepared by the Commissioner of Valuation, and issued as a parliamentary paper nearly two years ago, showing the amount of untenanted land in each county in Ireland. The word "untenanted" does not mean unoccupied land, but merely land in which the owner in fee has not created a tenancy, and of which he is consequently the rated occupier. This land is either farmed by the owner in fee or let temporarily, *e.g.*, for eleven months. Strictly speaking, land belonging to tenant purchasers would come within the terms of this description, but such land was specially excluded from the return presented to Parliament. Particulars relating to the area over which it is recommended the Board should operate have been taken from the summary of the return put in by Mr. Finucane in connection with his evidence, and are printed in the Appendix to our Eleventh Report. They show that there are 1,082,517 acres of untenanted land with a total valuation of £270,321 within the area mentioned. Very large deductions must, however, be made from these figures in order to arrive at an approximate estimate of the untenanted land available, under compulsion, for the enlargement of holdings. These 1,000,000 acres valued at £270,000 are partly residential and partly non-residential land. The non-residential portion amounts to about 420,000 acres of which the valuation is over £170,000, and as this item has been already considered, only 660,000 acres valued at £100,000 are left for possible utilisation. Of this balance, but a small part can, however, be regarded as really available, since it includes a certain amount of demesnes, home farms, and other lands exempted from compulsion. It is difficult to ascertain the exact amount that should be deducted, since there is nothing in the return of untenanted land to show whether the lands are demesnes, home farms, &c., except that where there is a mansion house situate on a particular rating of land, it is shown in the return, and that rating may almost invariably be assumed to be a

Cd. 250, 1906.

III., p. 319.

XI., p. 104, col. 4.

XI., p. 49, cols. 7 and 8.

* It is important to note what precisely is meant by the term "non-residential" in this return. The Board's officials obtained from the records of the Commissioner of Valuation a list of all holdings over £25 in valuation, upon which the valuation of the buildings did not exceed £1. It was assumed that all such holdings were non-residential, but this assumption was checked, so far as was possible, by local inquiry, and all holdings which were found to be residential were eliminated. The return printed in the Appendix to the Eleventh Report contains the residue only.

XVIII.—*Continued.*

Amount of Land available for Relief of Congestion.

demesne or home farm. The return shows that there are over 120,000 acres of land valued at over £70,000 comprised in such ratings, which must be deducted from the amount available. A balance of about 540,000 acres remains, most of which must be very poor land, as its total valuation is only £30,000. Hence the amount of untenanted land that may be made available for the relief of congestion, and is not included under the heading of non-residential holdings, and therefore already considered, is not extensive.

XI., p. 104.

122. Turning to the third source from which land may be obtained for enlargement, namely, part of large residential holdings, there are within the area with which the Commission is concerned 2,445 holdings above £100 valuation, of which the total valuation is £505,340. Of these, so far as can be ascertained, 714 (the valuation of which is £233,106) are in the landlords' hands, and are therefore included in the two previous items; hence it would appear that there are only 1,731 holdings, the valuation of which is £269,234, in the occupation of tenants and tenant purchasers, part of which might be made available. If each holding was scaled down to £100 it would set free land the valuation of which is £96,134, but many of these large holdings are non-residential and were accordingly included in the first item considered. Therefore the amount of land to be obtained from these large holdings has a valuation of considerably less than £96,134.

123. While the above estimates of the disease and of the remedy are alike tentative, it would appear the land capable of acquisition in the Board's new area is hardly sufficient to relieve all the congestion in the same area, by enlargement of holdings. Moreover, no allowance has been made in these calculations for the not unreasonable claims of herds on the grass land to be acquired, nor for land that must under statute be provided for evicted tenants. It would, therefore, be a great advantage, if a working arrangement could be arrived at with the Estates Commissioners for placing at the disposal of the Board any suitable untenanted land, acquired by the former body, in the vicinity of the latter's area. We cannot, however, disguise from ourselves that, until there is a radical change in public opinion, it will not be easy to relieve congestion within the Board's area, by means of migration to land east of the Shannon. This makes it probable that the Board will be forced to rely, for some time, upon such land as can be acquired within its own area. So far as can be judged from the figures available this is not quite adequate for the relief of small landholders, and consequently every holding given to the son of a tenant, or to any other person not, at present, a landholder, will, to that extent, perpetuate congestion in the West.

XIX.—Comparison of Claims of Landless Men and of Congests to Grass Lands.

Paragraphs 33, 42 and 43.

124. We have already drawn attention to the growth of the agitation against migration, and have pointed out that where the Board bought large tracts of grass land outside the scheduled areas, they had, prior to 1903, no power to enlarge uneconomic holdings in the neighbourhood which were not actually upon the estate bought, and that small landholders in the vicinity, not unnaturally, resented the use of untenanted land in their neighbourhood (to their own exclusion), for the relief of men hardly worse off than themselves. Section 75 of the Land Act of 1903 attempted to remove this

See paragraph 42.

hardship, but as has been already pointed out the relief afforded has been somewhat illusory. If the present system were to continue whereby the Board buys land in districts, with the improvement of which they are not charged, for the relief of districts with which they are concerned, they should certainly be empowered to enlarge holdings under £10 valuation in the neighbourhood of the grass land, before bringing in migrants from a distance. As, however, our Report contemplates that the Board should have absolute power of enlarging holdings throughout the entire area over which they should operate, the point does not arise as regards that area.

XIX.—*Continued* Comparison of Claims of Landless men and of Congests to grass lands.

125. During the last few years, the Board have encountered a stronger and, we think, a less justifiable objection to the introduction of migrants from a distance, on the part of the sons of tenants and other landless men living in the neighbourhood of the grass lands which the Board seek to utilise for the relief of congestion. This opposition has become very serious since the passing of the Act of 1903, which not only authorised the Board, in part, to meet these claims but also, for the first time, made it generally possible for advances to be obtained from the State, for the purchase of land, by persons who were not tenants in occupation. The Act moreover called into existence a new body entrusted, among their other functions, with that of dealing with such claims. The result has been that the Board has found it increasingly difficult to utilise grass lands in any large quantity for the relief of congestion, owing to vigorous local opposition, and a demand has been made, by those who live in the neighbourhood of grass lands, that these lands should be acquired by the Estates Commissioners, who, not being responsible for the relief of congestion as a whole, are free to meet the claims of the local landless men. The situation has now grown so serious that we are convinced that, if these claims are persisted in and supported by public opinion, the problem of congestion as a whole cannot be solved, no matter what powers or what funds are given to the Board.

See paragraph 43.

126. It has frequently been stated that if the "ranches," as the large grass farms are commonly called, were divided into a number of holdings averaging £10 valuation and upwards, and given to the sons of farmers and other young men living in the neighbourhood, not only would this result in a large increase of national wealth, by reason of more being produced from the land, on account of a certain amount of tillage being substituted for grazing, but that it would also have a considerable effect in checking the continued drain of emigration which is so generally deplored. We do not feel called upon to discuss these suggestions, but we think it is our duty to state very definitely that such an utilisation of the grass lands, in the West of Ireland, is incompatible with the relief of congestion. If every acre of land within the Board's area were available for redistribution, they would hardly suffice to give each existing landholder an economic holding. While it is not necessary to bring every holding up to the £10 standard, on the other hand, it is neither possible nor desirable to scale down every holding to that standard, and we have already seen that even all the land that can be acquired, under the somewhat drastic measures we recommend, is not likely to suffice for the relief of the small holdings which it is desirable to enlarge. Hence every new holding that is created within the Board's area will mean the perpetuation of one or more existing landholders on holdings which are not sufficient to support life according to any decent standard. Consequently, it may be useful to examine the comparative claims of those who at present occupy uneconomic holdings, and those who have no land but live in the neighbourhood of the ranches.

See paragraph 123.

127. The position of the congests is quite clear; they are heads of families who have for some time been living on holdings from the produce of which it is impossible in some cases to sustain life, and, in most cases, to rear a family according to any adequate standard of living. Even if the redistribution of the grass lands is justified on moral and historical grounds, as the restoration to the people of their own, that argument seems to apply most strongly to the small landholders of the ultimate west. They are, to a large extent, the wrecks of past racial, religious, agrarian, and social storms in Ireland, and of famine catastrophies. In a bad year they are saved from extreme privation only by relief measures, and so constitute a serious financial danger to the nation: yet if men be the real test of the wealth of a nation, they are a most valuable potential asset.

128. The claim of the landless men for the manless land is on somewhat a different footing. "The land for the people" is sometimes said to be the expression of a natural right; but it cannot be said that the sons of tenants and other landless young men in any particular district have any better claim to the land in their neighbourhood than men in other parts of the country,

XIX.—*Continued.* Comparison of Claims of Landless men and of Congests to grass lands.

unless they are the direct representatives of men who were unjustifiably cleared off the land. The meeting of their claims means the giving of the land, not merely to a particular class who, in general, have no natural claims greater than the rest of the people, except geographical contiguity, but also the endowment of one particular generation of this class, to the exclusion of other generations and other classes. If the grass lands are given to these men, emigration may be stayed in these districts for a time, but the same problem will arise in the next generation. The land will only support one son of the new farmer, and the others must seek a living elsewhere than on the paternal holding, as at present do the sons of landlords and tenants alike. In the meantime, and in the future, the problem of congestion will remain unsolved and insoluble because the means of relief will have been otherwise used.

129. Accordingly, where the claims of farmers possessing totally inadequate holdings and those of landless men are in conflict, and, indeed, mutually destructive, as they are in the west of Ireland, we have no hesitation in declaring that the former should prevail. We say this, not from any want of sympathy with the natural aspirations of the sons of farmers to follow their fathers' calling in their native land, but because there is not enough land to go round. We believe that the congests have the stronger claims, and we are convinced that the perpetuation of congestion is a grave national danger. We recognise how great is the difficulty that will beset any body in the work of relieving congestion (involving as it does the shattering of the hopes of those who have so long cast their eyes upon the promised land), unless that body is supported by public opinion; and this is one of the chief causes which have led us to think that a semi-independent Irish body, with a large elective element, such as the new Board, is more likely to be successful in relieving congestion than an ordinary Government department. It cannot be too clearly laid down that if Parliament gives the exceptional powers and the funds asked for the relief of congestion, the responsibility for seeing that congestion is relieved rests solely with the Irish people. We have only to add that, if the acquisition of the grass lands within the Board's new area continues to be advocated for the settlement of landless men, those who do so cannot with reason seek to win sympathy for these claims, on the grounds of the miserable condition of the congests and of the necessity for relieving them.

See paragraph 100.

130. As the Board already possesses the power of giving land to the sons of tenants we do not propose that they should be absolutely prohibited from availing themselves of it, but we are strongly of opinion that the power should be very sparingly exercised, and that wherever the Board give a holding to a man who at the date of the creation of the new Board was not a landholder, they should be under a statutory obligation to give full particulars of such a case in their next annual report.

131. Before concluding this part of the Report, it may be well to observe that, if we were recommending the parcelling out of virgin soil amongst a number of settlers, we should not recommend the adoption of one uniform type of holding, of which the annual value would be about £10. We recognise that it might be better to have a higher standard, and, were it possible, to have a complete series of various sized holdings in any one district. Our recommendations are, however, concerned only with the relief of congestion and not with an ideal redistribution of land; and we have been brought face to face with a very urgent demand for an article that is limited. If the standard holding to be created were larger than we suggest, or if there were a complete series of various sized holdings, many small holders would have to go unrelieved. If land were available we would like to see many of the small holdings brought up to beyond the £10 standard, and many of those who have now a £8 or £9 holding enlarged to say a £15 standard. We cannot, however, disguise from ourselves that such a course will, owing to the shortage of land, be generally impossible, and that, if any appreciable number of small holders are given enlargements that would bring their valuation much above £10, it will be at the expense of other small holders who cannot then be brought up to that valuation. It is important to note that the Board are prohibited by the Act of 1891 from amalgamating holdings so as to bring the enlarged holding above

54 & 55 Vic., c. 48, s. 37 (2).

£20 valuation. Moreover, we do not think that the absence of variety in types of holdings will be so great as some have apprehended, since there will be several classes. First, the allotments of those whose present uneconomic holdings are not suitable for enlargement or who do not depend mainly upon the land. Secondly, there will be the great majority of holdings brought by enlargements up to the £10 standard, and, thirdly, there will be the larger residential holdings between £10 and £100 which are at present in existence and which will remain untouched, as well as larger holdings scaled down to not less than £100 valuation or left untouched as not required or not suitable for the enlargement of small holdings. Finally there will be the demesne and home farms of landlords.

XIX.—*Continued* Comparison of Claims of Landless men and of Congests to grass lands.

XX.—Economic effect of breaking up and re-distributing Grass Lands.

132. The enlargement of uneconomic holdings, which we look upon as the chief means of relieving congestion, can be effected only through an extensive scheme of migration, and this in turn involves the breaking up of a large amount of grass land. We have stated our belief that compulsory powers will be required in order to obtain the land necessary, and we have examined what seems the chief obstacle in the way of carrying out a scheme of re-settlement, namely, the conflicting claims of the congests, and of the sons of tenants and other landless men in the neighbourhood. Before discussing the mechanism of the scheme and the assessment of the price to be paid for land taken compulsorily, a very important question presents itself, namely, the effect which a redistribution of the grass lands may have upon the cattle trade. This question has been discussed at great length before us, and it has been urged that, even if all the difficulties in the way of migration can be overcome, yet the advantages resulting from the relief of congestion would be outweighed by the damage that the breaking up of the western ranches would inflict on the great cattle industry of Ireland. It was, moreover, suggested, that the greatest damage would be done to the very people whom the scheme was intended to benefit, namely, the small western farmer who is the chief breeder of young stock. We were so impressed with the importance of thoroughly considering the force of this objection, that we directed special attention to it, during our public sittings, and obtained much valuable information, not only from official witnesses like the Chief Land Inspector of the Board, the head agricultural expert of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, and the three Estates Commissioners, one of whom used to be the chief agricultural adviser to the Board, but also from a great number of practical farmers of all classes, from several of the largest graziers and cattle dealers in the West, and especially from nearly every one of the thirty-one witnesses nominated by the Irish Landowners' Convention.

133. Under the present system, there are three fairly distinct classes connected with the progress of the Irish calf to the beef-market. The first is the breeder, who is usually a small farmer with one, two or more cows. He generally does not sell his young stock before they are a year old, and hardly ever keeps them beyond two years. They are usually left out on grass not only during summer but during winter as well, with little but hay to supplement the scanty grass. They are seldom, except in some good farming districts, carefully sheltered and fed on roots and a portion of cake or corn. They are bought when from six months to two years old by the second class, the "grazier," whose land as at present used is best suited for feeding stores.* He keeps them for periods varying from six months to two years. They are usually out on grass the whole time, and seldom receive any additional food but hay. He generally sells them as two-year-olds, or three-year-olds, according to the state of the market, which sometimes compels him to keep them longer. The third class is the fattener or finisher, who lives mainly in the richer parts of Ireland or in Great Britain. Meath and Westmeath form the great home of the Irish fatteners, but there are

* Sometimes the breeder, generally the forwarder, and the finisher in Ireland are all graziers, but the term grazier is usually applied chiefly to the man who grazes store cattle.

XX.—*Continued.* Economic effect of breaking up and re-distributing grass lands.

small portions of fattening land in many counties, *e.g.*, Roscommon and East Galway, and larger portions in other counties, *e.g.*, Tipperary, Kildare and Limerick. Few of these men use roots for feeding in addition to grass and hay. The English and Scottish fatteners also buy large numbers of the more forward stores and fatten them in stalls in Great Britain, and it is stated that a good number of the alleged fat beasts from Irish fattening lands are really finished or made into "prime" beef in stalls in Great Britain before being placed on the beef-market. There are of course many variants upon this system: sometimes the breeder and grazier, sometimes the grazier and fattener are one and the same person, and more rarely the breeder keeps his young stock until they are fat; very often the cattle pass through the hands of more than one grazier. There are also many modifications of the rearing system, but the foregoing account is a fair description of the general course of the cattle trade, especially in the West.

134. It is pointed out that a comparatively small number of calves are exported, and that the majority of English and Scottish buyers do not want Irish cattle until they are forward stores. These buyers find the average Irish store unsuited for stall feeding, as practised in Great Britain, until they are over two years old, and it is stated that neither does the Irish fattener want to buy young cattle. Both classes of fatteners prefer to buy forward stores. It is said that the grazier is an indispensable middleman, and a necessary economic link between the breeder and the fattener, and that, therefore, any considerable breaking up of the store lands in the west occupied by the grazier, would destroy the market for the produce of the small farmers who are the chief breeders. Moreover it is urged that, in addition to the lessened demand for cattle between six months and two years old that would be brought about through the breaking up of the store lands, the supply of such young cattle would be increased by distributing these lands amongst small farmers who would, on the new farms, carved out of the grass lands, pursue the industry of cattle breeding, which they now follow on their own farms.

135. Obviously, however, the policy of thus increasing the supply when the demand is diminishing would not long be voluntarily persisted in, but it has been suggested that the small man would not have much choice, as he could not utilise the grass lands in the way they are now used, that is for feeding store cattle. It is urged that a number of small farmers (say 20) having small holdings (say 25 acres each) could not graze store cattle as well as one grazier (having say 500 acres), and that hence grazing could not be carried on so easily on the grass lands, when divided up into small holdings, as it is at present. It is further pointed out that these small men could not easily go far afield to buy young stock in the way big graziers do. It is clear that a sudden change over the whole of the West would involve a temporary dislocation of the course of trade, while the small man was adapting himself to the new conditions, and that the cattle trade would not benefit by the mere substitution of a large number of small graziers for a few big men. There seems, however, to be reason for thinking that if the graziers in the west of Ireland were gradually replaced by small farmers, these men might, under changed conditions, hold their cattle longer than they now do, and ultimately they might learn to keep them until they were suitable for the fattener, who might gradually be induced to buy cattle younger than at present.

136. The supporters of the present system urge that it is impossible for the small farmer to hold his cattle longer than at present, because he has his lands stocked with cows and calves and, occasionally, with yearlings, and that he could not without decreasing the number of his cows and calves have more yearlings and also two-year-olds. Several answers have been made to this argument. If any decrease in the demand for young cattle arose that made it more profitable for the breeder to keep his young animals for a year longer than at present, he might reduce the number of calves and cows that he now keeps. Again, the hypothesis that part of the grass lands now held by "graziers" is to be divided among

migrants means that the average small holder, who now has to sell his cattle young, would get an enlargement of his holding from the farm vacated by the migrant, and that consequently he would be able to keep his cattle at least a year longer without diminishing the number of his cows. The same remark would apply to the migrant, even if he used the grass land in precisely the same way as now, that is for grazing and not for mixed farming. Against this it is urged, as already mentioned, that small farmers cannot graze cattle as successfully as one man who has 500 acres in his own hands, since yearlings and two-year-olds will not thrive on small runs as well as on a wider range of pasture.

XX.—*Continued.* Economic effect of breaking up and re-distributing grass lands.

137. This point seems to be sometimes exaggerated, but if the small farmers were to attempt to carry on the cattle trade in precisely the same way as does the large grazier at present, we recognise that a very serious question would arise whether this economic disadvantage was sufficient to outweigh the social advantages of relieving congestion by breaking up grass lands. In that case the encouragement of co-operative grazing (which in future will in any case be very desirable in some districts especially on mountain land) would become of immense importance, as being apparently the only way of giving the cattle of small men large runs and a change of pasture, and so of overcoming the economic ills that might result from relieving congestion in the way in which we believe it must be relieved, *i.e.*, by redistributing the grazing ranches of the West. There is, however, as we have already stated, considerable reason for thinking that the change required by social causes, within the area to be assigned to the Board, would not prove disastrous economically. Small farmers, it is urged, would learn, and would be led by stress of economic circumstances, to adopt mixed farming and so carry on the rearing of cattle in a way more profitable to themselves, and more conducive to the national welfare, than the present methods of the grazier. The result would be that, if the land would not turn out more beasts than under the present system, it might turn out more forward, and therefore more valuable, ones. We believe that the process must be gradual and that consequently the trade will have time to adjust itself to the altered circumstances.

138. In making this report we are concerned with the question of the breaking up of the grass ranches, in order to relieve congestion, and not as a means of placing the cattle trade on a sounder basis, but it is right to call attention to an argument advanced before us, and elsewhere, to the effect that the cattle industry at present is not upon a thoroughly sound basis, and that, even if there were no question about breaking up grass ranches for the creation of small holdings in order to relieve congestion, the change might still be economically desirable. Not only have Irish farmers specialised in the cattle trade, but the specialisation, at any rate of late, has been in one phase of the industry—*i.e.*, the grazing of store cattle. For some years past the total number of cattle, including milch cows, in Ireland has averaged over 4,600,000, of which over one million are under one year old. During the same period the total number of cattle exported has averaged about 800,000, of which about 250,000 are fat cattle, and nearly double that number are store cattle, whilst the calves have averaged about 60,000. The figures vary considerably from year to year, but the number of stores exported has steadily increased. From this it is evident that of the million cattle which may be regarded as the average year's output, nearly half are exported as store cattle, and only a quarter as fat cattle, the balance being accounted for by consumption or wastage in Ireland.

139. It has been suggested that the store trade is the least profitable branch of the cattle trade, the most exhausting to the country* and

* During the time that the bone and muscle of young cattle are being built up on the store lands, valuable chemical elements are extracted from the soil, and if the cattle leave as soon as they attain maturity, the return is gained, not by the store lands but partly by the fattening lands of Meath and Westmeath, and mostly in the fattening stalls of Great Britain. Thus the country is left relatively poorer, as regards its reproductive capacity, by every young animal sold out of it.

XX.—*Continued.* Economic effect of breaking up and re-distributing grass lands.

the most precarious. Some consider that too many eggs have been put in one basket, and hence it is that so much apprehension has been felt at the threatened opening of the ports to foreign cattle. As this contingency is purely a matter of speculation it is only worth noting that two opinions exist. The first is that the free importation of stores, would, owing to the present condition of the Irish cattle trade, ruin the farmers, especially the small farmers, in Ireland. The other opinion is that, though the free importation would cause great temporary loss, it would ultimately have the advantage of forcing the Irish farmers to place their cattle trade upon a sounder basis, by avoiding undue specialisation in what some consider the least paying part of the cattle trade—rearing store cattle on grass until they are over two years old before fattening them. Much the same conclusion is reached by Professor Campbell, who pointed out that there had been an enormous increase in the imports of dead meat from the Argentine and other countries, and a very great continuous improvement in transit facilities and storage methods, with the result that foreign meat now enters into successful competition with home-fed beef of all but the best quality. The increase in the imports of foreign meat seems to suggest that foreign competition in the meat trade will be as keen, in the near future, as has been foreign competition in breadstuffs in the past.

VI.—Q. 20557, *et seq.*

140. Professor Campbell's conclusion was that the outlook for the cattle trade, as at present carried on, is extremely gloomy. He considered that it would be far better for the Irish farmers if much of the time and land and capital now devoted to the production of beef in some shape or other were directed towards dairying, pig rearing, and the poultry industry, and that if beef raising continues to be the main agricultural industry, the best hope of success lies in producing beef under different methods from those generally pursued in Ireland. Those who agree with him join in urging that the present system of growing and fattening consecutively is wasteful, that the processes should be made more concurrent, and that all farmers must be taught to depend less on permanent grass and more on roots and other tillage crops. In connection with this argument for a diversion, towards the production of butter, eggs, poultry, and bacon, of some of the attention now devoted to beef-raising, a fact may be pointed out which is not generally known—namely, that even at present the value of the amount of these four products exported from Ireland is about equal to the value of all the cattle exported. According to the statistics collected by the Department of Agriculture for their report on Irish exports and imports in 1906, the value of the poultry, eggs, butter, and bacon exported in that year was £9,430,093, whilst that of all the cattle exported (including fat beasts, stores, and calves) was £9,146,915.

IV.—Q. 20788, *et seq.*

141. Those who advocate the breaking up of a large part of the store land in the West of Ireland, purely with a view to the better organisation of Irish agriculture, and we, who recommend it, for the relief of congestion within the limited area assigned to the Board, are absolutely agreed upon the necessity of mixed farming upon small holdings, wherever practicable. It appears to us that the advantages of such a system, if intelligently and persistently carried out, are undeniable on farms where the family can supply the labour. The evidence given before the Commission went to show that in Ireland some small farmers do already carry on a system of in-feeding, and in Scotland small farmers largely in-feed and produce high quality beef ready for the market at two years old. We did not, however, see any small holding where this system was actually in practice. There seems to be no reason why Irish small farmers should not do likewise, provided they are taught and equipped with the necessary capital and buildings. Obviously, however, this change cannot suddenly be effected on small farms, but requires continuous agricultural education and organisation, and considerable outlay in providing buildings, stock and agricultural implements.

XX.—*Continued.*

Economic effect of breaking up and re-distributing grass lands.

142. Agricultural education and organisation are perhaps most necessary, and it is for this reason that we attach the utmost importance to the successful carrying out of the Department's agricultural work in the west of Ireland, to co-operative organisation, and to the absolute necessity for tillage on suitable land being impressed upon the Irish farmer. It will be seen later that there is already far more tillage upon small farms than upon large holdings. Even if there were no other economic reason, the necessity of growing potatoes for food, practically compels the small farmer to till, and involves the growing of a certain amount of cereals. It is almost equally important that the homestead should be adequately equipped with buildings. No doubt it would be desirable, if possible, to provide all the buildings at the outset, but many who know the congested and other very poor districts hold that what the small farmer mainly wants is a fair start, and that he will then gradually add the buildings largely by means of his own labour during the slack season.

143. There remains the question of the provision of additional capital for buying suitable stock and agricultural implements. One of the strongest reasons advanced why the elimination of the grazier, and the compulsion thus put upon the breeder to keep his cattle longer, would, in the present organisation of Irish agriculture, be difficult, is also connected with lack of capital. The inability of the small Irish farmer to keep his young stock beyond a certain age, owing to the fact that it is necessary for him to realise his profit as soon as possible, is probably as potent a factor in causing early sales as a shortage of land. Some Irish landholders now work as migratory labourers in Great Britain, though their own holdings would profitably respond to the application of the labour expended elsewhere, because their inability to await the result of their labour on their own farms forces them to seek a speedier return for it elsewhere. Many small holders sell their calves or their yearlings, though their farms might carry, at any rate, one of them longer, and though they might be able to rent a cow's grass in the neighbourhood. The main reason appears to be the necessity of meeting their pressing obligations, such as rent or purchase annuities, which forces them to realise as soon as possible any profits they have made on the calf or the yearling, even though they would largely increase that profit by holding on to the calf or yearling for another year. This difficulty must be met by a better organisation of agricultural credit, including the establishment of Land Banks, before a change on any large scale can be effected.

See paragraph 258.

144. The arguments generally put forward against the breaking up of grass lands and their division amongst migrated congests, namely lack of sufficient education, organisation, buildings and capital refer to difficulties that can be surmounted, in time, by care and money. These can be more usefully devoted to removing people from want than in succouring them when in want, but it is alleged that there are great natural and economic obstacles in the way of any marked changes from the present system of utilising Irish land. Thus, it is said that much of the land now grazed is from its nature unsuitable for tillage, and while we think that the quantity of such land within the Board's future area is often exaggerated, undoubtedly there is some, *e.g.*, certain fattening land, that ought not to be broken up. It would, however, be quite impossible to devise any legislative safeguard for such land that would not unduly hamper the Board's operations, and it is sufficient to express the hope that the Board's officers in advising what land should be acquired will, so far as is possible, exempt from their operations land that is best suited for fattening cattle. Another point that will have to be borne in mind by the Board before they decide to acquire grass lands for the relief of congestion is the supply of water and turf, especially the latter, and, where this is scarce, the facilities that exist for buying peat or a substitute.

145. We have next to consider an objection which goes to the root of the question, whether or not the substitution of mixed farming for a general

XX.—*Continued.* Economic effect of breaking up and re-distributing grass lands.

system of cattle feeding on extensive grass ranches in the congested areas, would be an economic disadvantage. It is argued that only by the "Ranching" system can foreign competition be successfully resisted; that it is in fact the only profitable method of utilising land, and that mixed farming, save in exceptional cases, cannot be made to pay.

146. This argument rests on the economic theory that the most profitable system of conducting an industry is that under which the labour employed and the capital invested yield the largest profit to the investors, and under which, therefore, surplus capital and labour are set free for more profitable employment elsewhere. It is unnecessary to examine the truth of this theory as applied to communities whose industrial developments and economic conditions differ widely from those of the West of Ireland. There manufacturing centres are few and far between, local industries are in their infancy, and fisheries are, for the present, confined to limited sections of the seaboard. In these circumstances, labour, diverted from the land, can find little profitable employment elsewhere in Ireland, and goes to swell the stream of emigration.

147. It may be that the holder of 1,000 acres of land in the congested areas derives a higher rate of profit on his expenditure by grazing and meadowing his land than if, while retaining the whole of it in his own hands, he puts it under a system of mixed farming. His wages bill is much lower, he is comparatively little affected by bad seasons, and the floating capital required for stocking the land is less than that necessary for the cultivation of the holding as an agricultural farm. But this is not the whole question. Under the system of mixed farming not only would employment be found for far more labourers and their families, but the total value of the land's output would, as we believe, be larger, and the land would, therefore contribute more to the general wealth of the country.

148. The abstract right of the holder of a large grazing farm to deal with it in such manner as will, in his opinion, return the largest profit on his outlay, is indisputable, and he can not be coerced into adopting any other system. If, however, the ranch is broken up into farms, say, of 25 acres, the holders would find themselves unable to live on the profit from their land under grass, and it appears to us that they would be compelled, not by legislation, but by the immediate needs of themselves and of their families, to turn to tillage as the only means of raising their earnings to the living wage standard. This view is supported by statistics collected by the Department of Agriculture for the Commisssion. The figures show that there is thrice as much tillage on holdings under fifty acres as on those over fifty acres. If a comparision be drawn between holdings under thirty acres and those over 200, within the area which we propose shall be brought under the administration of the Board, the results are even more striking. Omitting from the calculation mountain land used for grazing, there is on the small holdings proportionately five times as much land under corn crops, eight times as much under potatoes, three times as much under other green crops, and nearly five times as much in some stage of rotation as there is on the large holdings. Moreover it is worth noting that there are considerably more cattle on the small holdings than on the large even after allowing for the difference in the class of the cattle on the two and the excessive amount of mountain land on the large holdings.

XI., pp. 55–87.

XI., pp. 55 and 68.

149. To sum up; the result of a change from the one system to the other would, in our opinion, be—and this bears directly on the question of the relief of congestion—that

(1.) Many families, now in a state of poverty bordering on destitution, would be raised to a standard which, if not ideal, is at least tolerable, and would become a source of strength to the country, rather than as now, an element of weakness, cost and disturbance.

(2.) The 1,000 acres of land, taken above as an illustration, would produce a larger output, than at present and would thus contribute more to the national wealth. Such larger output would in time have a beneficial effect on the artisan class and the general prosperity of provincial towns.

(3.) The profit—and, as we hold, more than the profit—now received by the landlord and the grazier would be distributed in a much more productive form, among the small holders and their families.

XX.—*Continued.* Economic effect of breaking up and re-distributing grass lands.

150. Before leaving this subject we desire to draw attention to certain general suggestions supplied by the evidence given before us. If beef raising is to continue the main occupation of the agricultural population of the congested areas, it is questionable whether the present system is the best possible, and, it is contended that if small holders were to take the place of large graziers, their own interests would force them to adopt the better system, only possible when there is mixed farming. If so, the remedies suggested for the social evils of congestion would prove of benefit to the cattle trade. Nor is this all. Increasing foreign competition must make it more and more difficult to continue the present specialisation in cattle raising, and the difficulty may easily reach a point at which it will be profitable for farmers to devote much more of their time and money to dairying, and to pig and poultry breeding. The successful prosecution of these industries, however, involves a considerable amount of tillage, and that is only possible under a system of mixed farming—or in other words—of small holdings.

151. For the reasons stated we firmly believe that the substitution of mixed farming on the small holdings of the West, when they have been raised to an economic standard, will conduce, in a very marked degree, to the well-being of the people. And, if it may not with certainty be said that small holders will fully appreciate from the first the advantage to be derived from the adoption of tillage, still we are convinced that in this, as in the case of an extended system of migration referred to earlier in our Report, our proposals, though necessarily to some extent experimental, offer the best, if not the only, prospect of a general improvement in the condition of the small farmers of the West.

See paragraph 96.

XXI.—Method of acquiring Land and Question of Price to be Paid.

152. Though the granting of compulsory powers has been recommended for the acquisition of land held by a landlord or a tenant-purchaser, or of a tenant's interest in a holding, we hope that resort to these powers will seldom be found necessary, and, of course, these powers can be used only when voluntary negotiations fail. It is necessary, however, for us to consider the method in which the Board should in future acquire land, not only by voluntary negotiations, but also by compulsion. It was suggested at an early stage of our proceedings that all the land work of the Board should be transferred to the Estates Commissioners, and we have already stated that we do not consider this proposal practicable under the constitutional conditions at present existing in Ireland. At a later stage in our proceedings it was suggested that, whilst the Board might continue as the land-improving authority within whatever area might be assigned to them, the work of purchasing estates should be done by the Estates Commissioners. It was suggested that when the Board desired to buy an estate they should request the Commissioners to purchase it, and that the Board should have nothing further to do in the matter until the estate was vested in them, when they would start the work of re-settlement. It was contended that this arrangement would remove many of the evils of dual administration, notably the evil of two public authorities buying land in the same area or in adjoining areas, and of there being, as at present, two sets of valuers or inspectors negotiating for the purchase of adjoining estates on possibly somewhat different principles, and basing their offers on different standards of value. This suggested division of the work, which is at present done by the Board, seems to us to be open to many objections, notably the weakening of responsibility that would ensue, since the body that bought the land would not be responsible for the resettlement, and the body that had to re-settle the land would have had no determining voice in the price at which the estate was bought. Moreover, the fact that the tenants would have to deal with two sets of public officials in

See paragraph 100.

XXI.—*Continued.* Method of acquiring Land and question of price to be paid. See paragraph 101.

connection with the acquisition of their holdings would not, in our opinion, be likely to make for smooth working. Accordingly, we have decided not to recommend that this suggestion should be adopted. To avoid, as far as may be possible, the evils of dual administration, we have recommended that the Board should have exclusive land purchase jurisdiction over the area in which they are to operate, *i.e.*, Connaught, Donegal, Clare, Kerry, and part of Cork, and that no estate should be sold under the Land Purchase Acts, in that area, except to the Board, or direct to the tenants, where the Board certify it may so pass.

153. At present, when the Board wish to acquire an estate, it is usually, with the consent of the owner, inspected by one of the Board's officers, and, of late, the Board have invited landlords to give some particulars of the net income derived from the estate. It seems to us that a slight modification might be introduced into the present system, which would in itself be an advantage, and would facilitate the working out of the details of compulsory purchase, if that became necessary. The Board in making an offer for an estate have, so far as materials are available, to bear in mind two factors; in the first place, they have to consider what sum the landlord is likely to expect for his property, having regard to the income which he is at present deriving from it, and secondly the price at which it will be possible to re-sell it to the tenants after having effected the necessary improvements. It has been stated that second term rents (including any judicial rent fixed after the passing of the Land Act of 1896) or their equivalent are the only basis upon which tenants are willing to buy, and further that the purchase annuity should be less than such rent by a certain percentage, intended to give a margin of security against agricultural depression during the period for which the annuity would run.

154. The reason why first term rents and non-judicial rents are thus reduced to the standard of second term rents is, we presume, the fact that if the rent actually paid is not a second term rent or its equivalent, it is either a first term rent which will be ripe for revision in three and a half years at the outside (since if it was fixed subsequent to the passing of the Land Act of 1896 it is regarded as equivalent to a second term rent) or else it is a non-judicial rent which may not be a safe basis of purchase. In most cases non-judicial rents are probably higher than second term rents, but in some cases they are nearly as low. Moreover, some non-judicial tenants have not had a fair rent fixed, and some first term tenants have not had a second term fair rent fixed, though entitled to do so, because they did not anticipate any material reduction. On the other hand some tenants who would have got a substantial reduction were deterred from going into Court by the existence of arrears. As there seems to be a general agreement that second term rents should be made the basis of sale, and as it was adopted by the Land Conference of 1903, and subsequently embodied in the Land Act of the same year, it is apparently unnecessary to discuss the matter at further length.

155. Where the rental of the estates that the Board propose to purchase consists of second term rents, or their equivalents, they have the necessary material on which to estimate the re-sale price, but in most estates part of the rental consists of first term rents or non-judicial rents, and, of course, where untenanted land is purchased the basis of re-sale prices, namely, second term rents, is lacking. At present the Chief Land Inspector to the Board, or his assistants, when inspecting the lands, assess what they consider would be the fair rent of such land, but his experience has led him to hold very strongly that it would be a great advantage if the fair rent department of the Land Commission were authorised at the Board's request to assess a fair rent on any land that they proposed to buy. He considers that their decision, as that of the statutory rent-fixing authority, and as the body actually engaged in the fixation of fair rents, would carry far more weight than that of any other valuers. At present, as soon as the Board acquire a property, and put tenants on the untenanted land, they can, under the existing law, call upon the Land Commission to assess a fair rent upon any part of the property not subject

XI. p. 44

XXI.—*Continued.* Method of acquiring Land and question of Price to be paid.

to such a rent. It has been suggested that the Land Commission would be unwilling to undertake the work of estimating a fair rent on land which the Board proposed to buy, and that the proper course would be to transfer to them some of the sub-commissioners who are now employed by the Land Commission to fix fair rents.

156. We, however, see no reason why it should not be arranged, by legislation if necessary, that this work should be done for the Board by the Land Commission. We do not suggest that a fair rent should actually be settled judicially on the land which the Board propose to buy, but that a sub-commissioner should inspect the land, exactly as he would if he were valuing it for a fair rent, and fill up most of the various items in what is commonly known as the "pink schedule." In order to avoid the necessity of holding a public inquiry and taking evidence, only the gross fair rent should be shown, and a note added indicating the reductions to be made in respect of improvements, if they are subsequently shown to have been made by the tenant. In the case of untenanted land no question could arise as to who made the improvements, and the fair rent would always be the gross fair rent. These schedules, and a summary of them for the estate in question, should then be transmitted by the Land Commission to the Board. We are strongly of opinion that the sub-commissioner who does this work should remain an official of the Land Commission, and be for three or six months in each year engaged in the actual fixation of fair rents, and be only for the balance of the year engaged in the work of estimating fair rents for the Board. This would keep him in touch with the actual conditions of fixing fair rents.

157. The reports thus sent in would supply one of the factors which are necessary to put the Board in a proper position to make an offer. The landlord should be invited to send in a statement of his net income, and this would supply the other factor. As the proceedings contemplated are voluntary, the landlord would retain his present right of refusing to allow anyone, whether a sub-commissioner from the Land Commission or a valuer from the Board, to inspect his land, and of course he could decline to give any information about his net income. With such information as the Board have been able to obtain from these two sources, and with any other information they may have got elsewhere, they should then proceed to make an offer for the estate precisely as they do at present. If their offer was accepted, the sale would go on as at present. If the offer was declined, then voluntary negotiations would fall through, just as they do at present when the landlord refuses the price offered. The Board would then have to consider their position and decide whether, in view of all the circumstances of the case, it was desirable that they should exercise their powers of compulsion. If they decided to do so they should then pass a formal resolution stating that they considered that the acquisition of the property was necessary for the relief of congestion, and after the publication of this notice in the *Gazette*, the Board should be empowered to send a surveyor to prepare a schedule and map of the lands. They should then re-affirm their resolution, specifying the land to be compulsorily acquired. Once this resolution was passed, the lands must ultimately be vested in the Board, and the price must be fixed by the Court, unless it is established to the satisfaction of the Court that part of the land so included was exempt from the operation of compulsion by reason of its being a demesne, home farm, &c. In such a case the resolution would be null and void so far as such exempted land was concerned. We do not consider that there should be any appeal from the decision of the Board that the land in question was required for the relief of congestion. If it was shown that the person with whom the Board had negotiated was not the real owner of any part of the lands specified in the resolution, then such real owner should have the right of accepting, if he thought fit, the offer made by the Board. If he refused that offer, then the Court would proceed to fix the price. Once the resolution was passed, the Board should have nothing further to do with the acquisition of the lands, and all questions of price would pass away from them to the Court, who, it is recommended, should settle the price on the principles we shall now proceed to describe.

XXI. *Continued.* Method of acquiring Land and question of Price to be paid. See paragraphs 153–4. Section I.

158. A great deal of evidence was given before the Commission as to the price that ought to be paid for land acquired compulsorily. When the landlord sells his land voluntarily to the Board, or to the tenants, the matter is one of bargaining. Since 1903 second term rents have been, as already mentioned, admittedly the basis of price, and the Land Act of that year contained a rough and ready method of approximating first term rents to second term rents. The purchaser's chief considerations, at present, are the relation of the purchase annuity to his rent, and the period for which the annuity is to run. The landlord, on the other hand, bears in mind the income that he has derived from the land over a series of years, and the amount of money that will be required, after redeeming all charges on the land, to yield him his former profit income, when invested at a certain rate of interest. Where he is absolute owner and can invest the money in any security he likes, the rate, of course, varies greatly with his individual views as to investments. Most estates in Ireland are, however, settled property, and the field of investment is limited to certain securities marked out by Acts of Parliament, and in such cases the rate the vendor may expect to receive varies, consequently, within much smaller limits. It is not suggested that the securing of net income is the only factor in the mind of the landlord. He may be glad to get his net income from something other than Irish land, and he may be apprehensive of future reductions in rent or in the profits of farming, and so be willing to take a sum that would not produce his income. On the other hand, he may for various reasons be disinclined to sell, and be tempted to do so only by the prospect of financial advantage. All these considerations have free or comparatively free play in the bargaining that is possible in a voluntary sale. But where the landlord is forced to sell there is not the same free play, and no arbitrator under a compulsory scheme can put himself exactly in the position of a voluntary vendor or of a voluntary purchaser. If there were in Ireland an open market, as there is in some countries, there might not be much difficulty in determining the market price of the land, but an estate in Ireland is seldom sold except to the tenants, and the terms vary enormously and on no settled principle.

159. Consequently resort to some solution other than arbitration as to what is a fair price seems desirable. It has been suggested that the price given should be the full agricultural value of the land as determined by an experienced valuer. This seems to us a very indefinite rule for the fixation of the price of land taken compulsorily. Few valuers in Ireland agree as to what is the full value of a given piece of land. For over twenty-six years fair rents have been fixed under various Land Acts in Ireland, yet Parliament has never found it possible to frame a definition of a fair rent, nor the Land Commission any definite rules for the guidance of their officials. The Fry Commission is said to have proved that fair rents were fixed on no settled principle, and that each valuer was forced to rely largely on his own unaided judgment, and we have had evidence to the same effect from a very experienced witness (Mr. Commissioner Bailey), who was himself engaged for sixteen years in the administration of these Acts. Undoubtedly, there has been a great deal of dissatisfaction expressed both by landlords and by tenants as to the fixation of rents, the reality of which is revealed by the great number of fair rents appeals that have to be heard every year. If so much uncertainty attaches to the fixation of the annual value of land, the difficulty of fixing the capital value would not be likely to be less, nor would the awards be more likely to command general acceptance. Hence we think that this system of assessing the agricultural value of the land to be taken compulsorily should be resorted to only where there is no more satisfactory method available.

III. Q. 16285-9.

XXII.—Price to be based on Net Profit Income.

160. We are of opinion that, where land is taken compulsorily from a landlord for public purposes, the ideal to be aimed at is that he should not be put in a worse financial position than he was in before. We have considered very carefully how this can be best attained, and have come to the conclusion that,

where the landlord can furnish satisfactory evidence of his average net profit rent (as explained hereafter) over a series of years, the price to be paid should consist of two sums, one sufficient to pay off all charges which seem suitable for redemption by the State and the other sufficient to yield when invested at a certain rate (to be determined hereafter) his average net profit rent, compensation for sporting rights being included if such rights are acquired. We are also of opinion that, in fixing the price according to the principles explained in detail below, the Court shall be entitled to increase or decrease the price by such amount, if any, as it considers represents the capitalised value of the difference in the net income, which might arise during the next five years, if no sale were to take place, from the operation of existing economic or natural causes, and (in the case of untenanted land) from the actual condition of the land itself. Where satisfactory evidence of net income is not available then the price to be paid should be such as the Court shall consider to be the full value of the interest to be acquired, having regard to all the circumstances of the case. We shall now proceed to explain what precisely is meant by the foregoing statement, and, as the matter is of vital importance, we shall be forced to go into the matter in considerable detail.

XXII. *Continued.* Price to be based on Net Profit Income.

161. The first point to be explained is what precisely is meant by average net profit income. Net income was taken by the Irish Land Conference as being income, that is second term rents (including all rents fixed subsequent to the passing of the Land Act of 1896), or their fair equivalent, *less* costs of collection, where such exist, not exceeding 10 per cent. Even in this definition or description, which relates to something very different from what we conceive to be net profit income, there are several obscure points. Second term rents or their fair equivalents might mean the book rents, or the rents actually collected. On many estates the landlord never hopes to collect his full rental, and if the book rental, instead of the receipts, were taken as income, the landlord's income might appear larger than it actually was. On the other hand, if only the rents collected are considered, an allowance must be made for what is, at any rate in many cases, an asset of some value, namely, arrears.* Our suggestion is that a landlord's gross annual income should, in most cases, be taken to be one-tenth of his total gross receipts (from the lands in question) during the ten years prior to the day on which the notice of compulsory acquisition was published in the *Gazette*, subject to a deduction or an addition in respect of arrears as determined according to the following rules.

See Parliamentary Paper, No. 89 of 1903, p. 6.

162. If arrears outstanding at the beginning of the decennial period have not been decreased during the period, the average gross receipts have not exceeded the nominal rental, and represent the gross income. In such a case the arrears may be disregarded as not being an asset of value to the landlord, and nothing should be paid in respect of them. If, on the other hand, the average gross receipts are found to have exceeded the nominal rental, this is because the arrears have been reduced. Here the net rental represents the gross income, for the sum paid in respect of arrears cannot be regarded as a permanent addition to the nominal rental, though the payment indicates that the arrears, if any, still outstanding, are an asset of value.

163. We, therefore, recommend that in such a case it should be the duty of the Court to add to the price such a sum as would purchase a terminable

*There seems to have been some confusion in some of the evidence given before the Commission on the question of arrears, *e.g.*, statements were occasionally made that only one or two years' arrears could be recovered. The facts are that a landlord can recover one year's arrears by distress, two years' by ejectment, and that as regards any further arrears he is in the position of any other creditor, and has, of course, the ordinary creditor's remedy for the recovery of a debt. Special reference was made to the recovery of arrears on sales. The landlord in deciding the number of years' purchase he will accept, may of course say "I will sell at so many years purchase," without considering what part of that price is due to the fact that the tenants owe arrears; or he may say, "I will sell at so many years and add so many years rent for arrears." The bonus is equally payable upon the total price in either case. The point, of which some mention has been made, about adding only one year's arrears to the purchase money has reference to settled estates only. In that case, the landlord is entitled to be paid, for his own use, one year's rent out of the purchase money, in respect of arrears, if he proves that so much arrears are due, though, if the estate is in settlement, the vendor is entitled to the income only of the remainder of the purchase money.

XXII. *Continued.* Price to be based on Net Profit Income

annuity equal to the average amount of arrears paid during the preceding ten years, if such annuity were to run until the payments made in respect of it were equal to the amount of the arrears outstanding at the date on which the Board determined to acquire the estate compulsorily. While these arrears are, judging from the preceding ten years, of value, yet, since only a limited amount would, judging from the past, be paid off each year, their present value is not their actual amount, but the present worth of an annuity, equal in amount to the average excess of the annual payments over the nominal rental, if such annuity were payable for the number of years required to extinguish the present amount of the arrears. There remains one exceptional category of arrears of great difficulty, namely, where there were no arrears at the commencement of the decennial period, but where arrears have accrued during that period. In this case the average gross receipts remain the gross income. No materials, however, exist for formulating a method of estimating the probability of the subsequent payment of these arrears or the rate at which such payments would be effected. Such cases must be extremely rare, and we can only suggest that the fixation of the sum, if any, payable to the landlord in respect of such arrears, should be left to the discretion of the Court.

164. The three preceding paragraphs indicate the manner in which the average gross income of the landlord should, in our opinion, be ascertained and the value of the arrears determined. In order to arrive at the net profit income, several deductions have to be made from the average gross income. We have already alluded to the agreement, which seems to be general, that second term rents should be the basis of the sale. It will be necessary to scale down that part of the average gross income, paid during the last ten years, which consisted of first term rents and non-judicial rents, to a second term standard. This reduction to second term rents does not apply to untenanted lands since there is no tenant on the land, and consequently no one who would be entitled to have a fair rent fixed. If the landlord allows the Board, when they contemplate the purchase of his estate, to send a fair rent sub-commissioner to value his lands, the material for making the reduction is available ; if he refuses, the valuation must be made as soon as the Board have passed the resolution for the compulsory acquisition of the land. The fact that, in three or four years from now, it may be possible for some tenants to have fair rents fixed for a third judicial term, does not seem to affect this recommendation. If a fair rent is fixed to-day on a farm, there is no reason why it should be less if it is being fixed for a second term, than if it is being fixed for a first term. Similarly a rent fixed in 1912 should not, unless changes are made in the law, be less, because it is being fixed for a third, instead of a first or second, term.

See paragraphs 153 and 158.

165. The next item to be deducted, from the gross income left, consists of the costs of collection, including law costs. Where an agent is employed the average salary or fees paid him must be deducted. Where a landlord saves agency fees by collecting the rents himself, the Court must decide what deductions, if any, should be made, having regard to the fact that the purchase of the land will leave him free to employ his time otherwise. We suggest that the average agency fees and law costs, should be calculated for a period of fifteen years, not ten years, as taking the smaller period might unduly swell the average law costs, if a fixation of rent came within the decennial period, and, on the other hand, might unduly reduce the average law costs, had the fixation come just before the beginning of the period. We consider that the deduction of the full average law costs and agency fees should be made, as we propose later that the State should defray the necessary and proper costs incurred by reason of the sale. Against the fact that the landlord may consider himself morally bound to give his agent a bonus on retirement, it may be urged as an off-set that the landlord will receive without expense to himself a clear and readily transferred title to his property (which as a result of sale will be in the form of money or stock) instead of a title to land which is generally more or less involved and not readily transferable.

See paragraph 206.

166. A further deduction that has to be made are charges, the payment of which was involved by ownership of the land, and which cannot be redeemed

XXII. *Continued.* Price to be based on Net Profit Income.

when land is sold. These consist of poor rate (now payable by the landlord practically only in respect of untenanted land), drainage maintenance charges, where existing, and sometimes baronial railway guarantees. As these charges cannot be redeemed, they will have to be paid by the purchasing tenant, and consequently the average sum the landlord has paid, during the decennial period, in respect of these charges, must be deducted from his gross income, in order to arrive at his net income. In the case of untenanted land poor rate of course causes a very considerable difference between the gross and the net income.

167. The above deductions leave what would generally be described, at the present moment, as the landlord's net income, but that is not the income that we propose should be secured to him, by the payment of a certain sum of money, or the transfer of a certain amount of stock. We have decided to recommend that the landlord should be secured his net profit income, because we feel that the effect of a system of valuation must be uncertain, and that, where the sale is compulsory, a landlord should not be asked to accept terms which might put him in a worse financial position than he was in before. It, however, is not our intention to suggest that he should be put in a better financial position, as would generally happen if his net income, without further reductions, were capitalised. Consequently we recommend that from the net income, ascertained as set out above, there should be deducted the amount of certain charges which he has to pay, and that only the balance—which may be regarded as his profit income—should be secured to him. Of course, the capital amount, due upon these charges, should be paid off, and should form part of the price for which the Board will be responsible.

168. In the first place, there are certain charges on most Irish estates, such as quit and crown rents, head rents, ecclesiastical or impropriate tithe rentcharges, which at present have to be redeemed, when the estate is sold under the Purchase Acts. If the preservation of the landlord's net income, and not of his profit income, were taken as the basis of sale, it would, generally, be necessary to give him a greater number of years' purchase of that income, than he would have to give of the annual amount of these charges. In such a case he would make a profit by redeeming them out of the purchase-money. On the other hand, if he had to give a greater number of years' purchase of them, than he received of the net income, he would sustain a loss through their redemption. This profit would not have been made, or this loss sustained, were it not that a compulsory sale took place. Any profit or loss, caused by the present compulsory redemption of charges, does not seem objectionable under a voluntary sale, since it is one of the factors which guide the landlord in the price to which he agrees. He does not, however, seem to be entitled to the profit when the State, in order to secure him from financial loss, undertakes to secure his net income, and he should not be liable to the loss, otherwise the State will not be fulfilling its undertaking.

169. In the case of a sale under the Land Purchase Acts, quit and crown rents are redeemable at 25 years' purchase. If the land subject to these rents is not being sold under the Land Purchase Acts, they are redeemable only with the consent of the Commissioners of His Majesty's Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues; and the rate of redemption may vary, but is never less than 25 years' purchase. Where an estate is being sold under the Purchase Acts, an ecclesiastical tithe rentcharge, if varied and reduced in accordance with the Tithe Rentcharge Act of 1900, is redeemed at $22\frac{1}{2}$ years' purchase, and if not varied and reduced, at 20 years' purchase. In the former case, the charge can be redeemed only when the lands liable are being sold under the Land Purchase Acts. In the latter case, the charge may at any time be redeemed by the person who has to pay it; but not if the lands liable are being sold under the Land Purchase Acts he has to give $22\frac{1}{2}$ years' purchase instead of 20.* Where a tithe rentcharge has been converted into a terminable annuity, under the Irish Church Act of 1869, the redemption price is fixed

* It has been ascertained that 2,684 ecclesiastical tithe rentcharges have not been varied under the Act of 1900. Of these only 40 have been redeemed otherwise than in consequence of sales under the Land Purchase Acts.

XXII. *Continued.* Price to be based on Net Profit Income.

having regard to the unexpired period of the term for which it is payable, by an actuarial calculation in each case. Lay or impropriate tithe rentcharges used to be redeemed at about 20 years' purchase, but, following the decision in Kemmis Estate, they are now usually redeemed at about 23½ years' purchase. Head rents, rent-charges, &c., are redeemed at prices fixed by the Land Commission varying from 20 to 27½ years' purchase, in accordance with the character of the security. Recently the price has averaged between 25 and 26 years' purchase, the rate depending mainly on the margin of security—*i.e.*, the difference between the rental of the land and the amount of the head rents.

170. An impropriate tithe rentcharge furnishes a good example of the difference between the system of securing a landlord his net income, and that of paying off these charges, and then securing him his net profit income. If the rate of interest derivable from authorised securities is, say, 3¾ per cent., and if a landlord's average net income during the decennial period is shown to be £1,000 a year, £26,666 would be required to give him this net income. If, however, the estate from which he derives this income is subject to an impropriate tithe rentcharge of £100 a year, and if no deduction were made in respect of this charge, he would have to pay the owner of the impropriate tithe rentcharge about £2,350, and the balance, £24,316, invested at 3¾ per cent., will yield him nearly £912 a year instead of £900, his former net profit income. If, however, as we suggest, the method in which the price is arrived at is that the Board should pay off this charge and give the landlord sufficient to yield his net profit income of £900, the total amount required would be £24,000 *plus* £2,350, or £316 less than under the other method, a saving of over 1 per cent. Of course, £100 impropriate tithe rentcharge is seldom or never payable out of an estate, of which the net income amounts to only £1,000, but then there are generally other charges, such as quit and Crown rents, &c., mentioned above, which have been ignored in this illustration for the sake of simplicity. On the other hand, if the rate of interest obtainable from the purchase of authorised securities rose to a certain point, then the method which we suggest would save a landlord from loss, in the redemption of some charges. For instance, if the rate obtainable rose to say 4½ per cent., he would receive less than 22¼ years' purchase of his net income, whereas he would have to give about 23½ years' purchase to redeem an impropriate tithe rentcharge, 25 years' purchase to redeem quit and Crown rents, and possibly more for head rents. Consequently, whilst the method we suggest would prevent the landlord from making a profit, to which we think he is not entitled, in view of the fact that he is going to be secured, from trust securities, the net profit income he formerly had from Irish land, it similarly would prevent the intention of preserving this net profit income from being defeated, owing to a rise, due to fluctuations in the money market, in the rate of interest obtainable.

171. We think that certain other charges such as mortgages should be, with a certain modification, treated in the same way as permanent charges such as quit and Crown rents, tithe rentcharges, &c. If no deduction is made from the landlord's net income in respect of mortgage charges, and if the rate of interest, yielded by the investments that are made in order to produce that income, is lower than the rate of interest payable under the mortgage, the sale will bring the landlord an increase in his profit income, just the same as it will if no deductions are made in respect of the permanent charges already referred to, since he will receive a greater number of years purchase of his net income than he will have to give of the charges. Thus, as in the case taken before, if a landlord has £1,000 a year remaining after the deductions previously specified are made, and if the rate of interest derivable from authorised securities is 3¾ per cent., it will take £26,666 to buy stock to produce his income. If, however, there was a mortgage on the estate of £10,000 bearing interest at 5 per cent., then the landlord before sale had to pay £500 a year out of his income, and his net profit income was only £500. If the mortgage is not redeemed, and no deduction made from the net income in respect of the annual amount payable under it, the landlord would receive £26,666 of which £10,000 would pay off the mortgage and the balance invested (at the assumed rate of 3¾ per cent.) would yield an income of £625. Hence the result of the State's effort to

XXII. *Continued.* Price to be based on Net Profit Income.

preserve the landlord from financial loss, as the result of compulsory sale, would be to increase his profit income by 25 per cent. If, however, the State pays off the mortgage and gives the vendor sufficient to produce only his net profit income, the amount required will be £10,000 (to pay off the mortgage) and £13,333 (to bring in the landlord £500 a year), and the result would be that the State would pay £3,333, or 12 per cent., less and the landlord would still preserve his net profit income.

172. If the position was reversed, if the rate of interest payable under the mortgage was less than the rate at which the landlord's net profit income is capitalised, the arrangement suggested would relieve the landlord from the loss which he would otherwise incur. Thus if the rate of interest payable on the mortgage of £10,000 was only 4 per cent. the landlord's net profit income would be £600 a year, and if the rate of interest derivable from investment in authorised securities was 4½ per cent., then, under the scheme suggested, the redemption of the mortgage would cost £10,000, and the money necessary to secure the landlord his net income of £600 would be £13,333. If, however, net income, and not net profit income, were adopted as the basis of capitalisation, the landlord would receive only £22,222, of which £10,000 would have to go to pay off the mortgage, and he would be left with but £12,222, which would yield him only £550 instead of his net profit income of £600. These cases are not likely to occur, and, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, the result of the adoption of the scheme we recommend will not be to safeguard a landlord against loss to which he should not be subjected, but will be to prevent him making a profit, which he is quite entitled to secure, if he can, in a voluntary sale, but to which, we think, he is not entitled, if the State goes out of its way to protect him from any loss arising out of the compulsory acquisition of his property.

173. The objection commonly advanced against the scheme suggested, is that no allowance is made under it for the landlord's "Equity of Redemption." The term of course refers to the right, usually possessed by a mortgagor, to cancel the mortgage, whenever he wishes, on payment of the principal sum and all interest due. This right is valuable, only when the mortgagor can borrow money at a lower rate of interest than that which he has to pay under the mortgage, or when he has money of his own which he cannot invest in a security of a similar standing at a rate as high as that payable under the mortgage. Consequently the equity of redemption is valuable, other things being equal, when the interest payable on the mortgage is high because, by borrowing at a lower rate, he can make a profit by paying off the mortgage; if the rate of interest is low, the equity of redemption is of little value, because there is not much margin for making a profit by redeeming the mortgage. The value of the equity of redemption depends also on the value of money; when money is dear it is less valuable than when money is cheap. Apart from the value of money at any moment, the rate at which a landlord can borrow on a mortgage depends mainly upon the margin of security, that is the excess of the profit income over the interest payable on the mortgage. Thus a landlord with a clear net income of £1,000 a year from an estate could borrow £10,000 on mortgage much more cheaply than if his clear net income were only £600; in fact, in the latter case, it would usually be impossible to borrow £10,000 on a mortgage on the estate.

174. The annual value of the equity of redemption might be measured by the excess of the rate payable on the mortgage over the rate at which the mortgagor can borrow. If a landlord paying interest at 5 per cent. upon a mortgage of £10,000, found that he could borrow at 4½ per cent., or that he could not invest money of his own in a similar security so as to yield more than 4½ per cent., then he could save ½ per cent. annually on the amount of the mortgage by exercising his right to redeem, and the annual value of the equity of redemption would be ½ per cent. upon £10,000, *i.e.* £50 a year. If it were possible for him to borrow at 3¾ per cent. (which, for the purpose of illustration, we have assumed to be the rate derivable from investment in trustee securities) he could make an annual profit of £125 by paying off the mortgage, but, if money could not be borrowed at less than 5 per cent., the equity of redemption would be valueless.

XXII. *Continued.* Price to be based on Net Profit Income.

175. It is doubtful whether the equity of redemption is often of any value in Ireland, apart from the operation of the Land Purchase Acts, *i.e.* whether landlords find it profitable to redeem their mortgages. There is some reason for thinking that the right has in general become valuable only when, owing to the intervention of Government, money can be borrowed by tenants, at a low rate of interest, for the purchase of their holdings. If tenants had to borrow their purchase money from anyone but the State they would have to pay more for the loan, and consequently could not generally give a price sufficiently high to induce a landlord to sell, and the equity of redemption would not be often exercised. If tenants give only twenty years' purchase of their rents, the equity of redemption is of no real value, unless the rate paid on the mortgage is over 5 per cent. If twenty-five years' purchase of the rents are given the equity of redemption is enormously increased in value. In this connection, it is not irrelevant to draw attention to the fact that though any landlord may redeem a tithe rentcharge, which has not been varied and reduced under the Act of 1900, at 22½ years' purchase, it is, as has been already noted, seldom done. As a landlord could make a profit by borrowing at less than 4½ per cent., and redeeming the tithe rentcharge, the fact that the majority of payers have not done, so seems to suggest that it is not generally possible to borrow at less than 4½ per cent. on Irish land, and that therefore the equity of redemption is not in general so valuable as some suggest.

See footnote, p. 61.

176. The impossibility of deciding whether the equity of redemption is of any value, or not, without inquiring into all the circumstances of the estate, may be illustrated by the following example. If a landlord whose gross income was £1,000 a year, but whose net profit income was £500, wished to mortgage his estate for say £6,000, he might find great difficulty in getting that sum lent on mortgage, even though he was willing to pay 6 per cent. interest, and, if the mortgage was effected, the equity of redemption might seem of little value, despite the high rate of interest, in consequence of the smallness of the margin of security. It, probably, would be of little value if the £500 difference between his gross income and his profit income arose from fixed charges. If, however, £300 was payable as a jointure or as a terminable annuity, the equity of redemption might be very valuable, because when that charge fell in, the profit income would be £800 instead of £500, and whatever interest the landlord had to pay on the mortgage of £6,000, when his net income was only £500, he could certainly borrow at less than that rate, when his income rose to £800.

177. We accordingly think that whilst the equity of redemption is in no case, except for the intervention of the State, worth what it would be made worth if a landlord's net income, without any deduction being made for charges, were capitalised at, say, 3¾ per cent., or at whatever rate may be obtainable from investment in authorised securities, we do think that in many cases the right is valuable. Accordingly, we recommend that the Court, which will have to deal with the question of price, should have power to award a sum in respect of the equity of redemption, if the conditions of the estate show that the right is of any real value.

178. It has been suggested that if this system of assessing the compulsory price by redeeming charges and then paying a sum sufficient to yield the landlord's net profit income is adopted, the intention of the Legislature might be defeated by the formation of a landlords' friendly society for the purpose of advancing temporarily to landlords, about to sell, sufficient money to pay off their mortgages. If the landlords in question were charged a low rate of interest, it would enable them to show a larger profit income than they have enjoyed before. Thus, in the case already mentioned such a society might advance £10,000 to pay off the mortgage, and charge, say, only 1 per cent. interest. The landlord's net profit income would then be £1,000 *less* £100 (interest at 1 per cent. on £10,000) instead of £1,000 *less* £500 (interest at 5 per cent. on £10,000), consequently he would have the difference (£400) capitalised at 3¾ per cent. instead of at 5 per cent., which would mean that, even under the arrangement suggested, the landlord's net profit income would, after sale, be £100 a year greater than his real net profit income had been previously. Again, the landlord's relatives or friends might arrange to pay off the whole of the mortgages, on the understanding that after the sale they should receive the

sum advanced, with or without interest. This would enable him to make practically the same profit as he would, if his entire net income were capitalised and if the charges were then redeemed out of the purchase money. XXII. *Continued.* Prices to be based on Net Profit Income.

179. This difficulty can be met by giving the Court full discretionary power to deal with such cases. Where mortgages or other charges have been paid off after the date on which any Act may be passed to give effect to these recommendations, and during the ten years previous to the date of the passing of the Board's resolution for the compulsory acquisition of the land in question, the Court should enquire into the circumstances of the case. If they consider that it was a *bona fide* transaction not made in contemplation of sale, nothing should be done to upset the effect of such redemption of charges, and no deduction should be made from the average net income received during the ten years, in respect of the interest payable on these charges before they were paid off. On the other hand, if the Court considered that a redemption was effected, merely in contemplation of an approaching sale, and was an arrangement which could not, or would not, have been otherwise made, the redemption should profit the landlord nothing. The case should be treated exactly as if the redemption had never taken place, that is, a deduction should be made from the average net income of the annual amount payable in respect of the charges, and the landlord should receive, in addition to the capitalised value of his net profit income thus ascertained, the amount of the charges which have been paid off.

180. We recognise that other difficulties may arise in working out this scheme, but we believe that they can all be met by giving the necessary discretionary power to the Court. Thus, the case of mortgages affecting two estates, one of which is being sold and the other of which is not being sold, might arise and might be complicated by questions of marshalling or tacking. These difficulties could however be dealt with by giving the Court the power of apportioning or exclusively charging mortgages, in the same way as the Land Commission deal, under voluntary sales, with quit and crown rents, tithe-rentcharges, head rents, &c.

181. There are other charges mainly terminable charges, running for a definite or indefinite period, for example a jointure, or an annuity, consisting partly of interest and partly of sinking fund, which is payable for the period required to amortise a capital sum, *e.g.*, a Board of Works loan. If a deduction were made from the net income in respect of such a charge, instead of making no deduction and causing the landlord to redeem it out of the purchase money, as at present, the State would then have to pay the person entitled to the charge, its redemption value, and also have to pay the landlord the present worth of a perpetual annuity, equal to the amount of the annual charge, beginning at whatever date the charge would expire. This procedure would be extremely complicated and might not result in any saving. Consequently, we do not recommend that any deduction should be made from the net income, in respect of these charges, or that any change should be made in the law or the practice, as regards the satisfying of these charges out of the purchase-money.

XXIII.—Objections urged against taking Net Profit Income as basis of Price.

182. Such a strict interpretation of net income as we recommend has been criticised, on the ground that it is not fair to deprive the landlord of the opportunity of making a profit by redeeming his mortgages, and that, under this scheme, an indulgent landlord who has given large remissions of rent, and is encumbered, perhaps in consequence thereof, will receive less than a landlord in possession of an estate of the same agricultural value who, owing to strictness in collecting his rental or other causes, is unencumbered. This criticism seems a little beside the point. The indulgent landlord is in point of fact in receipt of a smaller income than the strict landlord, whatever may be the

XXIII.—*Continued.*

Objections urged against taking net profit income as basis of price.

cause, and the object of our scheme is to prevent, as far as possible, anyone suffering financial loss as a result of compulsion. It is therefore aimed at securing to a landlord in the future, within certain limitations and subject to certain modifications, what he has had in the past, not what he might have had. If the arrears or the equity of redemption of the encumbered landlord are of any value, he will receive that value as fixed by the Court. Moreover, if any landlord considers the strict method of estimating net profit income unfair, he has always the option of not producing his net income returns, and so of having the fair price of his estate fixed by the Court, on the basis of valuation.

183. It was pointed out that two estates of the same agricultural value might, under this scheme, change hands at different prices, say, one at 24 years purchase of the estimated fair rent, and the other at 22 years purchase, in consequence of the saving effected by the State from the redemption of charges; and it was asked why should the tenants on one estate profit by their landlord's indebtedness and get their holdings cheaper than the tenants on the other estate. It may be sufficient to answer that under the voluntary scheme this inequality happens every day, since the prices asked by different landlords vary greatly, one of the reasons being that encumbered landlords are, as a rule, ready to sell at a price which would not tempt an unencumbered landlord; but the criticism seems founded on a misapprehension. The scheme suggested does not apply to direct sales but to purchases by the Board, and their terms of re-sale are not, and should not be, ruled merely by the prices they paid for each estate. On some estates all the money expended by the Board on improvements is recovered from the tenants in the shape of enhanced price, as these estates were bought cheap, and the annuity that can be safely charged will pay off both the purchase-money of the estate and the net expenditure on improvements. Where an estate is not bought cheap the Board often have to lose a large part of their expenditure on improvements, since they adhere to the rule of not charging the tenants more than the sum that would be repaid by an annuity less than the second term fair rent. Of course, if all prices rule high, the Board cannot do much in the way of improvement, since the average amount they can lose is, and must be, limited. In the first case mentioned above where the land cost the Board only 20 years' purchase they would probably be able to recover from the tenants most, if not all, of the cost of improvements they carried out. In the second case they would probably have to lose a large proportion of this expenditure, for if the land was of the same quality, there would generally be no difference between the re-sale price charged to the tenants on each estate.

184. While objections have been raised, by those in favour of net income being adopted as the basis of price, to the deduction of charges from that income and to the strict definition of net profit income that we suggest, objections have, on the other hand, been taken to the adoption of the system of basing price on net profit income, however strictly defined. The chief objection advanced is on the ground of the instability of incomes derived from land. It is said that the process suggested assumes that the future will be similar to the past, and that the average income enjoyed during the last ten years will remain unaltered. The objection has not been much pressed as regards tenanted land, having regard to the fact that second term rents are taken as the basis, but it has been urged that grazing rents derived from untenanted land, and farming profits made by a landlord, who farms his land himself, cannot be regarded as stable. The evidence we have received seems to show that there has been practically no change in grazing rents for the last five years, that during the last ten years there has been a slight decline, that during the last fifteen years the decline has been rather larger, and that there was a great fall about twenty years ago. If an income derived from land is unstable, allowance for that fact can be made in voluntary negotiations, but it is not easy for the State to insist upon the instability of an income derived from land acquired compulsorily, so far as the presumption of instability rests upon conjectures of what may happen in the future, and not upon the workings of existing economic causes. The method of assessing price suggested in this Report does, however, make allowances for the precariousness of an income due to the latter causes.

See paragraphs 160 and 187.

XXIII.—*Continued.*

Objections urged against taking net profit income as basis of price.

185. The extreme demand made by those who emphasise the instability of grazing rents is that a fair rent, such as can be paid by a solvent tenant, should be fixed on the untenanted land, and that that amount, subject to deductions, should be taken as the income to be capitalised, instead of the average annual income that had been actually received. The chief danger of this course is that the landlord's interest in untenanted land might be assessed as though it was tenanted, although his property is more valuable to him than if it were tenanted. This question has been complicated by a good deal of discussion as to "occupation interest," "tenant-right," and "the double interest." What seems quite clear is that second term rents are not a measure of the full annual value of untenanted land, wherein the landlord has the exclusive right to the property. In tenanted property, the landlord and the tenant are partners, and the greater the tenant's interest, the less, other things being equal, is the landlord's interest. Hence the landlord is entitled to be paid a greater sum for untenanted than for tenanted land. If the same measure of the value of the land is taken in both cases, *i.e.*, a fair rent, he should get a greater number of years' purchase of that measure for his untenanted than for his tenanted land. If that larger multiple would yield the landlord his net income, the effect of this plan would not differ from that of the plan we have suggested; if it did not yield his net income, it would have the effect of putting the landlord in a worse financial position than before compulsion was applied.

186. Others, who do go not so far, urge that the Court should have power to vary between the actual average income on the one hand and the fair rent on the other hand, and they argue that in this way "a fair price" could always be secured. This scheme, in common with most schemes that are not based upon net profit income, is indefinite and the effect of it would be uncertain, for a proposal to fix the price with reference to both the net income and the fair rent may mean anything. Either clear principles must be laid down upon which the Court should proceed, and we have not heard a principle suggested that is capable of legal interpretation, or indeed is more than an ethical platitude, or else the competing claims of "net income" and "fair rent" must be frankly left to the individual opinion of the Court and its valuers. In this case, the proposal would be open to an objection, which we regard as insuperable in the case of compulsory purchase, *i.e.*, it may destroy one of the conditions which govern our acceptance of the principle of compulsion, namely, that as a result of it no man should be put in a worse position financially than he was in before.

187. While we are in favour of the preservation of the net profit income, as defined above, there may be, as we have already indicated, further factors which must be taken into consideration. Where there is an economic or natural cause actually existing at the date of sale, which is likely in the next few years to make the income to be derived from land greater or less than it has been for the last ten years, such a cause should, we think, be taken into account. On the other hand, we do not think that allowance should be made for causes which do not exist, though they may be apprehended. Thus it seems to be purely speculative to say that the embargo on the importation of Canadian cattle may be removed, and that consequently grazing rents may be affected, or to say that protective duties may be imposed on foreign food-stuffs, and that therefore the profits on agriculture will rise. If, however, either of these contingencies should come to pass before any particular sale is effected, it should be within the competence of the Court, as we have already stated, to increase or reduce the price, that would otherwise be fixed, by such an amount as they think represents the capitalised value of the difference in the net income, which might arise during the next five years, from the operation of such existing economic causes, if no sale were to take place. Similarly allowance may be made for the operation of "natural causes," *e.g.*, where the value of the land may be diminished or increased by the operation of causes such as erosion or accretion. These must, of course, be exceptional cases. Again, it may happen that the landlord during some of the last ten years has been getting artificially inflated prices for part of his untenanted land, *e.g.*, through excessive meadowing or letting in conacre. As this would have to be paid for in the future, were

See paragraphs 160 and 184.

See paragraph 160.

XXIII.—*Continued.*

Objections urged against taking net profit income as basis of price.

no sale to take place, either by reduced receipts or by a large expenditure on fertilisers, so as to put the land in condition again, this factor should be taken into consideration by the Court. Hence the introduction of the words, "actual condition of the land itself" in our statement (in paragraph 160) of the principles which should govern the fixation of price.

188. Where the owner in fee does not let, under the eleven months' system or otherwise, the land which is to be acquired, but works it himself, and similarly where the land to be acquired is held and worked by a tenant-purchaser or tenant, a further deduction has to be made from the average net income in respect of the occupier's wages of superintendence, *i.e.*, the added return due to his own work upon the land, for which he would have been paid had he been acting as steward or manager for somebody else. In practice, however, it probably will be hard for anyone who is working the land himself to give satisfactory proof of his net profit income, and, even where the land is let regularly, it may, in some cases, be difficult to give the required particulars.

XXIV.—Other Points Connected with Price.

189. Where evidence of net profit income is not available, or is not complete, another method of fixing the price has to be devised, and there seems to be no alternative to the assessment by the Court of the full value of the interest to be acquired. The other method commonly suggested was that the valuation, as fixed for the purposes of imperial and local taxation, should in these cases be taken at the net income. It was pointed out that, in the case of tenanted land, the landlord is assessed for income tax under Schedule A upon the rental or upon the poor-law valuation *less* a deduction of one-eighth of the valuation. The occupier, where liable for income tax, is assessed under Schedule B, upon one-third of the valuation, and where the lands are used for the purpose of husbandry only, he may elect to pay, instead, under Schedule D, upon the average of his profits during the three preceding years, in the same manner as a trader, provided he gives the proper notice to the surveyor of taxes. As a matter of fact comparatively few occupiers of land in Ireland have elected to be assessed under Schedule D. Where an occupier of land for the purpose of husbandry only has paid income tax under Schedule B, and finds after the close of the year that his actual profits have fallen short of the amount on which he has paid income tax, he may prefer a farm appeal and claim relief by way of repayment. An owner-occupier of land is assessed to income tax under both Schedules A and B. From the poor law valuation he is granted a deduction of one-eighth of the valuation in making the assessment under Schedule A as provided by section 35 of the Finance Act, 1894, and he thus pays on seven-eighths of the valuation under Schedule A, and on one-third of the valuation under Schedule B. Thus an owner-occupier holding land of which the valuation is £100 has to pay income-tax on about £120. If an owner-occupier of land used for the purpose of husbandry only finds at the end of the year that he has not realised the amount on which he has paid income tax under Schedules A and B, it is open to him to prefer a farm appeal, and to seek relief by way of repayment. The Special Commissioners of Income Tax by whom such appeals are heard will, if satisfied with the accounts produced, determine the amount of the profits realised and authorise the repayment of any income tax found to have been paid in excess of the liability. As practically no owners of land in Ireland avail themselves of the privilege of being assessed on their profits, it was suggested that owner-occupiers always make from land valued at £100 at least about £120 a year.

190. We are unable to agree with the suggestion that one and one-third, or even one and one-fifth, times the valuation represents the owner's annual profit. The valuation cannot be considered to represent the present productivity of the land, and though an estimate of what the value was fifty years ago may serve as a rough and ready basis for assessing taxation, it is not suitable as a basis for determining price. Moreover, if the owner of untenanted land is in a position to prove his profits, he can under our scheme obtain full credit for that

amount, whereas if he cannot do so, this may be the reason why he does not claim the right of paying income-tax upon his profits rather than on the valuation. We are, therefore, of opinion that where the Board purchases land compulsorily, and where satisfactory evidence of net income is not available, the price to be paid shall be such as the Court may consider the full value of the interest to be acquired, having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

XXIV.—*Continued*, Other points connected with price.

191. We think compensation should be paid to the landlord for any sporting rights he enjoys, if such rights are acquired by the Board, and if it is shown that they are of value. If the landlord had been in the habit of letting these sporting rights for a term of years previous to sale, the average rents paid, less any expenses incurred in connection with the rights, would be a guide to the value. If the rights have not been let, the Court would have to take further evidence as to their value.

See paragraph 249.

XXV.—Rate of Interest to be obtained from authorised investments.

192. Having settled the method in which the average net profit income of the landlord is to be ascertained, and the other payments calculated, the rate of interest at which that income is to be capitalised has to be settled. Where a property sold is "settled land" the proceeds of the sale can be invested only in certain securities marked out by Acts of Parliament. Since 1903 the investments for the proceeds of settled land sold under the Purchase Acts are those previously available for trustees, and certain others mentioned in the 51st Section of the Act of 1903, provided that the sufficiency of such investments to realise the sum invested therein, upon the death of the tenant for life or the termination of the trust, shall be established to the satisfaction of the Public Trustee, appointed under that Act. This section is said by some to have dangerously extended the area of trustee investments, but the investments specified in the first five sub-heads (*a*) to (*e*) of that section are all analogous to previously existing trust investments, and many of them were already available for trustees. The remaining class mentioned in sub-head (*f*), namely, debentures or fully paid shares or stocks of any railway, which for the ten years immediately preceding the date of investment had paid a dividend on its ordinary shares, has been considered by the Irish Court of Appeal in *re* Blacker-Douglas' Trusts. They drew attention to the fact that ordinary shares or stock of a railway differ from most authorised securities, in the absence of a margin of security, and they gave such "weighty caution" to the Public Trustee that sub-head (*f*) has become largely inoperative. The wording of the clause, which was not in the original Bill, but was inserted in the House of Lords, came in for considerable criticism, especially the proviso giving a veto to the Public Trustee which was probably intended to refer only to sub-head (*f*), but, which, owing to the language used, also embraces sub-heads (*a*) to (*e*). Even if there were no objection to any of the securities specified in sub-head (*f*) being treated as trust securities, investments in ordinary fully paid shares or stocks would not be suitable for securing the net profit income, since they do not, as in the case with debenture stock, yield the same sum each year, but vary with the profits. Some suggestions have been made for further extensions of the area of investments for the purchase-money of land sold under the Purchase Acts, but we do not consider that we have sufficient evidence to justify us in making recommendations on this point.

[1905], 1 I. R. 532.

193. The authorised securities at present yield rates varying from 3 per cent. to 3¾ per cent. for a large number of well-known stocks, and higher for a smaller amount of other stocks, and there is much dispute as to the average rate obtainable. The Land Conference suggested 3 per cent. or 3¼ per cent. as the rate, and the Irish Landowners' Convention have expressed their willingness to have the rate taken as 3½ per cent. The tenants' representatives say, "Why calculate at 3½ per cent. when 3¾ per cent., 4 per cent., and 4¼ per cent. or more, can be obtained from investments in authorised securities?" The landlords answer, first, that rates higher than 3½ per cent. can be secured only, if

V. Q. 25032.

XXV.—*Continued.*

Rate of interest to be obtained from authorized investments

at all, from investments in dangerous securities, and, secondly, that such rates can be obtained only by buying at the psychological moment, and then are obtainable for small amounts only. It would be impossible for the Commission, or even for Parliament, to lay down what average rate can be at any moment secured, since different securities yield different rates, and no one could fix a rate that would be sure of being even approximately accurate for a term of years. Ten years ago the rate of yield from Consols was about 2½ per cent.; recently it has been about 3 per cent., and other securities have varied even more. It is, however, essential for the working of our scheme that the highest rate that can be obtained from authorised securities should be procured, and with that object the following plan has been devised.

194. At the beginning of each year the sum to be available for land purchase by the Congested Districts Board—say £1,000,000—should be paid over to the National Debt Commissioners, and invested by them, as opportunity offers, in such authorised securities as yield the highest rate of interest, and are in their opinion suitable for investment. When the net income of a landlord has been settled the Commissioners would, on the order of the Court, pay over to the trustees of the vendor sufficient of one or more of the stocks purchased by them to yield his net income. The stocks transferred would be so arranged that their average yield would correspond with the average yield obtained by the National Debt Commissioners. If the trustees did not like the stocks, they could sell and re-invest in any other authorised security. If they did so, however, they would probably diminish the net income, since *ex hypothesi*, the Commissioners had invested in the stock that yielded the highest rate of interest. The proportion of dividends accruing on the stocks held, between the date on which they were purchased and the date on which they were handed over to the landlord, would pay the interest on the £1,000,000 and also the expenses of working the scheme. That part of the price of the estate which would consist of the money required to pay off charges, &c., and the whole of the price where net income returns were not available, and where consequently the price had to be fixed by valuation, would be paid in cash. If the estate was not settled land, the owner would be paid in cash such a sum as would produce his net profit income if invested at the rate which is the average yield of the securities held by the National Debt Commissioners.

195. Two notable advantages would, it seems to us, accrue from the adoption of some such scheme as that outlined. In the first place, it would do away with disputes as to what was a fair rate of interest at which to capitalise the net profit income, and secondly, the rate obtained would probably be higher than could be otherwise got, since the Commissioners, watching the market, could buy at the most favourable moments.

XXVI.—Court to settle Questions arising out of Compulsion.

196. It remains to consider what Court should settle all points connected with the compulsory acquisition of land, including price. In the matter of price the duties would be as follows:—

(1.) Ascertain gross income. (See paragraphs 161–3.)

(2.) Scale down non-judicial and first term rents. (See paragraph 164.)

(3.) Deduct average law costs, and costs of collection over a period of fifteen years. (See paragraph 165.)

(4.) Deduct continuing and varying charges that cannot be redeemed, on average of ten years. (See paragraph 166.)

(5.) Deduct charges which landlord cannot usually redeem at will, quit and crown rents, head rents, tithe rents, &c. (See paragraphs 167–70.)

(6.) Deduct charges in respect of mortgages, &c. (See paragraphs 171–80.)

(7.) Deduct or add amount, if any, by which future income would be reduced or increased in consequence of existing economic or natural causes and (in the case of untenanted land) in consequence of the actual condition of the land (See paragraph 187.)

XXVI.—*Continued.*

Court to settle questions arising out of compulsion.

It will also have to assess certain capital payments :—

(1.) Arrears, if of value. (See paragraphs 162-3.)

(2.) Redemption price of charges mentioned in (5) above. (See paragraphs 167-70.)

(3.) Amounts due on mortgages, &c. (See paragraphs 171-2.)

(4.) Value of equity of redemption, if any. (See paragraphs 173-9.)

(5.) Compensation, if any, for sporting rights. (See paragraph 191.)

Where the net income returns are not available the Court would have to assess the value of the interest to be acquired, having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

197. After full consideration, we have come to the conclusion that there should be a Court of first instance and a Court of Appeal. If there is only one Court, it must, in our opinion, consist of a person having the status of a Judge of the High Court, while if there are two Courts, the Court of Appeal must be of a similar character. The work involved, as set out above, would mean a serious addition to the present work of any High Court Judge, though it is mostly a matter of examining into certain detailed questions of fact, and could be safely discharged by a less important judicial personage if there was a right of appeal to a higher Court. Therefore we are in favour of having two Courts, and we suggest that the Court of first instance should be one of the present Legal Sub-Commissioners of the Land Commission, assisted by two lay assessors. Many of the matters that will come before the Court will be matters of account, and we therefore suggest that one of the assessors should be an accountant. As regards the higher Court, we are of opinion that its duties are more analogous to those discharged by the Judicial Commissioner of the Land Commission, than to those of any other Court, and we are therefore in favour of all appeals being heard by him, as they are under the Evicted Tenants Act. Should this be for any cause impracticable, it will remain for Parliament to create a tribunal that will possess the necessary judicial character, and will command public confidence. As will be seen later, the Court of first instance suggested is the Court that at present has to settle most of the questions arising out of the acquisition of tenants' interests.

XXVII.—Powers to be exercised over lands held by Tenant-Purchasers and Tenants.

Paragraph 117.

198. We have recommended that the Board should be empowered to acquire, by compulsion, if necessary, for the enlargement of small holdings, not only lands held by landlords but also the interest of tenant-purchasers and tenants in any non-residential farm, unless it is *bona fide* worked in conjunction with a residential holding by a man whose chief occupation is farming, and also the excess of any holding or holdings held by one tenant-purchaser or tenant above £100 valuation. It will also, probably, be necessary to give the Board certain powers over turf bogs. We have been impressed with the importance of making provision for the regulation of turbary as, owing to the absence of satisfactory arrangements in this respect in the past, there is great danger that many occupiers will in the near future be without an adequate supply of fuel. Satisfactory control will probably involve, not only interference with bogs on estates bought by the Board, but also with turbary rights possessed in connection with holdings already bought under the Land Purchase Acts. The matter is somewhat complicated, and no doubt before any legislation is introduced the opinion of the Land Commission and of the Board's officers will be carefully considered by the Government. The acquisition of holdings held by tenant-purchasers presents no special

XXVII.—*Continued.*

difficulty. The price should be settled in the same manner and by the same Court as for a landlord who is farming his own land, *i.e.*, on the basis of net income where the necessary information is available, and where it is not, on the basis of valuation.

Powers to be exercised over lands held by tenant-purchasers and tenants.

199. The powers necessary to enable the Board, satisfactorily, to deal with tenancy interests require special consideration. We have proposed that the Board, when re-selling or re-arranging an estate, or any part thereof, should have full power to determine any tenancy, or to vary the boundaries of any holding, if, in their opinion, it is necessary for the relief of congestion, provided that any tenant so disturbed shall be given a holding of not less value than the one from which he has been removed, or, at his option, compensation, assessed by the Court, for the holding, or the part thereof, taken. We are also of opinion that the Board should be given the power, at present possessed by the Estates Commissioners and the Land Judge, of declaring certain recalcitrant tenants on an estate purchasers of their holdings. The Board at present has to provide out of its own funds the money necessary for the purchase of tenancy interests. We recommend that they should be empowered to obtain advances in future from the Land Commission for the purchase of these interests in the same way as they do for the purchase of the fee. The value of tenancy interests varies according to the nature of the tenure, and the existing law contains special provisions for assessing their value.

3 Ed. VII., c. 37, sect. 19.
59 & 60 Vic., c. 47, sect. 40 (1).

1. Ed. VII., c. 34.

200. It is important to note that the Board have already certain powers over holdings on estates which they have purchased. Under the Congested Districts Board Act, 1901, the Board can, on a request from three-fourths (in number and valuation) of the tenants on an estate, determine any particular tenancy, but they must offer in exchange a holding, in the neighbourhood, of not less value and subject to a rent not greater than that of the old holding. The tenant can appeal to the County Court, who may award him money in addition to the new holding, or, in the alternative, the full money value of his interest in the old holding. In practice these powers have been found illusory, owing to the difficulty of getting the request signed by three-quarters of the tenants. Thus, on the Dillon Estate it would have been necessary to get a request signed by over 3,000 tenants in order to move one man, of whom most of them had never heard, and in whose migration most of them could have no interest. By section 82, sub-section (1), of the 1903 Act the Board were given power to act on a request signed by three-fourths of the tenants on any townland that would be affected by the exercise of these powers. In practice, however, the Board has not found it possible to obtain even this limited number of signatures, except, recently, in one somewhat exceptional case, and it was suggested that they should be empowered to act on their own initiative.

201. It is possible that the Board might in some cases have succeeded in putting section 82 (1) into operation, but they have not thought it generally worth making the attempt, because the County Court procedure under the Act of 1901 and section 82 (1) of the 1903 Act is cumbersome and costly, and because they could generally effect their purpose in other ways, namely, by exercising their powers of (*a*) resumption, (*b*) pre-emption, or (*c*) issuing a notice to quit.

(*a.*) The Land Act of 1881 precluded a landlord from compelling any tenant (to whom the Act applied) to quit his holding during the continuance of a statutory term, except for breach of certain statutory conditions. The landlord may, however (under section 5), with the consent of the Land Commission resume possession of the tenant's holding for certain purposes, on the payment of full compensation to the tenant. Up to 31st March, 1907, 156 applications had been made by landlords to resume, of which 112 had been dismissed, withdrawn, or struck out, 23 granted, and 21 were then pending. "Full Compensation" has been judicially decided to mean the full competition price that the holding, subject to a fair rent, would fetch in the open market. The Board on

purchasing an estate becomes clothed with this, as with other powers of a landlord, and section 83 of the 1903 Act authorised them to resume possession for the purpose of migration and the enlargement of holdings, in addition to the purposes specified in the Act of 1881. XXVII.—*Continued.*

Powers to be exercised over lands held by tenant-purchasers and tenants.

(*b.*) Where a tenant proposes to sell his holding, the landlord has a right of pre-emption at such a sum as may be agreed upon, or, in the event of disagreement, may be ascertained by the Court to be the true value thereof. The true value appears to be something less than the full compensation awarded in a case of resumption, and it has been said that the relation between the true value which the landlord must pay on pre-emption, and the full price which the tenant might get in the open market, is very similar to that which exists between the fair rent, which the Land Commission fixes, and the competition rent, which the landlord is no longer at liberty to exact.

(*c.*) Where no statutory term has been created, *i.e.* in some cases of present tenancies, and in most cases of future tenancies, the landlord (and the Board in the case of a purchased estate) can determine a tenancy by a notice to quit. The tenant is entitled to compensation for his improvements, if any, and to compensation for disturbance, and the latter may amount to a sum equal to seven times his rent if that is less than £30 a year.

202. The Board have acquired the tenants' interest in about 100 holdings, generally by voluntary agreement, but of course the Board had in nearly all these cases the above-mentioned powers in the background, and the price paid has generally approximated to the price that would be paid if the Board were forced to exercise their powers. The powers at present possessed by the Board, however, are inadequate for the following reasons :— XL. p. 47

(1.) There are some tenants whose tenancies cannot be determined—*e.g.*, those not liable to a notice to quit before 1881, and not liable to have their holdings resumed under the Act of that year, as a statutory term has not been created.

(2.) The procedure is not convenient, as a notice to quit means a delay of at least one year, generally longer.

(3.) The Board are not in a position to offer a tenant, who has been served with a notice to quit, or whose holding has been resumed, the choice of taking an alternative holding elsewhere, instead of a sum of money, as they could have done under the Acts of 1901 and 1903, had it been found possible to work these powers satisfactorily.

(4.) The Board possess at present no powers of compulsorily changing the boundaries of a holding, nor can they re-arrange a holding except with the consent of a tenant. Thus, one tenant, whose holding is in scattered plots, can stand in the way of the re-arrangement of a large block of land, and the Board have no remedy except to resume possession or to issue a notice to quit, if they have these powers over the holding in question.

203. It is therefore recommended that the Board should be empowered, failing agreement, compulsorily to determine the tenancy in any holding on an estate purchased by them, on passing a resolution that it is desirable to acquire the whole or any part of the holding for the relief of congestion, or to re-arrange boundaries, or to stripe a holding. Two cases arise, of the acquisition of the whole or part of a holding :—

(1.) Where the tenant occupies a residential holding which does not exceed £100 valuation. The object of giving the Board powers in this case is to facilitate striping and re-arrangement of holdings or the enlargement thereof by the migration of the tenant in question. If the Board and the tenant cannot come to a friendly arrangement, then they should be bound, as they are under the 1901 Act, to offer an alternative holding, at least as valuable in every way as the original holding, and the Court should have the same power as the County Court now has of ordering

XXVII.—*Continued.* **Powers to be exercised over lands held by tenant purchasers and tenants.**

the Board to make improvements on the new holding, or to pay compensation to the tenant if the Court considers the new holding not good enough. The tenant should have the right to refuse the new holding and demand a money payment instead. In such a case, unless the tenant can give satisfactory proofs of his net income during the last ten years, the Court should assess the amount payable according to the present system where the present law applies. Where the tenant could at present be served with a notice to quit, he should be awarded compensation for disturbance and compensation for improvements, if so entitled. Where the holding could be resumed, the tenant should get "full compensation," which, as already mentioned, has been judicially interpreted to mean the competition price that the holding, subject to a fair rent, would fetch in open market. Where at present the tenant is not liable to have his holding resumed, or to be served with a notice to quit, *e.g.*, a leaseholder not affected by the Land Acts, the Court should settle what is the proper compensation to pay, having regard to the sums that would be payable if the holding could be resumed, or if the tenant could be served with a notice to quit, and to the nature of the tenant's interest in the holding, for example, the unexpired term of a lease and its conditions, &c.

See paragraph 201 (*a*).

(2.) The second case is where a tenant has one or more holdings, all non-residential, or where non-residential holdings are not worked *bona fide* in connection with a residential holding, by a man whose chief occupation is farming. Here the object is to secure land for the enlargement of small holdings. It is proposed that the Board should have power to take by compulsion, if necessary, only the excess or part of the excess of the holding above the limit of £100 valuation, but the tenant should in such a case be empowered to insist on all or none being taken. The Board should be at liberty to offer the tenant an alternative holding elsewhere of equal value, but they should not be bound to do so, as they should be in the first case mentioned. To force the Board to do so would nullify the object of giving them power to scale down large holdings, *i.e.*, to increase the amount of land available for the relief of congestion, but giving the Board the power of offering an alternative holding might in some cases be useful. The tenant could of course refuse the alternative holding and, failing agreement with the Board, the Court, as before, in the absence of proof of net income, should assess the money payable on the principle detailed in the first case. The Court should be empowered to add such sum, if any, as it considers represents any special value that the portion taken away might have had for the tenant by reason of its being worked in conjunction with the part left.

204. We think that the compensation to be paid by the Board in either of these cases, and any payable in the case of the compulsory re-settlement or re-arrangement of a holding, should be assessed by the same Court as that which we have recommended to deal with questions arising out of the compulsory acquisition of the interest of a landlord or tenant purchaser, namely a Sub-Commission Court, with an appeal to the Judicial Commissioner. These are the Courts which deal with questions arising out of the pre-emption or resumption of a holding under the present law; whilst the compensation payable in consequence of a notice to quit is assessed by the Civil Bill Court (that is the County Court), which, it may be noted, has concurrent jurisdiction with the Sub-Commission Courts in the fixation of rents.

205. As our recommendations involve great changes in the powers and methods of acquiring land, we think it advisable to describe the procedure that we suggest should be adopted—which we have in part already outlined—both because the administrative changes will illustrate our substantive proposals, and because these must largely depend for their success upon the provision of a suitable and congruous machinery. As, however, the matter is somewhat technical, our adherence to these proposals is more qualified than our advocacy of the substantive recommendations. For this reason, and for purposes of general convenience, we have thought it better to embody our suggestions in the separate note, which is printed at the end of our report. (See p. 117).

See paragraphs 152–7 and 198–204.

XXVIII.—Costs of Sale.

206. There is, however, one matter in connection with procedure which may be mentioned here, namely, that, as has been already mentioned, all costs and expenses necessarily and properly incurred by vendors and chargeants, etc. (in the case of lands bought compulsorily), in ascertaining title to the land, or to claims thereon, and in the assessment and distribution of the purchase money, should be treated as such costs are now treated in the case of land taken compulsorily under the Evicted Tenants Act (section 5, sub-section 3), that is, paid as part of the expenses of the Land Commission out of money voted by Parliament for the purpose. All costs incurred in the Court of first instance should be paid, and those incurred in consequence of an appeal should be similarly paid, unless disallowed by the Court.

See paragraph 165.

7 Ed. VII., c. 5.

XXIX.—Treatment of uneconomic Holdings already vested in Tenant Purchasers.

207. In dealing with the size of the land problem we drew attention to the fact that within the Board's new area over 39,000 holdings (about 20 per cent. of the total number) had already been vested in tenant purchasers, of which it was estimated two-thirds were under £10 valuation. Many of these holdings are still uneconomic and some are in rundale, and it would be desirable for the Board to improve as many of them as possible; but, as has been already mentioned, it is much more difficult to deal with these cases of what may be called "vested congestion," than with cases unaffected by the Land Purchase Acts.

See paragraph 112 (2).

208. While there is no doubt that the number of holdings under £10 valuation requiring treatment by the Board is proportionately less, in the case of purchased holdings than in that of other holdings,* still there are a considerable number of purchased holdings which it would be desirable to improve. Where the objection to the holding is that it is too small, and the Board has untenanted land in the immediate neighbourhood, the procedure is the comparatively simple one of amalgamation, *i.e.*, of adding to the purchased holding an additional parcel. It is desirable that this additional parcel and the holding already purchased should be treated as one holding. Otherwise the tenant purchaser would be free to sell one and keep the other, and then there would be two uneconomic holdings, where there should be only one economic holding. Therefore in such cases, an account should be taken of the amount outstanding on the old holding, and a new vesting order or land certificate issued treating the original holding and the additional parcel as one holding, subject to one annuity in respect of the amount outstanding and the new advance, as is provided in section 2 of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) (No. 2) Act, 1901. We are advised that, under the present law, the tenant purchaser, who is to get an enlargement, must not be the tenant of the additional parcel which he proposes to purchase. The Board have been therefore forced to make such a tenant purchaser sign a grazing contract, in respect of the additional parcel, or else to leave that parcel wholly untenanted until the purchase is completed. If this view of the law is adhered to, further legislation will be necessary.

1 Ed. VII., c. 30

209. The procedure is much more difficult where, as the result of sales under the Land Purchase Acts, a group of holdings have been vested in tenants consisting of rundale holdings or intermixed plots. At present, the Board has to obtain the consent of all the tenants, redeem the land purchase annuity, and, generally, buy the purchasers' interest, then re-settle the holdings and proceed to re-sell the new holdings. In view of the difficulties attendant on this process,

* The reason has been already referred to: many of these holdings have been improved by the Board and the Estates Commissioners before sale, and in any case practically all these men are better off than tenants holding farms of the same valuation, for they have for a certain number of years been paying a terminable annuity, which is less than the rent of a tenant of a corresponding holding which has not been sold, and they have for a varying period enjoyed the advantages arising out of "the magic of property."

XXIX.—*Continued.* Treatment of uneconomic holdings already vested in tenant purchasers,

it has been suggested that the Board should be given as regards purchasers of uneconomic holdings sold under the Land Purchase Acts, the same powers of re-settlement as we have recommended in respect of tenants on estates bought by the Board, but the matter is attended with many difficulties, and there are technical complications, which will require careful consideration before any attempt can be made to simplify the matter by legislation.

XXX.—Treatment of Pending Cases.

210. In addition to holdings that are already vested, there are, within the Board's new area, a large number, over 28,000, of pending cases, *i.e.* cases where agreements between landlords and tenants or landlords and the Estates Commissioners have already been entered into for the transfer of the holdings, though advances had not been made up to the end of last year. Many of these cases will be vested before legislation on this subject can be passed; on the other hand many new agreements may, in the same period, be entered into in respect of holdings, at present, unaffected by the Purchase Acts. The number may largely increase during the next few months, as it is said that some owners apprehend a reduction in the rate of the bonus as from the 1st November next. Moreover, the fact that the Board are at present restrained from further purchases has the tendency of increasing the number of sales, within their area, from landlord to tenant direct, or from the landlords to the Estates Commissioners. Any increase in the number of "vested" or "pending" cases will increase the Board's difficulties, but there does not seem to be any practical way of checking advances or the lodgment of agreements, before the passing of an Act of Parliament. It has been suggested that the Lord Lieutenant should issue regulations under section 23 (8) restraining the Estates Commissioners from making advances or receiving purchase agreements, or arranging to buy land under sections 6, 7 and 8, but it does not seem that such regulations would be legal for the reasons mentioned in the judgments delivered in the case of the estate of Downes Martin, when the regulations of 4th July, 1905, were under consideration. Though, apparently, nothing can be done to stop the creation of vested congestion in the interval, a method of dealing with pending cases may be devised.

See 3 Ed. VII., c. 37, sect. 48 (3).

See paragraph 55.

40 Ir.L.T.R., 133.

211. The cases that will be pending at the date of the creation of the new Board within their area may be considered under two heads:—(1) Cases of direct sale, and (2) cases of sales under sections 6, 7, and 8. It is desirable to avoid interference with existing agreements between landlords and tenants as much as possible, but greater interference may be possible where the property has not been declared an estate than where it has. The difference is that in the former case the contract between landlord and tenant is incomplete, and conditional upon the declaration of the property to be an estate, while in the latter case, owing to the declaration, the contract is complete.

212. Under the procedure of the Estates Commissioners there has hitherto been practically no interval between the "declaration" and the "vesting," and it has not been the practice of the Commissioners to declare a property an estate (except provisionally) until they have completed all inquiries, and are ready to advance the purchase-money and vest the lands. Hence, practically all the cases now pending which are not vested when the new Board comes into existence, will be cases where the property has not been declared an estate, and the suggestion now made for dealing with the difficulty is as follows.*

See 42 Ir.L.T.R. 35, and also 42 Ir.L.T. p. 83.

* Since we originally agreed to these proposals, the practice of the Estates Commissioners in the matter of declaring a property an estate has been considered by the Court of Appeal, in the case of Weir's estate, and we understand that the legality of the present procedure in certain respects was called into question. As, however, we have no materials for estimating the precise changes that will have to be made in the present practice, it is impossible for us to revise our recommendations, which were based on the existing practice. Probably before the new Board can come into operation the new practice will be settled, and the consequential modifications required in our recommendations will be obvious.

XXX.—*Continued* Treatment of pending sales.

At present, after the Estates Commissioners have inspected a property, they intimate to the vendor that they are prepared to make the declaration or that they are not. In the latter case they sometimes state that they are unable to declare the property an estate, unless the vendor varies the contracts in certain cases or unless certain holdings are excluded. If he agrees the sales go through: if not, they fall to the ground. The Estates Commissioners more frequently intimate that, though they cannot declare the property to be an estate, they will consider the question of buying it under section 6 if the vendor invites them so to do.

213. We suggest that the Estates Commissioners should after the creation of the new Board send that body a copy of their inspector's report upon any estate within the Board's area, negotiations for the sale of which are pending, as soon as it has been inspected, and also a statement of their intention as to the declaration. If the Estates Commissioners proposed to declare the property an estate, the Board should be given, say, a month to consider whether they would intervene. If they decide to do so, they should be declared the purchasers at the price which was agreed upon by the vendor with his tenants, and they should be obliged to re-sell to any tenant who wished to buy his holding, in the state in which, and at the price at which, he agreed to buy it from the landlord. This would mean that the Board's intervention would be only a technical interference with the existing rights of the landlord and the tenant for the former would get exactly what he bargained for, and the latter could insist upon the same. It may be urged that a tenant whose holding needed improvement or re-arrangement might insist upon the sale going through, but it would be against his own interest to do this, and, if he were so foolish, it would seem to be undesirable to use coercion in order to benefit him. At the worst, the holding may subsequently be dealt with as a case of "vested congestion."

See paragraphs 207–9

214. There is probably only one class of tenant who as a general rule would refuse to accept the interference of the Board, namely, the tenant of a large holding, part of which the Board wish to acquire for re-distribution. It is suggested that the difficulty of such cases might, in part, be met by the Act prohibiting advances in future being made, within the Board's area, for a sum greater than £3,000, which was the original maximum advance under the earlier Land Purchase Acts. If the tenant brought in cash for the difference between the agreed price and £3,000, or if the landlord allowed the difference to remain out on mortgage on the holding (as sometimes happened under previous Acts, where the Land Commission refused to advance the whole of the agreed price of the holding), the sale would go through, If the Board wished to acquire part of the holding, they would then have to deal with it in the same way as they will have to deal with any other vested holding, part of which they find it necessary to acquire. Whilst the course suggested for such a case involves a certain interference with what would be a right of the tenant if no change is made in the law, it is an interference for which much can be said. The different limits imposed by successive Land Acts, upon the amount of money to be advanced to any one purchaser, shows that the advantages of State credit were not intended to be used for, at any rate, the largest holdings, and there are special reasons for thinking that the limit is at present too high, at any rate so long as the present system of land purchase finance continues. If a man buys his holding for £3,000, and if guaranteed 2¾ per cent. stock is issued at about £85 per cent., as it was on the occasion of the last issue in October, 1907, it is necessary, in order to get this amount of cash, to issue stock to the amount of over £3,500, and the payments the tenant makes are sufficient to pay off only £3,000 stock (worth about £2,570), and the remaining stock (over £500 in amount, being the excess stock issued) has to be paid off out of Irish public funds (the Ireland Development Grant) or county rates.

215. If the Estates Commissioners did not propose to declare the property an estate, then the proceedings for direct sale would fall through, as they do at

XXX.—*Continued.*

Treatment of pending cases.

present; the only difference being that the vendor could not then offer the estate to the Commissioners under section 6, as he could at present; he would have to offer it to the Congested Districts Board, or not sell it.

216. As regards the second class of pending cases, *i.e.* those where the Estates Commissioners have agreed to buy under sections 6, 7, and 8, the objections against allowing the proceedings to be completed is not that holdings now in rundale or uneconomic holdings will be vested in a condition in which the Congested Districts Board would not re-sell them. The objection is that to allow the Estates Commissioners to go on completing re-sales would involve, for a year or two, the evil which has been so much dwelt upon, namely, that of two bodies buying and dealing with land, on somewhat different methods and with somewhat different aims, within the same area. Moreover, the fact that the Board is, at present, precluded from buying any more land is said to be causing a considerable amount of untenanted land, within the Board's new area, to be offered to the Estates Commissioners, and if this is bought and re-distributed by them the Board will be handicapped in the future in carrying out large plans of re-settlement. At the same time it is undesirable to interfere overmuch with existing agreements. Accordingly we recommend that where the Commissioners have started the work of improvement they should complete it, but that where they have not done so they should hand all the land over to the Congested Districts Board, who should be placed in the same position as regards the tenants on these estates that the Estates Commissioners previously occupied. It might be possible for the Irish Government, in agreement with the Estates Commissioners, to arrange that, between the date of the decision of the Government to introduce legislation and the date on which the bill pass into law, the Estates Commissioners should not, in the absence of special circumstances, enter into fresh negotiations for buying more land under sections 6, 7 and 8 within the Board's area. It would appear perfectly legal for the Commissioners to agree to this abstention, though it might not be legal for the Government to attempt to compel them to postpone dealing with any particular estates.

See paragraph 55.

XXXI.—Question of Evicted Tenants.

217. A question as to the re-settlement of evicted tenants naturally arises out of our recommendations that the Board should have exclusive land purchase jurisdiction in the area assigned to it. The Evicted Tenants Act of last year imposed upon the Estates Commissioners the responsibility of dealing with these tenants throughout the whole of Ireland, and gave them, within certain limits, power to acquire land compulsorily. It seems necessary to consider how far, if at all, these provisions require amendment in view of our proposals. The Estates Commissioners issued a special report upon their proceedings up to the 31st May last (Cd. 3570-1907), in respect of the restoration of evicted tenants. It was there stated that within the area proposed for the Board 2,977 evicted tenants or their representatives had applied for re-instatement, of whom 295 had been restored by the landlord to their former holdings or to new holdings, and that 52 had similarly been restored by the Estates Commissioners. Moreover, the names of 645 evicted tenants or their representatives had then been noted as suitable persons to be provided with land, whilst 1,057 applications had been rejected by the Commissioners for various reasons. This left 928 cases at the 31st May last not reported on. Since that date these applications have been investigated and the Commissioners have selected the cases which they considered suitable for restoration, but these rulings are not final, and particular cases may be re-considered on further information.

See paragraphs 101 and 152.

7 Ed. VII., c. 56.

218. It seems quite clear that it would not be desirable that the Board should be given a concurrent jurisdiction with the Estates Commissioners, still less an appellate jurisdiction, as regards the claims of evicted tenants, which should be settled exclusively by the latter body. It probably would, however, be desirable to request the Estates Commissioners, in dealing with evicted tenants, to give priority to those whose former

holdings were within the Board's area, especially in the matter of finally deciding upon the claims submitted. The question remains as to what should be done as regards any evicted tenants (including their representatives) whose claims, though approved, have not actually been met on the date on which the new Board may come into existence. Where the Estates Commissioners have entered into negotiations with any evicted tenant to provide him with a particular holding, they should, we think, have power to complete these arrangements. Where the tenant was evicted from a holding within the Board's area, and the Estates Commissioners have merely decided that he is suitable for reinstatement, but have not actually taken steps to provide him with a specific holding, it should be the duty of the Board to do so, and the necessary funds should be provided, in the same way as they are, at present, where the Estates Commissioners do the work. Hence, after the new Board comes into existence, there would be no necessity for the Estates Commissioners to exercise their power of acquiring land, compulsorily or otherwise, within the Board's area, for the purpose of restoring evicted tenants, though they will complete the carrying out of any re-settlement that they may have started.

XXXI.—*Continued.* Question of evicted tenants

See 7, Ed. VII., c. 56.

XXXII.—Direct Sales to be allowed only on Certificate of Board.

219. Even in the present scheduled districts there are some estates which do not need treatment by the Board, and which might safely pass direct from landlord to tenant, either because there are no uneconomic holdings, or because they are few, and do not really require enlargement on account of their situation and the circumstances of the holders. Thus on an estate where there are, say, 100 holdings, if there were 10 uneconomic holdings clustered together, it probably would be desirable to enlarge them, if possible. If, however, these 10 small holdings were scattered over the estate, it might be unnecessary to enlarge them, as the occupiers might really be labourers with allotments who found a market for their labour on the adjoining large holdings. Again, there may be an estate which the Board cannot usefully treat, owing to absence of facilities, disinclination to migrate, &c. In the portion of the Board's new area not at present scheduled there must be a greater number of estates on which there is no congestion, or on which the congestion is practically negligible, than in the area at present assigned to the Board.

220. To enable these estates to pass by direct sale would be desirable, and it is recommended that in such cases the Board should be empowered to issue a certificate to this effect. The procedure we suggest is that, when a landlord applies for such a certificate, one of the Board's inspectors should go over the estate, and if the Board on his report decide that a certificate may issue, the landlords and the tenants should be free to negotiate, as they at present do, and be allowed to effect a direct sale in precisely the same way as a direct sale is carried out in any other part of Ireland. If, on the other hand, the tenants on such an estate ask the Board to buy, and their inspector reports that it is not suitable for treatment, the Board should tell them that the estate can pass by direct sale. If the landlord refused to sell to the tenants, they would then be in no worse position than tenants in any other part of Ireland where the landlord refuses to sell.

221. There will, however, probably be more estates, of which only a part may require treatment by the Board. It was suggested that they should issue a certificate as regards the portion that does not require treatment, and that they themselves should buy the portion that does require treatment. It was also suggested that the certificate should never issue unless the landlord and the Board came to terms about the part that needed treatment and the landlord and tenant came to terms about the rest. The sale of the two portions would thus be concurrent. It was pointed out, however, that difficulties might arise under this procedure. The landlord might be willing to sell on reasonable terms the part that did not require treatment, but might ask an excessive price for the part that required treatment, or *vice*

XXXII.—*Continued.*

Direct sales to be allowed only on certificate of Board.

versa. It was also pointed out that if the Board proposed to improve the condition of portion of the estate, the tenants on the other portion might not be willing to purchase their holding from the landlord in an unimproved condition. The difficulties that might occur seem to require careful consideration. Three cases might arise: (1) The landlord might approach the Board. (2) The tenants might approach the Board. (3) The Board might act on their own initiative.

(1.) If the landlord asked whether the Board were willing to certify the whole or part of an estate for sale direct to the tenants, the Board would have to make an inspection, and then say to the landlord, "Part A, we consider needs treatment by us, part B does not. If you can negotiate with your tenants we will be willing to issue a certificate as regards B, and will buy A from you ourselves for £*x*." If the landlord accepted the price offered for A, and if he succeeded in negotiating with his tenants, the Board would certify that B was suitable for direct sale and would buy A themselves. The tenants on B would be no more liable to be asked excessive prices than tenants anywhere else in Ireland. If the landlord succeeded in negotiating with his tenants, but was not satisfied with the price offered for A, he might be allowed to appeal to the Court to settle the price, as if the Board had proposed to acquire A compulsorily. This would not seem unfair to the Board. They, having declared that it needed treatment, must ultimately acquire it on compulsory terms, in default of agreement with the landlord. If the landlord, though willing to accept the Board's offer for A, fails to come to terms with the tenant as regards B, then the Board might make an offer to the landlord for the whole estate, as the Estates Commissioners do under Section 6, *i.e.*, they might obtain from the tenants whose holdings they did not propose to treat, undertakings to buy at a price corresponding to what they were offering the landlord. If the terms were accepted, the Board could at once re-sell the portion that did not require treatment, and proceed to re-settle the portion that did require treatment. If the offer were refused the negotiations would break down.

(2.) If the tenants asked the Board to buy, they would have to get permission from the landlord to make an inspection. If he refused, the negotiations would fail unless it was decided to apply compulsion. If the landlord consented, and, if on making an inspection, the Board came to the conclusion that a large number of holdings might pass without treatment, they would inform the landlord that they were willing to offer £*x* for the part that needed treatment (A), and to issue a certificate for the remainder (B) in case he arranged terms with the tenants. If he accepted and if he arranged terms with the tenants on B, the sale would go through as before. If the landlord agreed to the Board's price for A, but failed to come to terms with the tenants on B, or *vice versa*, the procedure indicated above might be followed.

(3.) If the Board took the initiative, and the landlord consented to inspection, they would base their offer upon the undertakings that the tenants whose holdings they did not purpose to treat were willing to enter into, and on what they thought was the proper price for the balance; if the offer was accepted things would go through as before.

222. If the Board and the tenants failed to come to terms with the landlord, it would be open to the Board to exercise compulsion, provided that the tenants, or a certain proportion of them, undertook to re-buy on the terms at which the Board may have to buy from the landlord under the compulsory scheme.

223. The following points may be noted in connection with the foregoing:—

(*a*.) The inducement to the tenants whose holdings were not being improved to buy would be the advantage of speedy sale (since their holdings would not be kept on hands for two or three years), and the prospect of immediate relief, since the Board would put these tenants

on interest, in lieu of rent, the moment the agreement was completed, as the Estates Commissioners do under Section 6. Moreover, these men would know that, as their holdings were fairly economic and would not be improved, they could secure no advantage by delay. XXXII.—*Continued.*

Direct sales to be allowed only on certificate of Board.

(*b.*) The advantage to the landlords would be that, as regards the greater portion of their estate, they could proceed by direct sale if they so wished, and sell whenever they wished, instead of waiting until the Board saw fit to approach them.

(*c.*) The advantage to the Board and the public would be the shortening of the period during which it would be necessary for the Board to operate. We recommend later in this Report that the Board should on the average buy and sell £1,000,000 worth of land each year, and in order to enable them to confine the million a year to the cases which really needed their assistance, a means must be devised of enabling other sales to go through concurrently. It would therefore seem desirable that a further sum of, say, £500,000 should, for a certain number of years, be set aside for the purchase of estates, or portions of estates, within the Board's area, which have been certified as suitable for direct sale, or for the purchase of portions of estates, which the Board have agreed to buy from the landlord, solely for the purpose of re-selling to the tenants without treatment.

See paragraph 295.

XXXIII.—The Amount of Land Purchase to be effected by the Board.

224. In an earlier portion of our Report an attempt was made to estimate the size of the problem before the Board, of raising holdings to an economic standard. It was pointed out that the total number of holdings in the Board's area, according to the Census of 1901, is 180,320, of which over two thirds do not exceed £10 valuation. It was also stated that 39,000 holdings had, up to the 31st December last, been bought under the Land Purchase Acts within the Board's area (exclusive of the four rural districts of Cork), and that 28,000 holdings were the subject of purchase agreements pending on the same date. Some of these 28,000 cases will have been completed before the new Board comes into existence, and purchase agreements will have been lodged in respect of other holdings not at present affected. It is extremely difficult to estimate the number of pending cases with which the Board should or could deal.

See paragraphs 111–3.

XI., p. 51.

225. Probably the total number of holdings that will remain to be sold when the new Board comes into existence will not be less than 120,000, including not only holdings unaffected by purchase negotiations, but also those pending cases in which it would be necessary and possible for the Board to intervene. As the total valuation of all the holdings in the Board's area is £2,174,046, the valuation of these 120,000 holdings will probably be not less than £1,400,000. It will not be necessary for the Board to deal with all these holdings, as in some cases an estate, or portions of an estate, will pass direct from landlord to tenant on the certificate of the Board. As regards other estates the intervention of the Board will be in part nominal, as portions of some estates bought will be forthwith re-sold to the tenants without treatment. It is very difficult to estimate what proportion of the land within the Board's area can thus pass. The Chief Land Inspector to the Board very roughly estimated it at one-quarter of the total. This would indicate that the land to be bought and re-settled by the Board would have a valuation of not less than £1,000,000.

XI., Q. 59408.

226. A somewhat similar result is suggested if figures relating to holdings as distinguished from estates or portions of estates are examined. It was suggested in paragraph 113 that the maximum size of the problem of the enlargement of holdings was that involved in dealing with 80,000 holdings (with an estimated valuation of £350,000), and that the additional land necessary for this purpose would have a valuation of about £450,000, making

XXXIII.—*Continued.*

The amount of land purchase to be effected by the Board.

a total valuation of £800,000 for 80,000 holdings. As the Board will have to deal with many other holdings requiring re-settlement, other than enlargement, it seems pretty clear that the figure of one million pounds given above as the valuation of the land to be treated by the Board is not excessive, but it is impossible to give figures that can be regarded as in any way definite.*

227. As we suggest that the Board should buy and re-sell each year land costing one million pounds, it is obvious that, if the average number of years' purchase given by the Board is 20, it will take 20 years to carry out its work of land transfer, if the foregoing estimate, that the total amount of land to be bought and resold by the Board has an annual valuation of £1,000,000, be accepted. If the number of years' purchase given rises to 25, the time required would be 25 years, whilst if 30 years' purchase is given the period would be similarly extended. It has also been suggested that half a million a year should be available for the purchase of estates which do not require treatment by the Board, and as the estimated valuation of such land is not greater than £400,000, it is obvious the transfer of this land may be completed some years before the transfer of the land needing treatment. The period thus indicated for the operations of the Board is undoubtedly long. but it does not seem possible for the Board, at any rate for some years, to deal with more land than has been suggested. Moreover, though land purchase has proceeded somewhat more rapidly over that part of Ireland, which is outside the area assigned to the Board, than within it, it does not seem likely that the transfer of property, to be carried out by the Land Commission, can be effected very much sooner than that carried out by the Board, unless a very marked increase is made in the amount annually available for land purchase. Whether this is so or not, it must be remembered that the resettlement of estates must necessarily be a more tedious process than that involved in direct sales.

XXXIV.—Provisions against Sub-division and Consolidation of Holdings.

228. All our recommendations so far have been concerned with the problems connected with the enlargement of small holdings to an economic standard. Obviously it is necessary to take precautions as far as possible against sub-division or consolidation of these holdings, tending in part to undo the efforts of the Board, upon which much time and money will have been spent. Some who sympathise with our proposals for increasing the size of small holdings fear that they are largely fore-doomed to failure owing to the tendency of the small farmer in the West of Ireland to sub-divide. There can be no doubt that much of the existing congestion has been brought about by this tendency, but although we think that legislative and administrative

* The difficulty of making any accurate estimate is mainly due to the following facts :—

(1.) No record is kept in the Land Commission of the valuation of the holdings sold. All that is shown in the return obtained is their total number and their total price; consequently, the number of large or small holdings that have been sold can only be guessed at.

(2.) The number of holdings that have been sold increases from day to day, and the number of pending cases is correspondingly diminished, though this decrease may be more than counterbalanced by an increase in the number of applications for advances. As the date when the new Board may come into existence is, of course, uncertain, it is impossible to do more than indicate in a very rough way the number of holdings that may remain to be dealt with by the Board.

(3.) It is impossible to say in advance how many of the small holdings already sold the Board may find it necessary, and possible, to enlarge, or how many large holdings already sold the Board may find it necessary to scale down to £100 valuation.

(4.) It is equally difficult to say how far the Board may find it possible to intervene in pending cases.

(5.) It is impossible to indicate how many holdings above £10 valuation the Board may find it necessary to deal with ; some will require radical re-settlement, others will be dealt with by the Board merely for the purpose of carrying out works common to each district, *e.g.* drainage works.

(6.) It is impossible to estimate the price of the tenancy interests which the Board may find it necessary to acquire.

checks upon this practice are useful, and should be made as effective as possible. There seems to be considerable ground for thinking that sub-division of holdings above the £10 standard will cease of its own accord.

XXXIV.—*Continued.*

Provision against sub-division and consolidation of holdings.

229. Mr. Commissioner Bailey, in a report which was presented to Parliament in 1903, stated that the tendency to sub-let or sub-divide holdings purchased under the Land Acts had been either dormant or extremely rare. "The general rule indeed," the report states, "is to add to holdings rather than diminish them in size, and this is especially the case among the small holdings of the West of Ireland." The truth seems to be that when the holding is economic, sub-division is uncommon, but where it is very small, sub-division is frequent. The occupier knows that he cannot live on the produce of the latter class of holding; he is dependent on other resources for his existence, and accordingly he sees no objection to making room for such of his family as require a living place.

Parliamentary paper No. 92 of 1903.

230. There can, however, be no doubt that the existing provisions against the sub-division or sub-letting of holdings subject to a land purchase annuity, without the consent of the Land Commission, should be rigorously enforced. It is not easy to suggest more drastic penalties than those provided in the Land Purchase Acts; the difficulty lies in detecting infringements of the law. If a tenant purchaser sub-divides or sub-lets his holding and desires that the new owner or lessee should pay the poor rate on the part transferred, the matter comes under the notice of the poor rate collector, who is bound under penalty to report the infraction of the law to the Land Commission. There is, however, at present no method for ascertaining secret sub-division or sub-letting. The Constabulary usually visit each holding during the summer for the purpose of collecting agricultural statistics, and they might be required to inform the Land Commission or the Board of any indication of sub-division or sub-letting that comes to their notice, such as the erection of a second dwelling-house. It would probably be useful for this purpose if some arrangement could be made for periodical inspections of holdings by the Board's officers. We would hope that, when these provisions have been operative for two generations, the tendency to sub-divide will be found to have disappeared, and that the higher standard of comfort to which the inhabitants of the West will have become accustomed during this period will be a sufficient safeguard against any sub-division that would entail reducing that standard.

231. A tenant purchaser, however, can always free himself from these restrictions, by redeeming the outstanding amount of the advance that had been made for the purchase of his holding. The provision contained in the original draft of the Land Act of 1903 for the imposition of a small perpetual quit rent was intended to secure for ever the prevention of sub-division and similar evils. It might be sufficient to prohibit for a considerable period sub-division or sub-letting, without the consent of the Land Commission or the Board, of any holding sold by means of an advance under the Land Purchase Acts, despite the fact that the advance had since been paid off. Any infringement of this provision might be visited with penalties as in the case of holdings still subject to purchase annuities.

232. As regards the opposite evil of alienation and consolidation, at present no holding under £10 valuation within the congested districts which has been bought by means of an advance under the Land Purchase Acts, can be sold by the purchaser to anyone except the occupier of a holding in the neighbourhood or the Land Commission. We are of opinion that no obstacle should be put in the way of an industrious small farmer improving his position, but it will for a considerable time be necessary to take drastic steps to prevent the alienation of small holdings to unsuitable people. Accordingly we recommend that no holding within the Board's area which has been sold under the Purchase Acts, whether or not it is still subject to a purchase annuity, should be sold without the concurrence of the Board, who should have the same right of pre-emption over the holding, as they generally have over a farm on an estate which they have purchased.

54 & 55 Vic., c. 48, sect. 37 (3).

XXXIV.—*Continued.*

Provision against sub-division and consolidation of holdings.

233. There is at present a danger in cases of alienation, that if the Board spend money on improving a holding for which they do not charge the purchaser the full value, they may have to buy back from the tenant the improvements effected with their own money, or that, if they do not exercise the right of pre-emption, the incoming tenant may have to pay an excessive price. Thus, if the Board had paid the landlord £250 for the holding, had spent £150 in equipping or enlarging it, and then re-sold the holding to the tenant for £300, they were giving him, at less than cost price, a valuable addition to the holding, in order that he might have a reasonable prospect of making a decent living from the holding. If, however, he were to arrange to sell the holding subject to the purchase annuity for, say, £200, £100 might represent his former interest in the holding, and the other £100 might represent that part of the improvements made by the Board and not charged for in the annuity. Thus the Board would have to buy back the value of the improvements for which they had not charged the tenant, or else the incoming purchaser would have to pay the outgoing man for what the Board did not consider it safe to charge the occupier, and consequently might enter with a ruinous burden of debt round his neck. Probably the simplest way to meet this difficulty would be to have a clause in the vesting order providing that if the holding is sold within a certain period the Board should be entitled to receive a certain sum representing the value of the improvements made but not charged for. The Board would, of course, exercise their discretion as to the cases in which they should enforce their powers.

234. We do not, however, anticipate that many small farmers, whose holdings have been re-settled by the Board, are likely to sell voluntarily, for few of those would know how to employ the money they got except in farming somewhere else. "In Connaught," the report, already referred to, on the condition of tenant purchasers, states, "we found less desire to sell their interest among tenant purchasers than in any of the other provinces. The prevailing anxiety is to retain their holdings at any cost. 'I could well perceive,' says our Inspector, 'the love these people have for their little homes, and how desperate must be their position before parting with them, and purchase seems to make them cling to them more even than before.' In Galway, Roscommon, Mayo, and Sligo, we invariably found that the people have no wish to leave their holdings unless forced by absolute necessity."

235. It is, we think, necessary to give the occupiers of small holdings, whether purchased or not, within the Board's area, some further defence against involuntary alienation caused by the money lender, either as a creditor or mortgagee, but we shall recur to this subject in dealing with the question of the extension of credit facilities and restraints on mortgaging.

See paragraphs 247–9.

XXXV.—Machinery and Funds for Work of Agricultural Development.

236. The large proportion of this Report that has been devoted to considering the amount of land required for raising uneconomic holdings to a proper standard, what amount may be obtained, what powers are necessary for its acquisition, how the price to be paid should be arrived at, and similar questions, is due to our conviction that it is to the land that the great majority of the people within the Board's area must look for a living, and also because we believe that an enlargement of most uneconomic holdings is the condition precedent to any marked agricultural development. We think that by the expenditure of a considerable sum of money and the exercise of tact and patience this essential work of enlarging small holdings can be accomplished, but we are absolutely convinced that unless the people thus benefited make great improvements in their methods of agriculture, the results achieved will be incommensurate with the time and money expended. Hence we consider that the provision of the necessary funds, and of the best machinery for agricultural development is a matter of great importance.

See paragraphs 57–62.

See paragraphs 63–7.

237. We have already considered what the Board did for the development of agriculture within their area, and have described the conditions under which the work was transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction. Numerous witnesses have criticised the way in which the Department have carried out the work of agricultural development in the

congested areas, since 1904, as compared with the work the Board did before that year. As regards a good deal of this criticism, we consider that insufficient allowance has been made for the following facts:— XXXV.—*Continued.*

Machinery and Funds for work of Agricultural Development.

(*a.*) When the Board relinquished their work it had been operating for twelve years in the congested areas; when the Department took over the work they had been operating for only three years in non-scheduled Ireland, and their staff was fully occupied in bringing into play the elaborate machinery created by their Act for the immense work of developing the agricultural resources of Ireland. Only four years have elapsed since the taking over of the work by the Department, or one-third of the time during which the Board was engaged in the promotion of agriculture, and the Department naturally took some time to realise the exceptional nature of the treatment required for the congested districts.

(*b.*) The Department were given only £2,000 a year to carry on work upon which the average expenditure of the Board had been £11,000 a year, and to supplement this small grant the Department, with the concurrence of the Agricultural Board, had to take money from their endowment which was originally given for non-congested Ireland, and which was almost entirely hypothecated thereto. At first the Department were undoubtedly greatly hampered by the insufficiency of the funds, then deemed available. Thus in the first year or two they were able to employ only a few instructors instead of the twenty-one resident overseers and the seventeen additional temporary overseers who were at work in the congested districts last summer. The sums devoted to the congested districts by the Department and the Agricultural Board have increased each year until they reached the present figure of £10,000, but the end of the Department's reserve is now reached, and, at the conclusion of the present financial year, they will be unable to carry on the work which is being done at present, unless more funds are provided.

(*c.*) Mr. Wyndham's minute, to which the Department and the Agricultural Board seem to have attached great importance, contemplated that agricultural development could not be carried on in future in the scheduled areas as freely as in the past. "They (the scheduled districts) will, however, surrender in respect of agricultural schemes a part of their right to preferential treatment." The people in the congested districts do not, however, seem to have realised that they were called upon to relinquish part of their preferential treatment. The hope, held out by Mr. Wyndham, of future aid to the Department in their work in the congested districts has not yet been realised, and the Department have never been free from the handicap of insufficient resources for expenditure in the congested districts—insufficient certainly according to the expectations of the people who had in view the standard set by the Board. I. p. 269.

(*d.*) The change from the Board's system of assistance, through schemes framed with regard only to the interests of the congested districts and administered from head-quarters, to the Department's system of assisting only those who were willing and able to help themselves, through schemes administered for the most part by the people themselves, and framed with an eye not only to the interests of the locality but also to the agricultural interests of Ireland as a whole, was not likely to become popular in the areas in which the change took place. Some of these areas were not ripe for too rigid an application of self-help, and, as events proved, it took a considerable time for the people to realise the nature of this great change. The poorer districts undoubtedly suffered from the unavoidable abatement of preferential treatment as regards agricultural development.

238. It seemed desirable to point out the qualifications affecting any comparison between the Board and the Department, but, it does not seem that it would serve any useful purpose to follow up the comparison, especially as during the last two years a Committee has inquired into the working of the Department and reported thereon. It was suggested by some witnesses that the development of agriculture within the Board's area should be re-transferred from the Department. On this proposal Cd. 3572–1907.

XXXV.—*Continued.*

Machinery and Funds for work of Agricultural Development.

it may suffice for us to remark:—(*a*) that the new area of the Board is double that of the old, and that, consequently, the re-transfer would mean an immense addition to the Board's labours; (*b*) that additional expense would be involved, as the Board would require, in addition to local inspectors and instructors, who must be employed by whichever body does the work, a highly-skilled headquarter staff similar to that possessed by the Department; (*c*) that it would re-introduce the evil of dual administration without compensating advantages. This evil would be especially noticeable in agriculture, as much co-ordination has been effected by the Department between the administration of agricultural development and the administration of veterinary and public health laws, transit regulations, and laws against adulteration of food and feeding stuffs. The existence in adjoining counties of different systems of development, framed on different, sometimes conflicting ideals, and administered by different staffs, would not make for smooth working, and would inevitably give rise to irritating comparisons. Moreover, the local authorities have now become accustomed to the exercise of certain powers in respect of the administration of the rate and the Department's grant; over the supplementary schemes of the Department they also appear to be exercising or seeking some control; and to deprive them of such power as they now possess would give rise to discontent. While the work of the County Committees will, for some time, require to be considerably supplemented in the poorer districts, it would be a retrograde step to diminish their present powers or to impose limits to their development. The true line of progress seems to be to encourage the gradual increase of their powers and responsibility for agricultural development.

239. We therefore recommend that the Department should continue to do the work of agricultural development in the Board's area on an extended scale, and that certain modifications should be made in the present machinery in order to bring the Department's schemes of development into greater harmony with the special wants of the poorer districts. It is clear that the agricultural development to which we attach so much importance is work requiring the active co-operation of the people concerned, and we noticed that some of the witnesses who appeared before us seemed dissatisfied with the constitution and methods of the Department. We have no doubt that it will be absolutely necessary for the farmers of the West, especially those whose holdings are enlarged, to utilise to the full the existing facilities provided by the Department—over which the people have more control than over any other department of Government. This they can do without prejudice to their right of seeking, through their representatives in Parliament or on the Council of Agriculture, to bring about any changes in the constitution or methods of the Department which they deem advisable.

240. Additional funds will be required for the agricultural development which we contemplate, but it is clear that the poor circumstances of the Board's area call not merely for more generous treatment than the rest of Ireland, but also for more detailed and exceptional treatment. It, therefore, seems advisable to bring the Agricultural Board and the Department into closer touch than they are at present with the requirements of the poorer portions of the Board's area, and indeed to bring each County Committee into closer touch with the poorer parts of their own county. Owing to the difficulties of distance, expense, etc., the representatives of many of the poorer districts are unable to attend the monthly meetings of the County Committees, and make their wants and wishes known. The evidence given before the Commission went to show that schemes which were excellent for Ireland as a whole, or even for parts of some of the counties containing congested districts, were quite unsuited for poorer parts of the same counties. Moreover, there can be no doubt as to the desirability of the Board being able, in co-operation with the Department, to provide for concentration of effort either in a particular district or on a particular phase of agriculture. Thus if a great grazing tract was acquired by the Board and cut up into small holdings for migrants, the need of concentration in that district, and of giving special attention to the encouragement of tillage is obvious; and instances of this sort could be easily multiplied.

XXXV.—*Continued.*

Machinery and Funds for work of Agricultural Development.

241. The practical difficulty is how to give the Congested Districts Board an effective voice, without setting up dual administration or unnecessarily complicating the difficulties of the Department's officers. If the powers of the Agricultural Board, over schemes to be adopted by the Department and the County Committees, were transferred to the Congested Districts Board, as regards such supplementary schemes as are found necessary in their area, the County Committee and the Department might be engaged in carrying out quite different schemes in the same county, and the local authorities, as well as the Department's officers, might thus find themselves in an impossible position. Another suggestion made was that a joint committee of the Agricultural Board and of the Congested Districts Board should exercise, as regards the nine counties, the powers at present exercised by the Agricultural Board all over Ireland. This scheme seems to be open, though in a less degree, to the same objections.

242. There seems, however, no reason why the Department and the Congested Districts Board could not by conference and consultation come to an understanding as to the schemes to be carried out within the Board's area, and as to the principle on which such work should be done. With consultations from time to time as to details, we think that no real difficulty could arise in the way of satisfactory co-operation between the two bodies. We are strongly of opinion that, having regard to the powers of the Agricultural Board in settling the general outlines of the policy of agricultural development to be pursued throughout Ireland, much advantage might ensue if the Congested Districts Board were allowed to nominate two additional members to the Agricultural Board, to represent the special wants of the congested districts. We think that the two persons so nominated should also be *ex-officio* members of the Council of Agriculture, of each County Committee of Agriculture within the Board's area, and, also, of any special committee formed to meet the wants of remote or exceptionally poor congested districts. Moreover, we think that the elected representative on the Congested Districts Board of each county should be *ex-officio* a member of all agricultural and technical instruction committees in his own county.

243. It is obvious that the above machinery for agricultural development though applicable to the Counties of Donegal, Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo, Clare, and Kerry, will need some modification as regards that portion of Cork which we think should be placed under the Board. Probably the simplest plan will be for a joint committee of the four rural districts of Bantry, Castletown, Skibbereen, and Schull, to be formed with powers, in respect of these districts, similar to those possessed by the County Councils and County Committees in the other counties. This Committee would elect the Cork representative to the Congested Districts Board and, while the County Council would have to levy the rate, it would pay the money raised therefrom in these four rural districts to the joint Committee, as at present it pays the rate levied over the whole county to the County Committee.

244. As regards the money required, we are of opinion that, since the income of the Department was given to them for non-congested areas, their funds must be increased, if they are in future to supplement the penny rate that may be levied in congested areas, by the amount necessary *i.e.*, about £3,000 a year. This grant would enable the Department to carry out the ordinary county scheme in the present scheduled areas, and would be in substitution of the present subvention of £2,000 given by the Board. As regards the money required for supplementary schemes, it appears that the Board were spending in the scheduled areas about £11,000 a year before the transfer. The Department spent during the last financial year about £10,000 and propose to spend the same amount this year, but they regard this sum as inadequate. Professor Campbell in his evidence estimated the amount required for Connaught, Donegal, and Kerry, at £31,000. The Department have since stated that the amount required for agricultural development in the eight counties and the four rural districts in Cork, which we recommend should form the future area of the Board, will

IV. p. 220.

XXXV.—*Continued.*

Machinery and funds for work of Agricultural Development.

be not less than £25,000, in addition to the sum raised by the penny rate and the corresponding grant in aid made by the Department. It is not easy, on the evidence before us, to offer an authoritative opinion on the point, but it does seem clear that certainly not less than £20,000 a year (exclusive of the £3,000 a year mentioned above for backing the penny rate in the congested districts) should be assigned to the most important work of agricultural development within the Board's area.

245. Numerous suggestions were made to the Commission about changes that might be advantageous in the present methods of agricultural development, but as the whole question of the Department's powers to carry out this work and the suitability of the methods adopted have been recently inquired into, it does not seem necessary for us to go into the question. There was, however, one criticism directed against a method adopted both by the Board and the Department, namely, the employment of itinerant instead of resident instructors, that is so typical of many difficulties that it may be useful to notice it. This criticism is very similar to those frequently passed on short industrial courses. No one doubts that resident instructors or long courses are, other things being equal, preferable to itinerant instructors or short courses, but it is entirely a question of money. The difficulty with the Board was how to get the best advantage from a certain limited sum of money, and this difficulty was intensified under the Department, since every district contributed to the rate which was levied to defray part of the cost, and, hence, had a claim to share in the advantages to be derived from the instruction. As funds were limited, the only way to meet these claims rapidly was to spread the instructors' work over a large area, either by means of a succession of short courses or by means of itinerant instructors. There can be no doubt that in the future the number of instructors for the poorer parts of the Board's area will have to be increased no matter whether their services are confined to the particular locality in which they are resident or whether they are itinerant over smaller districts than at present. One instructor in every parish would be very useful, but also very costly, and the question in the future, as in the past, is how to get the best advantage for a certain limited amount of money. It may be found useful to employ itinerant instructors over the greater part of the Board's area and to concentrate each year, or every two or three years, upon a few districts, especially districts that have just been resettled, and there employ a number of resident instructors.

246. A point on which considerable evidence was given was the establishment of school farms and school gardens, but as any recommendation on this point would involve a consideration of important educational questions, on which we have not taken evidence, and upon which we do not feel competent to express an authoritative opinion, we content ourselves with observing that several of our number are impressed with the necessity for preparing, in the primary schools, the rural population for an agricultural life.

See pp. 202 and 206.

XXXVI.—Drainage and Afforestation.

247. Two matters closely connected with agricultural development—namely, drainage and afforestation—require further consideration. Few questions were referred to more frequently in the evidence given before us than the desirability of making better provision for the construction and maintenance of drainage works both large and small, and our tours in the West of Ireland confirmed the statements made as to the urgency of this matter. Whether the existing drainage code was well adapted to the circumstances existing at the time it was enacted or not, there can be little doubt that it is unsuitable and inadequate for present needs, and we are convinced of the urgent necessity for devising and putting into force a better system. It seems quite clear that a central drainage department should be established and endowed for the carrying out and maintenance of schemes affecting large areas, and for the exercise of general supervision, both as regards construction and maintenance, over the local drainage bodies which should look after smaller schemes. It also seems

desirable that these bodies should be linked on to, or at any rate associated with, the existing local rating authorities. It is difficult to indicate what amendments of the present law are desirable in order to facilitate the Board in carrying out drainage works, apart from a complete revision of the drainage code as a whole, and we are relieved from dealing with this very important matter in detail, as a Viceregal Commission has within the last couple of years inquired into the question, and their report suggests what seems, in the main, to be a satisfactory solution. We have only to add that no remedy that can be suggested for the problem of the West will be effectual, in many districts, until the drainage question is adequately dealt with.

XXXVI.—*Continued.* Drainage and Afforestation.

Cd. 3374–1907.

248. The Commission received evidence that in some of the poorest regions, such as Connemara, there were large tracts more suitable for extensive afforestation operations than for any other purpose, and it was suggested that such a utilisation of the land would from the first afford considerable employment. We do not consider it necessary to go into the matter at any length for several reasons, especially as a Departmental Committee has recently inquired into the matter, but we are of opinion that a forestry department or branch should be created to deal with this work over the whole of Ireland, and that it should be their duty to direct particular attention to the possibilities of the Board's area for afforestation. It would be well that the Board should, when they acquire land suitable for this purpose, make an offer to the Forestry Authority, and we also think that co-operation of County Councils and other local bodies should be enlisted. The Board should at the same time do everything they can towards encouraging within its area the plantation of shelter belts and discouraging the cutting down of trees, except in a husbandlike manner. Wherever a tenant-purchaser has a plantation on his holding it may be desirable to introduce a covenant against waste into his vesting order, though we cannot disguise from ourselves that there are difficulties in enforcing observance of the covenant.

XXXVII.—Sporting Rights.

249. Our attention has been directed to the question of shooting and fishing rights, and especially to the fact that after the failure of the Board's attempt to reserve the sporting rights on the Dillon Estate, they passed a resolution that their policy should be either

I., p. 233.

(*a.*) To reserve these rights to the Board for the benefit of purchasers.

(*b.*) To invite the purchasers to form a representative committee, and to vest the sporting rights in the committee, or in trustees nominated by the committee, for the benefit of the new peasant proprietors.

It has been stated that, since this resolution was passed, the vendor, in a few cases, retained sporting rights when selling to the Board, and that where he did not do so the sporting rights have generally been conveyed to the tenants individually. We consider that this fact raises a grave question. In some cases sporting rights are of practically no value; in other cases they are of some importance; and in some cases (*e.g.*, in certain parts of Connemara) sporting rights, especially fishing rights, are more valuable than the land itself. Under the existing law, landlords and tenants can arrange for the retention by the former, or the conveyance to the latter, of the sporting rights, and we see no reason why this freedom of bargaining should be interfered with. Where, however, the Board acquire the rights, and they are of any appreciable value, either in themselves or because they are close to valuable sporting properties, we are of opinion that they should not, on re-sale, be vested in the tenants individually. As is explained in the separate note (B) attached to this Report, such dissipation of rights amongst a number of small occupiers, usually results in a great depreciation of an asset that is sometimes of considerable value. We think that the Board should either themselves retain the rights, where, from any cause they are of value, and manage them for the benefit of the tenant purchasers whose holdings are affected thereby, or else vest them in trustees, or a committee of the tenants for the same purpose somewhat on the lines adopted by the Congested Districts

See p. 125.

XXXVII.—*Continued.*

Sporting rights.

Board for Scotland It may be objected that this method assumes that the whole body of tenants upon an estate, and not merely those upon whose holdings game is found, should provide the necessary sum for acquiring the sporting rights from a landlord. For instance, the tenant of a purely grass holding might have an addition made to his annuity for the acquisition of rights to kill game—when such game is seldom if ever to be found upon his holding. It seems to us, however, that any attempt to make a selection of tenants upon an estate, who could fairly be called upon for an increase of annuity in respect of sporting rights, would involve an apportionment of value practically impossible, for under such an arrangement each holding would have to be separately assessed so far as its sporting value was concerned, in order to arrive at the fair increase of annuity to be charged. Under these circumstances we of are opinion that common rather than individual ownership should be aimed at—that all the tenants upon an estate should contribute to the sum required for the acquisition of the sporting rights, and that they should receive in return a proportionate amount of the revenue received from the letting of such rights by the committee in whom they have been vested by the Board. We believe that if they are properly managed public support will be enlisted on the side of proper preservation, to the great pecuniary advantage of the district affected. It only remains to point out that where the rights are of exceptional value, the tenants cannot hope to acquire them except at a price out of all proportion to the agricultural value of their holdings.

XXXVIII.—Maintenance of Improvements and Work of Parish Committees.

250. In addition to improvements effected in holdings before re-sale by the Board there is considerable work to be done on the holdings after they are vested in the tenant-purchasers. Thus, during the time an estate is in the hands of the Board, it is seldom found possible to effect much in the way of house improvements, as the men are generally employed by the Board on estate works, and hence improvements and additions to dwelling-houses, out-offices, fences, and small drains have generally to be carried out after vesting. At present the Board frequently make loans for these purposes, and they sometimes get the work done through the stimulus supplied by parish committees, sometimes it is done by the occupier without assistance, and in other cases it is left undone. We are of opinion that the parish committees should not be regarded as otherwise than of temporary duration, but it seems probable that, for several years after the sale of an estate in a poor parish, they can be most useful, in fact even more useful and economical than before. Where it is not possible or desirable for the Board to do much in the way of land re-settlement, *e.g.*, amongst a community of farming fishermen, &c., the parish committees apparently have special scope for their work of house improvement. In order to encourage the more general adoption of, and persistence in, spraying it might be found useful to utilise the machinery of parish committees, and similarly their grants might be of aid in inducing fishermen to take better care of their gear.

251. It has been suggested that district sub-committees organised under a county committee would be an improvement upon parish committees, but there seems to be reason to think that no committee with purely advisory functions will be able to do much good for some time, at any rate, in the poorer parts of the West. If the sub-committees suggested are given powers similar to those of the parish committees, then the new committees must be numerous, for the minute work done through the existing committees could hardly be supervised by a body dealing with an area larger than a parish. If the suggested sub-committees were organised in each parish they would probably differ little in *personnel* from the parish committee, so it is somewhat hard to see what would be the precise object of the suggested change. The question of modifications of the parish committee could be best decided by the new Board, and must depend very largely on the facts in each case. In this connection it may be remarked that, as parish committees are suitable only for a very poor and depressed community, we do not think that they should be introduced into the richer portions of the added areas of the Board.

XXXVIII.—*Continued.*

Maintenance of improvements and work of Parish Committees.

252. The question of the maintenance of improvements effected by the Board has presented great difficulties. It has been pointed out that though it may be difficult to get landholders in the west of Ireland to make improvements it is still more difficult to get them maintained. For this reason the Board have wherever possible got the local authorities to make presentments in respect of marine works, roads, bridges, &c., as by doing so the duty of maintenance falls upon the local authorities. This is, however, impossible in the case of small accommodation roads and, of course, as regards all works carried out on holdings. Where the improvement has been effected before the holding was vested in the occupier, it would be possible to make the beneficiaries legally liable for maintenance, by the insertion of a covenant to this effect in the vesting order, breach of the covenant to be punished by fine or, ultimately, by the sale of the holding. As regards the maintenance of improvements carried out through the assistance given by the Parish Committee, future recipients of these grants might be required to enter into undertakings for their maintenance, and the responsibility of seeing that the works were attended to might be thrown upon the Parish Committee and their supervisors. The chief trouble will arise from the difficulties of inspection. If, as we hope the policy that underlay the recommendations of the Vice-Regal Commission on Arterial Drainage is given effect to, and a central authority established with local branches, they might relieve the Board of the responsibility of supervising the maintenance of drainage works common to a number of occupiers. The maintenance of smaller drainage works and of accommodation roads will be more difficult than of works on individual holdings since the responsibility must be divided amongst several landholders. In cases of neglect the Board might be given the power of carrying out the necessary repairs and of apportioning the cost amongst those benefited, and the duty of collecting this money might be thrown upon the local authority in the same way as local or separate charges are collected. There might be an appeal to the County Court from the Board's assessment.

Cd. 3374–1907.

253. There is a further question connected with the improvement of dwelling-houses and the building of out-houses for cattle, &c., to which our attention was called, namely that small landholders are often discouraged from making these improvements by the fact, that, as a result, their poor law valuation is increased. As the rates in many parts of the congested districts are extremely high, an addition to the valuation by reason of improvements may mean a comparatively heavy tax which tends to discourage, at any rate, non-productive, improvements. Relief might be afforded by exempting agricultural holdings below, say, £20 valuation for a certain number of years from an increase in their valuation, in consequence of improvements effected in the dwelling-houses and out-offices. It may be noted, in this connection, that Section 5 of the Marine Works Act of 1902, provides that a certified work, or any work ancillary thereto, shall not, for a period of ten years from the completion of the work, be assessed to any local rate at a higher value than that at which the land occupied by the work would have been assessed, if it had remained in the condition in which it was immediately before it was acquired for the purposes of the work.

2 Ed. VII., c. 24 sect. 5.

XXXIX.—Agricultural Co-operation and Re-organisation of Credit.

See paragraph 236.

254. We have indicated our belief that it will not be sufficient to give the small farmers of the West more land, unless they are properly educated to make the best use of it. We also think that they need organisation for many purposes, notably, in order to market their produce to the best advantage. Agricultural co-operation has been found necessary in most countries where there are a large number of peasant proprietors, for overcoming the disadvantages from which small occupiers suffer, by reason of their isolation, in the face of highly organised modern competition. Much hopeful work has been already done in Ireland, in this respect, and it is important to note that the Departmental Committee that recently inquired into the subject of small holdings in Great Britain strongly recommended the promotion of all forms of agricultural co-operation, especially the formation of agricultural credit societies. We have

[Cd. 3277, 1906.]

XXXIX.—*Continued.*

Agricultural co-operation and re-organisation of credit.

already considered the steps that have been taken by the Board in conjunction with the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society in this direction, and few subjects seem to us deserving of more attention than the re-organisation of rural credit. This involves an extension of desirable credit facilities and a curtailment of uneconomical indebtedness.

255. The enormous indebtedness of the small landholder in the West is unfortunately beyond doubt; the creditors are mostly shopkeepers, partly for shop goods and partly for money lent. There can be no question as to the evil results of the system. Even the ordinary and, perhaps, inevitable indebtedness of many of the small men of the West is often enormously increased by a system somewhat analogous to "truck," under which the shopkeeper purchases much of the produce of his debtor (butter, eggs, knitted goods, sometimes cattle), often at a reduced price, which is not paid for in cash, but merely entered "on account" of an existing debt. It is not suggested that a large proportion of shopkeepers in the congested districts abuse their opportunities, but the temptation to make improper use of the power thus obtained, especially where there is a monopoly, is often irresistible, and even the credit system honestly carried out is liable to abuse. On the other hand, it must be recognised that a small farmer, who unlike an artisan, receives his income at comparatively irregular intervals, must have credit for shop goods, and also that careful borrowing for reproductive purposes is just as important in agriculture as in any other business.

Parliamentary Paper No. 92 of 1903.

256. Mortgages have been described as the never-dying worm of peasant proprietorship, but Mr. Commissioner Bailey, in the report to which reference has been already made, drew attention to the care and circumspection the majority of tenant purchasers show in getting loans. He declared that "contrary to what might be expected, and, indeed, to the experience of most countries, the [land] purchase system has up to the present been unfruitful to the gombeen man who in many districts has not alone failed to extend his business, but has actually disappeared altogether." He, however, drew attention to the great need for more capital experienced by most purchasers, and it is obvious that the restrictions placed on the borrowing powers of peasant owners must be very carefully devised so as, on the one hand, to discourage improvident borrowing, and, on the other, to meet as far as possible legitimate demands for credit facilities. Under the 54th Section of the Land Act of 1903, no holding sold under the Land Purchase Acts after 1st November, 1903, can, without the consent of the Land Commission, be mortgaged or charged for a sum exceeding ten times the purchase annuity, or just less than one-third of the amount advanced. This limitation does not, however, seem sufficient to safeguard the small farmer, and we have already considered some restrictions upon the alienation of purchased holdings, but further protection is required and it might be desirable to introduce some provision analogous to the homestead laws that prevail in many of the United States of America and in some colonies.

257. A similar result might be arrived at, by the application to Ireland of the Bankruptcy Act of 1883, with some extension of Section 122, so that a small holding might be protected in the same way as a debtor's household goods, wearing apparel, and the tools and implements of his trade are up to the limit of £20. The same Act might also be applied to give an indebted small farmer relief by enacting that, when indebted to a certain amount, leave might be given to him to petition for the administration of his holding by the local County Court Judge, who might be empowered to make an order providing for the protection and the administration of the holding and for the payment of the petitioner's debts by instalment or otherwise, either in full or in part, and subject to any conditions as to future earnings or income that the court saw fit to impose. It might also be enacted that, as regards any mortgage on the holding effected after the commencement of the Act, the mortgagee should have no remedy against the holding except by leave of the court, or that such holdings should not be security for a mortgage or a bill of sale in future. These suggestions are necessarily somewhat tentative, but we

have no hesitation in stating that some provision to check the improvident pledging of small holdings in the West of Ireland will be necessary for, at least, a generation before the matter can safely be left to the enlightened self-interest of the small farmer.

XXXIX.—*Continued.* Agricultural co-operation and re-organisation of credit.

258. Such provisions would, however, be useless if they were not supplemented by an extension of the existing facilities for legitimate borrowing. It is difficult to over-estimate the effect that a well-organised system of agricultural credit would have upon the West of Ireland. To take one example, many of the migratory labourers who go to Great Britain in search of work are landholders, whose farms would profitably respond, were capital available, to a very considerable amount of labour intelligently applied. At present the lack of capital and the inability of a small landholder to wait over a season for the reward of his industry turns the balance in favour of migration. The Board at present make loans for house improvement, the erection of offices, the provision of stock, &c., and loans can be procured from the Board of Works for various purposes, though the regulations are not, perhaps, sufficiently elastic to meet the requirements of the West. There can be little doubt that small holders in the Board's area who obtain enlargements must get increased credit facilities, for equipping and stocking their land if they are to make the best use of it. This need among the poor communities in the Board's area may be met in part by an extension of the co-operative banks, which the Board and the Irish Agricultural Organisation Association seem to have developed in the west with great advantage to the districts concerned. The organisation of real as distinguished from personal credit is a more serious undertaking, but it must undoubtedly be faced and the creation of a peasant proprietary ought to clear away one great obstacle to the establishment of Land Banks, namely, the absence of a cheap, simple, and comprehensive system of registration of title. The reports made by Mr. H. de F. Montgomery and others as to the systems existing in some foreign countries, notably in Germany, indicate the possibility of meeting the other difficulties by a judicious combination of State aid and co-operative agricultural organisation, for, amongst other things, the mutual insurance of cattle.

See paragraphs 92–4.

See especially Bulletin No. 2, issued by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

XL.—Fishery Development.

259. After agriculture, the best hope of improving the condition of the people in the maritime parts of the Board's area probably lies in the development of the sea fisheries of the west coast. Attention was called during our sittings to the enormous difference between the value of the fish landed in England, Scotland, and Ireland. During the last few years the average has been :—England, £7,500,000 ; Scotland, £2,500,000, and Ireland £400,000. While these figures undoubtedly seem to suggest that the Irish fisheries should be capable of great development, it must be remembered that £400,000 does not represent the value of the fish caught off the Irish coast, as much of this is landed at various ports in England and Scotland owing to their proximity to the great centres of consumption. In view, however, of the great difficulty commonly experienced in obtaining fish in the inland parts of Ireland, it would appear that organisation and improved transit facilities would very materially increase the home demand for the harvest of the Irish seas. We have already considered what the Board have done in the past, and in judging of future developments of the west coast fisheries, the main points to be considered seem to be the supply of fish, the regularity with which men follow the fish, the provision of boats and the improvement of landing and marketing facilities.

See paragraphs 68–78.

260. As regards both mackerel and herrings the past history of Irish fisheries shows that the fish are extremely erratic in their movements through causes which it is hard to explain. The fish, after being in certain places in great quantities for a number of years, disappear sometimes for a very long period ; hence, so far as fishermen accustomed to fish only off their own coast are concerned, the industry cannot generally be regarded as being on a really permanent basis for large boats. The Donegal herring fishery has been for some years very successful, and at present even the large boats, though

XL.—*Continued.* Fishery development.

confining their attention to the coast of Donegal, make a very fair profit one year with another. Yet even here if the herrings disappear for years from the district, as they have done before, unless the fishermen follow the fish wherever they go, the local fishing fleet may again collapse. Even as it is, the migratory boats, mainly Scottish, that follow the fish all round the coast of the United Kingdom, are much more successful than the Irish boats which mainly confine their attention to their own shores. It may, therefore, be that the Irish fishing industry cannot be considered as being established on a really safe and permanent basis until the fishermen learn to follow the Scottish method.

261. This point seems to be closely connected with the question of the advisability for concentration as regards marine works for deep-sea fisheries. It has been frequently urged that the Board should spend money at numerous centres on boat slips and small harbours. In some cases, it would appear to have been thought that this is practically all that is necessary for developing the fishing industry around the greater part of the coast, and that it would enable men all along the sea-board to make a fairly good living without following the fish, or leaving their homes for any length of time. If it were possible to preserve for the inhabitants of any particular maritime district the exclusive right of fishing off their own coast, the view might be sound but for the vagaries of the fish. If, however, the Board were to spend money in developing any particular fishery, and if their efforts were attended by any marked measure of success, there would immediately be a large influx of Scottish, English or foreign fishermen, who spend their lives pursuing their trade wherever fish are to be found in paying quantities. The result would be that, for a time at any rate, the less well equipped and less experienced native fishermen would catch less than their competitors, and when the fishing was over in their district they would not be better qualified than they now are for following the fish round the coast.

262. The conclusion seems to be that, so uncertain are fish in their movements, so great is the mobility of the modern fishermen, so keen is competition, and so improved are the methods of communication, transit, &c., fishing does not furnish a really secure and permanent livelihood for a large number, unless the fishermen devote their attention almost exclusively to this business, and are accustomed not to confine their attention to their own coast, but to fish in each district in its season. Some Irish boats already do this, but the practice has not become general. It must be noted, however, that in comparatively recent years there has been an important development in the fishing trade which is likely to affect the prospects of the professional fishermen who use large sailing vessels, namely the increased use of steam drifters and steam trawlers. The thoroughness with which these vessels fish, the expedition with which they can go far afield and return, and the extent to which they deplete the more convenient fishing grounds may profoundly affect the future of sailing vessels. It is necessary, therefore, to bear in mind that before a very large number of fishermen can be induced to take to fishing as a continuous business, and follow the fish round the coast, fishing by steam drifters may have become practically the only profitable method.

263. As regards deep-sea fishing, the Galway and Mayo fisheries require development of a different sort from those of the south-west and north-west. Off Cork, Kerry, and Donegal the fishing may be regarded as fairly well established. The chief danger to be guarded against is the temporary disappearance of the fish, and hence the importance of teaching the fishermen not to confine their attention to their own shore only, but to follow the fish all round the coast, even though large sailing vessels are to be replaced by steam drifters. Progress in this direction must naturally be gradual, and in any case it cannot be expected that all the fishermen will do this, so that every development of the fisheries must be sought after and fresh fisheries exploited. Hence the importance of having scientific investigations and surveys of the waters off the western coast made with the object of ascertaining where fishing is likely to be profitable. There can be little doubt that this work must be carried out before any large developments can be hoped for. A certain amount of such work is already done by the Department (which is

XL.—*Continued.* Fishery development.

also responsible for the policing of the Irish coast, and is in touch with the investigations carried on by foreign countries) and it probably would be desirable to continue to carry out the scientific investigations and surveys through the fishery branch of the Department.

264. The Galway and Mayo problem is much more difficult; the human element is not, from a fishing point of view, so promising, though many of the fishermen are good boatmen, notably those of the South Connemara littoral. They have not hitherto been inclined to go to sea so far or for so long as successful deep-sea fishing requires, and it will apparently be some time before any considerable number of them are induced to become professional deep-sea fishermen. A good many, too, have yet to learn to take proper care of their gear. Moreover, the inhabitants of the Galway and Mayo coast—though perhaps the poorest class in the Board's area—have alternative occasional employments which hinder them from becoming regular deep-sea fishermen. As soon as there is any check in the fishing the tendency is to resume turf carrying or kelp making.

265. Little less than the creation of the off-shore fishing industry was, the task awaiting the Board here sixteen years ago, and in many localities the task is still before them. It is well known that at the beginning of the 19th century there was a great herring fishery off Connemara, of which Roundstone was the centre, but the attempts to revive it have not been very successful. Off the Galway coast the Board's successes have been achieved at Cleggan and Aran, and further development might be very marked, if the Clifden Railway could be extended to Cleggan. They have not been successful in their attempts to develop the Blacksod fishery and Broadhaven is thought to be the most likely future centre. It seems quite clear that the Board, in order to make the fishing in Galway and Mayo successful, will have to give much more help in the way of supervision, instruction, loans for boats, and assistance in marketing. Even then a large measure of success is doubtful, though there can be no question as to the advisability of continuing the attempt. The danger always remains, when dealing with a coast exposed to the prevailing westerly winds and the full sweep of the Atlantic, that seasons may come when for months large boats could not leave the harbours or more sheltered bays.

266. Generally speaking, inshore fishing, as it exists, can be regarded only as a subsidiary industry, except, perhaps, in connection with the autumn mackerel fishery in the south-west. In some places men make a fairly good living entirely from inshore fishing, especially from lobster fishing, if marketing facilities are convenient; but, for the most part, these men are partly dependent on their small holdings and must lead a somewhat amphibious existence. It would not seem desirable in general to attempt to effect any change in their condition. The majority of these men, like many of the maritime population, would not care to migrate inland, and probably many of them would not succeed very well if they did. In some places, especially in South Connemara, they do a very considerable export trade in turf, though supplies, conveniently situated, are diminishing, and to others kelp-making affords a not inconsiderable source of income. To a large number, however, inshore fishing is the most important business. Except in a few places where there are good landing places for large boats and transit facilities, it does not seem desirable to attempt to introduce deep-sea fishing, unless surveys and investigations indicate that there are really good fishing banks in the vicinity. The most that can be done is to assist the men to better, though not necessarily larger, boats, and to improve, where absolutely necessary, boat slips and landing places, though it is obviously impossible to meet a large proportion of the applications made in this respect.

267. Harbour accommodation is one of the most serious questions in connection with Irish fisheries. What has been done in the past has already been described at considerable length. In the future careful attention, and, so far as the fresh fish trade is concerned, concentration on suitable sites, served wherever possible by railways, should be insisted upon. As regards the cured fish trade the centres may be more numerous but they must necessarily be limited by what is a very practical limit, the possibility of

See paragraphs 71–3.

XI.—*Continued.* Fishery development.

providing additional marine works. As regards the provision of boats, instruction and getting into touch with markets, there can be little doubt as to the importance of the most thorough and complete organisation upon up-to-date business methods. The success of the late Mr. Duthie in stimulating the Donegal fisheries, and the benefits derived from his constant supervision lead us to believe that great advantage would accrue from having two or three men stationed at different centres round the coast, especially where there are great difficulties in the way of fostering the industry, *e.g.*, in South Galway. These superintendents would be controlled and directed by the paid member of the new Board appointed on account of his expert knowledge of the fishing trade. There has been a good deal of evidence given as to the desirability of special improvements in special districts, and a number of suggestions have been made as regards questions of detail, such as changes in the terms of loans for boats, insurance, &c., but these matters can be best settled by the fishery branch of the new Board.

268. In certain centres suitable for fishing, and served by railways, the Board might lend useful assistance in establishing fishing villages, especially where an increasing number take up the industry, and where it is desirable to induce a considerable number to devote their attention entirely to fishing. Proper housing accommodation should be secured for them, and if cottages could be built, with perhaps an acre of ground for a potato garden attached, and, where possible, accommodation for a cow, perhaps on grazing land held co-operatively, it would be an immense advantage, and would remove one of the chief reasons for sub-division. The funds for this work might well be provided out of the money that can be borrowed, on Land Purchase terms, for labourers' cottages under the Act of 1906. Such a system would enable the counties under the Board's control to obtain their share of the grants in aid, available under the Labourers Act, without an undesirable multiplication of cottages for agricultural labourers, for whose services there may be no continuous demand.

See paragraph 112 (6) (*d*) and also XI. p. 111.

XLI.—Industrial Development and Technical Instruction.

269. It is evident from what has been already said that we are of opinion that the great majority of the inhabitants not only of the present congested districts but also of the extended area which we suggest should be placed under the Board, must depend on the land, and that the prime necessity in the West of Ireland is to facilitate in every way the successful promotion of agriculture. Next in point of importance, but at a great interval, comes sea fishing, of which the future developments, though hopeful, are a little speculative. The importance given, in this Report, to agriculture, and in a less degree to fisheries, is not intended to deprecate or suggest the postponement of the development of other industries, which obviously must be regarded as of great importance, since they are a necessary part of any complete development of national life. We cannot, however, regard them, at any rate at present, as an alternative remedy to what we have already suggested for the relief of congestion, since we see no prospect of an immediate development of large industries in the West of Ireland. It cannot be said that the area with which we are concerned possesses any such exceptional natural advantages for the establishment of factory industries as to make it a promising ground. Its mineral resources in coal and iron are, so far as is known, limited. Its water power is hardly commensurate with its water supply, and, though considerable water power undoubtedly exists in many districts, its distribution and local circumstances seem in many cases to render its profitable application difficult. With the exception of peat, stone and wool, most of the raw materials would have to be imported. The means of communication are not good, and freights are stated to be high, the population is scattered and, for the most part, untrained to industry. In short the conditions are such that it is not probable that any factory industry for the employment of men, not at present in existence, could be introduced into the Board's area with more hope of success than into other parts of Ireland.

270. Nearly everywhere the Commission took evidence, people expressed a very natural desire to see industries established, but they were

generally unable to give much precise information as to what industries they thought capable of successful development, having regard to existing facts, or as to what the Board could do, that might not be done without the Board. The cheapness of labour was dwelt upon as a reason why industrial development should be easy within the congested districts, but low wages do not always mean cheap labour, and poorly paid labour is often the dearest. Moreover, if this labour, for which at present there is little demand, was employed on a large scale the wages would not remain low. Remarks were sometimes made which seem to suggest that industries would readily spring up in the congested districts, if the Board would supply capital and secure the services of industrial experts. Yet there seems to be no adequate reason for doubting that capital will find its way wherever there is a reasonable prospect of a fair return, and it is hard to believe that manufacturers or other industrial experts possess secrets of success which they will reveal only under the stimulus of a salary paid by the Board. At the same time the want of industrial training and habits has seriously prejudiced the growth of industrial development. These considerations must inevitably have the effect of throwing upon the Board the necessity of deciding whether and how far it is desirable for them to enter into competition with private enterprise.

271. The moral to be drawn from these remarks, is, not that no industrial development giving employment to men is possible within the Board's area, but that, owing to the inconquerable force of circumstances, the main outlet for the activity of labour in the poor districts of the West of Ireland must be the land, and that the Board will find it best to confine its attention, as regards large industrial enterprises, to the few industries for which the West seems to afford special advantage. We have considered it desirable to draw attention to certain conditions of success which are not always duly regarded, but if a careful consideration of the business aspects of a proposed industrial development suggests that there is a fair prospect of the industry, in a reasonable space of time, becoming self-supporting, there is no reason why the Board should not give such assistance as would be commensurate with the results anticipated.

272. The industries giving employment to men for which the congested districts appear to be specially suited, either because of the ready supply of the raw material or because of their connection with the existing fishing trade, seem to be as follows :—

(1.) Boat-building, barrel-making and net-making.—A considerable demand already exists for these articles in connection with the fishing industry, and that demand will increase with the advance in fishery development which we hope will be very marked. There seems to be no apparent reason why the great majority of the boats used should not be built in Ireland, and mainly on the west coast, and the same remark applies with greater force to barrel-making. At present only about one-third of the barrels used on the west coast are made there.

(2.) Woollen industry.—The example of Foxford, and one or two proprietary concerns near the congested districts, suggest that, with assistance and organisation, the number of woollen factories might be increased up to a certain point, but great care would have to be taken by the Board in giving any assistance. Thus, they should only aid factories established at convenient centres, that is convenient for obtaining sufficient labour and supply of raw material, with sufficient water power and suitable means of communication.

(3.) Quarrying.—There can be no doubt that there are quarries containing marble, sand-stone and granite of good quality in the West of Ireland, some of which appear to be capable of being worked successfully. The Board might well make inquiries and investigations, but, as regards assistance, concentration upon two or three places should be insisted upon, and dissipation of energy, over the numerous places where the inhabitants would like to see industries established, must be guarded against.

(4.) Kelp making.—On some parts of the coast, especially Donegal and Connemara, certain classes of seaweed are collected and burnt into what

XLI.—*Continued.* Industrial Development and Technical Instruction.

is known as "kelp." From this certain products are extracted, the most valuable now being iodine, and, until the discovery of the process of obtaining iodine from Chilian nitrate, high prices could be got for kelp, and the industry was an important means of livelihood in certain parts of the congested districts. Despite a great fall in price, the kelp industry is still an important source of income in some very poor parts of Ireland, especially on the coasts of Donegal and Connemara. We think that the new Board should consider very carefully the evidence given before the Commission regarding the manufacture of kelp, and devote special attention to the preservation, improvement and development of the industry.

(5.) Peat Industries.—These industries are still in an experimental state, and it would appear that the Board would do well to follow very closely any developments that may take place, especially in Germany where the matter has been for some time receiving careful attention, since it is obvious that if means for the profitable application of peat to purposes of manufacture should be devised, it will be a matter of very great importance to the West in view of its immense bogs.

(6.) It is possible that bacon-curing factories might be started with a fair prospect of success, especially in Mayo, where there are a large number of pigs kept, as a large and steady supply of the raw material in the locality seems to be a condition precedent to success in this industry.

273. There may, be other large industries which might be suitable for introduction into or extension in the Board's new area, but to which the attention of the Commission has not been drawn. If so, they should be carefully examined from a business point of view, and, in this connection, it is only right to point out that most of the witnesses who have dwelt upon the necessity of giving assistance to industrial developments, have told the Commission that their request was limited to such industries as the Board would be satisfied had a reasonable prospect of permanent success. In conclusion we may add that in our opinion it would be useful, if from time to time careful inquiries into the possibilities of mineral development and the utilisation of water power for manufacturing purposes were made by experts employed by the Board.

274. The cottage and home industries existing in the congested districts, the great assistance they are to the inhabitants, and the help that has been given by the Board, have been considered in an earlier part of this Report. While we think that the Board should continue to foster them in every possible way, it must be remembered that, with the exception of the woollen industry, they give employment to girls only, and that there are certain dangers inherent in a great promotion or extension of them, which must always be carefully guarded against. In the first place it is to be noted that home industries in the West of Ireland, unlike those of some countries, are aimed mainly at increasing the family income rather than partly towards diminishing its expenditure. Thus in some districts, home-made articles are used but little, and practically all the lace and most of the shirts made, and much of the knitting, sewing and weaving done, in the congested districts are intended for sale outside these areas, rather than for home consumption. This of course is but one instance of the modern tendency in Ireland to depend increasingly upon shop goods rather than upon home produce.

See paragraphs 82–3.

275. Another point that has to be noted is that these industries sometimes tend to a certain extent, though in a less degree than do the factory industries in English towns, to diminish the usefulness of girls at home, by causing overmuch attention to be directed to the industry, because of the money value of such work. Hence it is important to see that lace-making classes should be supplemented by a course of domestic economy. The welcome given to lace classes and cottage industries in the congested districts is not surprising in view of the large proportion that the earnings thus made bear to the scanty income of the congests, but the danger of undue attention to these industries

may become very real, if they are to any large extent pursued by the families of farmers having economic holdings, where the dairy, the piggery, the fowl yard, and the homestead might more usefully employ the girls' time.

276. As regards the probable stability of these industries a distinction may be drawn between those which depend for their existence upon artistic merit and the dictates of fashion and those which enter into competition with the products of power-driven factories. As regards the first class it is no doubt possible for skilled workers to make comparatively considerable sums, but with every increase in the output greater attention to the markets will be required in order to preserve a proper equilibrium between supply and demand. Not only is the demand a little unstable, but it is also not capable of indefinite extension. Moreover, in such industries the Board's expenditure must be fairly large in proportion to the earnings, as the girls take a considerable time to become expert in such industries, and marriage or emigration often deprive the country of a direct industrial return on their training.

277. As regards home and cottage industries, such as machine-knitting and hand-loom weaving, which do enter into competition with power-driven factories, it is obvious that where the industry seeks to market its goods outside its immediate neighbourhood, it comes into contact with the products of power-driven factories, and suffers from the advantages possessed by such factories, in the rapidity with which large orders can be executed and in the standardisation of the products. How far these disadvantages, where they are serious, can be met by turning such home industries into small factories, as suggested by Mr. Fletcher, depends of course upon the circumstances of each case, and is a matter that seems to call for a careful and continuous supervision by the Board, and for the utilisation of expert advice. IV., p. 228.

278. As regards the work of technical instruction and its bearing on industrial development, the future relations of the Department and the Congested Districts Board will require careful consideration and delicate treatment. At present the Department operate all over Ireland in connection with what is commonly, without much precision, called technical instruction, and the Board at present operate as regards certain phases of that instruction in the scheduled areas, and presumably will be free to do so in future over their extended area.

279. Technical instruction as given in Ireland may be roughly divided into three classes. First, the work done by the Department in connection with the teaching of Drawing and Experimental Science in secondary schools; in this work they operate all over Ireland and are alone in the field. On their awards depends the distribution of portion of the grants of the Intermediate Board. Their schemes affect over 280 schools, of which four are in the present scheduled areas and thirty-six in the new area. This part of their work is wholly educational, and there has been no suggestion that they should be replaced in parts of Ireland by the Congested Districts Board.

280. The second division into which the work may be divided is the giving of technical instruction, as the term is generally understood in Great Britain, that is, instruction in the principles of science and art applicable to industries, and in the application of certain branches of science and art to specific industries. As regards this work the Department operate all over Ireland, spending a considerable amount of money, which comes partly from the Department's endowment, and partly from the science and art grants, which are elastic in amount and were formerly administered by the South Kensington Department, now merged in the Board of Education. Here again they are practically alone in the field except, so far as manual training in carpentry and domestic economy are concerned, both of which are also promoted by the Congested Districts Board.

281. The third class is what may be called, for purposes of convenience, industrial instruction, by which is meant instruction in the processes of

XLI.—*Continued.* Industrial Development and Technical Instruction.

industries themselves.* The distinction between technical and industrial instruction is not always easy to draw, and may not be very scientific, but the terms are at any rate useful to distinguish between the different kinds of instruction given. In theory, the Department are limited to giving industrial instruction in connection with technical instruction, strictly so called, *i.e.*, they are supposed to teach trade processes only as illustrating the application of special branches of science and art to specific industries, and not as part of the direct development of the specific industries. Nearly all the technical instruction given by the Board is industrial, such as lace-making, barrel-making, boat building, &c., and it has been stated that there has been, to some small extent, a certain amount of overlapping between the two bodies in the present congested areas, but it does not appear to have been serious.

282. The Board can give any sort of direct assistance to any industry, and the Department can give direct assistance to rural industries only, and merely indirect assistance to other industries, (*i.e.* by giving instruction, or paying for instruction by means of capitation grants in respect of the persons taught). Here again the distinction is hard to draw; in practice the difference sometimes amounts only to the Board giving assistance on a larger scale than the Department. The difference in their methods may be illustrated by lace classes. The Department's assistance is usually confined to paying wages to the teacher, the rent and equipment of the school being defrayed locally, while the Board defrays all the expenses and arranges all the marketing of the lace, &c. Often the same results are obtained by the Department's system of capitation grants.

283. Possibly the best means of avoiding overlapping would be for the Department in general to have the exclusive power of giving the first two classes of technical instruction, the Board intervening only after consultation with the Department; and for the Board, in its new area or the poorer parts thereof, to carry on the industrial instruction, the Department as a general rule intervening only after consultation with the Board. Obviously, in the richer portions of the new area the assistance given by the Department would suffice, and the more liberal assistance given by the Board might be reserved for the poorer districts. Unless a change should ultimately be made in the powers of the Department as regards the promotion of industries, the Board alone would assist in the direct promotion of non-rural industries. It would seem to be in many ways desirable that the Board should be empowered to nominate one or two members to the Board of Technical Instruction and to any technical instruction committees within the Board's area, in the same way as they should be empowered to nominate members to the Agricultural Board and the County Committees of Agriculture.

284. A good deal of evidence was given about the educational deficiencies in the congested districts, and suggestions were made relating to improved accommodation, the provision of meals for children, and changes in the nature of instruction. The matter is not one which we feel justified in examining in any detail, but there can be no doubt that there is great irregularity of attendance and a high percentage of illiteracy. It would be useful, perhaps, if the Board, though not in themselves an educational authority, were empowered to nominate a representative on the Consultative Committee of Education, which was established eight years ago, for the purpose of bringing the Commissioners of National Education, the Board of Intermediate Education, and the Department into close touch with one another.

* The amount spent by the Department on technical instruction in all its branches in the counties containing congested districts, excluding Cork, during the year ended 31st July, 1906, was as follows :—

Department's Endowment, ...	£5,601
Contribution from local rates, ...	£3,155
Parliamentary Grants (Secondary Schools, Primary Schools, Science and Art Classes), ...	£2,938
Total, ...	£11,694

XLII.—Constitution of Board.

285. We have already made some reference to the constitution of the Board, and indicated some modifications that we think are desirable. At present the Board consists of three *ex-officio* members, and eight nominated members, of whom three are temporary. We think the three *ex-officio* members, namely, the Chief Secretary, the Under Secretary and the Vice-President of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, should be retained. There has been no question raised as to the desirability of the Chief Secretary and the Under Secretary continuing their membership of the Board, and the presence of the Vice-President seems desirable in consequence of the close relationship that must be maintained between the Congested Districts Board and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, and also in view of the fact that we have proposed to give the Board representation on the two Boards which advise the Department and to a large extent control its expenditure. We think it would be useful for one of the Estates Commissioners to act as an *ex-officio* member. Prior to 1903, one of the Land Commissioners was, during the twelve years that the Board had been in existence, an *ex-officio* member of it. The Estates Commissioners might, we think, act in rotation, the term of office for which they should serve being determined by themselves. We are of opinion that this addition would strengthen the Board by adding a member who has had considerable experience in the work of purchase and re-sale over the greater portion of Ireland, and his assistance would be especially useful if they should seek to acquire land outside their own territory for the relief of congestion. It is also suggested that the experience that the Commissioners and the Vice-President of the Department would gain as members of the Board might be of use to them in their work of relieving congestion in the poorer parts of Ireland, outside the jurisdiction of the Board.

See paragraphs 98–101.

See paragraphs 311–20.

286. As regards the eight nominated persons who are at present members of the Board, we are of opinion that the present nominal distinction between permanent and temporary members serves no useful purpose. Moreover, as we suggest that the members of the Board should serve for only a limited period, the distinction would be of no importance under our scheme. It was urged by many witnesses that some of the nominated members should be replaced by elected members, and it was suggested that one should represent each county part of which is congested. Election seems in some cases to have been proposed mainly for the purpose of bringing the Board into close touch with each of the counties in which it worked, but this end might as well be attained by the nomination of a resident from each county concerned.

287. We have, as already indicated, after much consideration come to the conclusion that the Board should include one representative elected by each of the nine counties within the Board's new area. The reasons for our decision are analogous to those which convinced us that under the existing condition of things in Ireland, the work to be done can be more easily carried out by a quasi-independent body than by a department of Government, however efficient. The problem of migration furnishes a good example of the advantages which we think ought to be secured by having an elective element on the Board. For the relief of congestion as a whole, it is, in our opinion, absolutely necessary that the grazing land in one county should be largely utilised for the relief, through migration, of congestion in other counties, and there may be considerable local opposition. If these migration proposals emanated from a body partly elective, we think that opposition would meet with far less sympathy and support than if the proposals emanated from a Government department or a nominated Board, which it might be urged was not representative of Irish public opinion, and which might be decried as a semi-official, perhaps alien, body who were not responsible to the people, and in whose composition the people had no voice. If the representative on the Board of any particular county was not convinced by his experience of the necessity of viewing the problem from a national rather than a local point of view,

See paragraph 101.

See paragraph 100.

XLII.–*Continued.* Constitution of Board.

it is true that he might use his influence in his own locality against migration. We doubt whether in that case his opposition would be any more influential than if he were not a member of the Board, or only a nominated member. On the other hand, if convinced of the necessity of disregarding parochial points of view, he would have much greater influence in promoting a healthy public opinion on the matter, and in reconciling his neighbours to the introduction of migrants than he would as a private individual or a nominated member of the Board.

288. One of the chief objections urged against election is that an elected member might feel that it was his duty to get as much as possible for his constituents rather than to do what was best for the whole territory of the Board, and that his re-election might largely depend not on his efficiency but on his success in securing local advantages. On the other hand it is obvious that the similar efforts of the eight other elected members would neutralise the action of the one: though then the result might be that money would be spent in each county in proportion to the population, or valuation, or some other test, which might prevent desirable temporary concentration in certain areas. Against this tendency the more detached point of view of *ex-officio*, nominated and paid members might be useful.

See paragraph 243.

289. We are of opinion that the County Council would form the best electoral college (with the modification already indicated as being necessary in the case of County Cork) and their choice should not be confined to members of their own body. We desire to place on record our conviction that the future success of the Board must largely depend upon the County Councils choosing the very best men available, and we believe that the trust reposed in them will not be misplaced.

290. We are also of opinion that there should be four nominated members on the Board who may have economic or other special qualifications enabling them to add a useful breadth of view to the outlook of the Board. It might moreover be useful that the Government should thus have the power of nominating one or two members who have special knowledge of districts that required special attention. Finally we think, as already indicated, that there should be three paid members on the Board, appointed by the Crown or by the Lord Lieutenant for their special knowledge of the work of land re-settlement, fisheries and industries.

See paragraph 101.

291. The elected and nominated members should hold office for six years, and be eligible for re-election or re-nomination. The paid members should be appointed for a period of ten years, but should be removable by the Government on a representation from the Board that their removal was desirable. They should at the end of the ten years be eligible for re-appointment.

292. We are quite conscious that there is much to be said against a Board composed of so large a number as twenty, but it seems impossible to avoid having nominated, *ex-officio*, and paid members, or to have less than one elected representative for each county. Under no scheme that can be devised, having regard to the various elements that we think should find a place in the new Board, would it be possible, considerably, to reduce the number of members.

293. The inconveniences attached to the fact that the Board is not a corporation were pointed out by their Solicitor, Mr. O'Connor, and we see no reason why his suggestion that the Board be made a corporate body should not be adopted. It would undoubtedly prove a great advantage in carrying on the administrative work of the Board. We have already alluded to the fact that continuous day-to-day administration, which is one of the great advantages possessed by a department, as contrasted with an unpaid Board, will to a considerable extent be secured by the appointment of three paid official members.

III., p. 284.

See paragraph 101.

294. It was suggested that the County Committees, in addition to their statutory functions in connection with agriculture and technical instruction, should act as advisory committees under the Board, with power to appoint sub-committees in smaller areas. There is, however, some danger in unnecessarily duplicating advisory bodies, and we think that the utilisation of local bodies might well be left to the discretion of the Board with its local representatives. Our own inquiries have led us to believe that the Board, in order to maintain its knowledge of local views and local conditions, should arrange, through committees or otherwise, to hold inquiries in the various congested districts, at frequent intervals, and that representatives from the County Councils and other local authorities, as well as private individuals, should be invited to attend such inquiries.

XLII.—*Continued* Constitution of Board.

XLIII.—Money necessary for carrying out the Recommendations made.

295. We think that the Board should be equipped for buying and re-selling, on the average, land to the value of £1,000,000 each year, and that it will be necessary for the Board to hold an average estate for not less than two years. We examined the Secretary and the Chief Land Inspector of the Board as to the funds required for dealing with this amount of land, and for carrying on the work of the Board in the extended area, over which they will operate. On page 52 of the Appendix to our Eleventh Report, a table is given showing the present expenditure of the Board's income, and an estimate by their Secretary of the expenditure necessary if our recommendations are adopted. The several items are, of course, only approximate and will vary in amount as the several stages of the Board's extended work are reached. Our object in referring to the matter now is to indicate that the probable cost of carrying out our recommendations should not exceed about £300,000 a year during the period of the Board's operations as compared with their present income, *i.e.*, £86,250. It may be useful to offer explanatory remarks on some of the items in the table which may be summarised as follows :—

See paragraphs 223 (*c*) and 227.

	Present.	Proposed.
(1.) Cost of administration :	£	£
(*a.*) Land work, ...	25,000	66,000
(*b.*) General work, ...	11,000	12,000
Total, . .	36,000	78,000
(2.) Interest on borrowed money, . . .	3,500	8,750
(3.) Loss on estates, ...	11,000	150,000
(4.) Agricultural work, ...	2,300	23,000
(5.) Other work—fisheries, industries, parish committees, steamer services, piers and roads,	33,450	55,700
	86,250	315,450

296. As regards administrative expenses, it may be noted that if the Board's work were done by a Government Department, the cost of administration would be defrayed from money annually provided by Parliament, and it would be unnecessary to give any estimate of the probable cost, as that would be settled in the ordinary way between the Treasury and the Department concerned, subject, of course, to Parliamentary review, though, of course, the cost in either case would fall on public funds. In connection with the cost of administration, it is important to note that as the Board is not, strictly speaking, a Government Department, but is regarded rather as a temporary Commission, very few of its officers have permanent tenure or right of pension. There can be no doubt that this fact has considerably handicapped the work of the Board, and has prevented them in many cases from obtaining the services of men of the same class as are available

See paragraph 22.

XLIII. *Continued* Money necessary for carrying out the Recommendations made.

for Government Departments. Many promising officials in the Board's office have not been content with the career it offered, and have sought more attractive permanent posts elsewhere. In addition to the disadvantage arising from too frequent changes in staff, consequent upon appointments not being of a permanent nature, there are disadvantages in having important positions occupied by temporary clerks. If it is found impossible to place the more deserving of the Board's present and future officers on the footing of civil servants, though it is not quite clear why this should be so in view of the powers conferred by the Congested Districts Board Act of 1894, we are of opinion that the establishment of a superannuation fund and of a system of gratuities on retirement, in proportion to length of service, would be advantageous.

See 57 & 58 Vic., c. 50, sect. 3 (1).

297. As regards the increase in the staff necessary for carrying out the land work of the Board their Chief Land Inspector estimated that the present establishment was adequate for buying and reselling £300,000 worth of land each year, and that between twice and thrice that staff would be required for dealing with one million's worth of land. Provision has also to be made for the administrative cost to the Board of passing through, without treatment, estates, or portions of estates, up to a maximum value of £500,000 a year. It is estimated that an increase of £1,000 will be required to meet the extra cost of general administration (*i.e.*, of work other than land work) due to the extension of the Board's area, and to its increased work in certain respects.

XI., Q. 60,011, *et seq.*

298. The second item represents the interest at 3½ per cent. on £100,000 at present, and in future on £250,000, which has to be borrowed in order to make improvements and loans, but which is ultimately repayable. The inability of the Board to borrow more money at present is one of the causes which has led to the present financial crisis in the Board's affairs, which we have already discussed at considerable length. Instead of providing the annual sum of £8,750 to meet the interest charged the Board might be given a floating capital of £250,000.

See paragraphs 49 & 54.

299. As regards the fourth item, the increase is partly nominal, as the Department has been finding out of its reserve fund £10,000 during each of the last two years to supplement the Board's contribution to the work of agricultural development. The portion of that fund hitherto available is now exhausted, and, consequently, even if no change were being made in the constitution or powers of the Board, a grant would be required for this work. The addition of £23,000 required for agricultural development might be put upon the Department's parliamentary vote, if desired, instead of on the Board's endowment.

300. As regards the fifth item, the increase estimated is necessarily very tentative. To double the Board's area would not necessarily involve doubling the expenditure, as the districts to be added are much better off than the present scheduled districts, though on the other hand some of our recommendations regarding fisheries and industrial development will increase the rate of expenditure. It should be noted that of the total increase in this item £8,000 is in respect of Parish Committees, which we regard as a source of temporary expenditure mainly in connection with the resettlement of estates.

301. The heaviest item in the estimate is number three, viz., £150,000 for loss on estates. This requires careful examination. The loss and varying estimates of its amount have been discussed in paragraphs 40–9 of our Report, and in the correspondence between the Congested Districts Board and the Treasury, which will be found in the Appendix to our First and Eleventh Reports. Mr. Doran, in his evidence, put the price of the land, bought under the 1903 Act, and resold or ready for resale, at £317,639, the total amount spent in improvements at £81,249, and the total net loss at £41,152 or 12·9 per cent.

I. pp. 247–62.
XI., pp. 112–29.
XI., Q. 59,561, *et seq.*

302. The land sold consisted of three classes :—

A, poor tenanted estates, on some of which a certain proportion was untenanted land; these estates cost 76·1 per cent. of the total cost, and the loss on resettlement was 9·4 per cent. of their cost.

B, very poor tenanted estates, with little untenanted land; these cost 15·6 per cent. of the total purchase money, and the loss was 21·6 per cent. of their cost.

C, estates mainly untenanted and used for the relief of A and B, especially A; these cost 8·3 per cent. of the total, and the loss was 28·8 of their cost.

303. The proportion of estates bought classed as A and B was 76·1 and 15·6, respectively, *i.e.*, there was close on five times as much A land as B. Mr. Doran thought that B land bore a greater proportion to A land than this, in the unsold parts of the scheduled districts, but a smaller proportion in the districts now to be added to the Board's area. He advocated the purchase of a larger proportion of untenanted land in future, and suggested that of the £1,000,000 of land to be bought by the Board in future years, 33 per cent. might be C, 10 per cent. B. and 57 per cent. A. It is obvious that the proportion of the different classes of land to be acquired in any year must depend on the nature of the land available in the Board's area. For instance, if class B were less than 10 per cent. of the total amount, the Board would find after a time that the land awaiting purchase would consist solely of classes A and C.

XI., Q. 59,819, *et seq.*

304. Apart from this difficulty, we think that the estimate of C required is not excessive, although a considerable amount of untenanted land will be contained in classes A and B. The percentage of the total land in each class, that was untenanted was as follows :—

A land, about 22 per cent. in area and value.

B land, 9 per cent. in area and 11 per cent. in value.

C land, 89 per cent. in area and 95 per cent. in value.

Of the total amount of land (A, B, and C), about 20 per cent. in area and 23 per cent. in value was untenanted.

305. Mr. Doran pointed out that this proportion of untenanted land on the estates already purchased had proved quite inadequate for raising the holdings to an economic standard. If the land bought in future is approximately in the proportions suggested by Mr. Doran, namely, 57 per cent. A, 10 per cent. B, and 33 per cent. C, it is evident that the percentages (of the total land) untenanted in each of the three classes will be as follows :—

See XI., p. 42.

Class A about 11·5 per cent.,

Class B slightly over 1 per cent.,

Class C 31·5 per cent.,

giving a total of about 44 per cent. of untenanted land. If the Board purchase only untenanted land and poor estates, or poor portions of estates, the figures given in an earlier part of the Report (dealing with the size of the problem), show that such a proportion of untenanted land would be by no means excessive.

See paragraph 113

306. Mr. Doran's estimate of the loss to be sustained was as follows :—

XI., Q. 59,821.

33 per cent. of the total land bought would be C—£333,333.		
On this the loss at 30 per cent. would be		£100,000
10 per cent. of the total land bought would be B—£100,000.		
On the loss at 20 per cent. would be		£20,000
57 per cent. of the total land bought would be A—£556,667.		
On this the loss at 5·3 per cent. would be		£30,000
Total	£1,000,000	£150,000

XLIII. *Continued* Money necessary for carrying out the Recommendations made.

It will be noticed that Mr. Doran estimates for a slight increase in the rate of loss on C, which he attributes to the fact that, in operating on a large scale, the Board would acquire untenanted land at a greater distance from the centres of population, and that consequently the cost of labour for equipping these holdings would be greater.

307. We are not convinced that this would be the case. There has been no loss on grass land where it was near the tenanted holdings and could be given in enlargements. The loss was incurred in effecting migration, and was swollen by the fact that, owing to the Board's limited powers of acquiring grass land, they could seldom give a sufficiently good holding to induce a substantial farmer to migrate, and the migration of small men is, as already explained, very much more expensive. In future the compulsory powers of the Board will often enable them to get land in the vicinity of the congested holdings, instead of having to go far afield, and enlargements, so far as convenient land is available, can thus be effected with little or no loss. In the next place the Board will be in a position by their compulsory powers to provide large migrants with attractive holdings, and thus obtain a better and less expensive class than hitherto. This ought materially to diminish the cost of utilising untenanted land. Hence, apart from any changes in the price of land, the actual rate of loss on C should be less and not more than in the past, and the average rate estimated by Mr. Doran on all the purchases of the Board (15 per cent.) should be capable of some reduction. Mr. Doran estimates for the future a slight reduction in the rate of loss on A and B land. This is due to the fact that the general average of tenanted estates to be treated by the Board in the new portions of their area is of a character requiring less remedial treatment than that of tenanted estates in the present scheduled areas.

See paragraph 32.

308. It is difficult to form any trustworthy estimate on the basis of an arbitrary classification of estates, and the following is perhaps a simpler way of stating the case. On all the land bought since 1903, and resold or ready to be resold, the average loss has been 12·9 per cent. The greatest loss has been on the untenanted land, and more untenanted land must in future be acquired. This would tend to increase the future average rate of loss. On the other hand the average rate on untenanted land may not be as great in the future as in the past, though it is unlikely that this reduction will be large enough to extinguish the increase in cost arising from the larger purchase of untenanted land. Against the net increase of total loss on the untenanted land, there should be a reduction in the rate of loss on both classes of tenanted estates (A and B), owing to the better quality of the greater part of the new portions of the Board's area. This would reduce if it did not extinguish the net increased loss due to the larger purchase of untenanted land. On the whole, we do not think that the Board's loss on the re-settlement of estates costing £1,000,000 can be safely put, on the average, at less than £130,000.

309. The reduction of £20,000 which may be effected in Mr. Doran's estimate of the loss on estates and the transfer to the Department's vote of the £23,000 required for agricultural development would bring the estimate of the annual cost of the Board to £272,450 instead of £315,450 as shown in paragraph 295. As the money is to be spent in removing an evil of long standing, and as it is hoped that the expenditure will be largely reproductive, and might therefore be borne in part by future generations, it may be thought just to spread the liability for loss over a long period. In such a case the following arrangement is suggested. Out of the annual issue of stock for the purpose of land purchase £1,130,000 should be assigned to the purchase and resettlement of estates dealt with by the Congested Districts Board within their area (in addition to £500,000 to be assigned for the purchase of estates not needing treatment by the Board). Of the £1,130,000, the purchasing tenants would repay £1,000,000 by the ordinary land purchase annuity of 3¼ per cent., and the balance of £130,000 would be re-paid by an

See paragraphs 223 (*c*) and 227.

annuity of 3¼ per cent. to be placed on the Parliamentary votes. In this case, the annual sum to be paid to the Board would be £130,000 less than the sum already mentioned; *i.e.* the income required would be £142,450 or an increase of £56,200 on its present income. It may be noted that the method suggested for meeting the money lost upon land improvement is identical with the method in which the liability caused by the payment of the bonus of 12 per cent. is met, and with that by which the loss on "congested estates" is, under section 43 of the Act of 1903, to be met.

XLIII. *Continued* Money necessary for carrying out the recommendations made.

310. All our estimates of the loss to be incurred by the Board are based upon the assumption that a bonus of 12 per cent. will be available as heretofore. At present when the Board agree to buy an estate from a vendor for £100, the latter knows that a bonus of 12 per cent. is available, and, consequently, that the price he is to receive is really £112, though the Board (and ultimately the tenants), are responsible for £100 only. Thus the bonus forms three twenty-eighths, or nearly 11 per cent. of the total purchase money. It is sometimes said that the bonus was intended in part to meet the costs of sale, but it is no more ear-marked for this purpose than any other part of the purchase money. In point of fact the only characteristic peculiar to the bonus is that, in the case of a settled estate, it may be paid over to the tenant for life for his own use, whereas he is entitled only to the interest on the rest of the purchase money. Where the Board in future acquire land through a voluntary sale, we do not think that any change should be made as regards the payment of the bonus. Where the price is settled by compulsion the *raison d'être* of the bonus—the inducement to sell—disappears. Moreover, the costs of the sale will be borne by the State. The total purchase money the landlord is to receive will be that settled in accordance with the scheme previously outlined. He will not receive, in addition, a bonus, and there is no reason why part of the price should be treated as bonus, belonging absolutely to the tenant for life, and only the balance as purchase money in which he has but a limited interest. One-eleventh of the total price payable under compulsion should come from the Land Purchase Aid Fund, the source of the bonus in voluntary sales, and the Board should be responsible for the repayment of only the remaining ten-elevenths.

XLIV.—Relief of Congestion outside the Board's Area.

311. We held sittings in every county, part of which is congested, and in every other county from which a request had been received within eight months from the date of the appointment of the Commission, but we have not investigated, even cursorily, the circumstances of every district throughout Ireland which may stand in need of exceptional treatment. We, however, both heard and saw sufficient to convince us that in some counties besides those containing scheduled districts there are considerable areas of agricultural congestion, and in many others there are scattered spots standing in need of relief.

312. We have already recommended that the Board should confine its attention to its new area, and that the work of relieving congestion elsewhere should be carried out by the Department of Agriculture and the Estates Commissioners. The Department can, with the agreement of the County Committee, arrange for special treatment for any locality in any county, through the agency, where advisable, of a special local committee, and they can themselves carry out any supplementary schemes which it is possible to undertake with the funds at their disposal. The Estates Commissioners can buy land under section 6, re-settle and re-sell it to the tenants, the cost of the improvement being met by an addition to the purchase annuity or defrayed as grants out of the reserve fund. This fund, however, is small and is already mortgaged to a considerable extent. If the estate is declared "congested," a loss may be incurred not exceeding 10 per cent. upon the aggregate price of all such estates dealt with in that financial year, and this loss is ultimately defrayed by money voted by Parliament.

XLIV.—*Continued.*

Relief of Congestion outside the Board's area. See paragraphs 7 and 102-4

313. Two points require further consideration. First, what are the places that need special treatment, and secondly, what, if any, changes in the existing law are required to enable the two bodies mentioned adequately to relieve such areas. We do not attempt to frame a definition for ascertaining the districts that stand in need of special treatment. We have pointed out the difficulties in the way of framing any adequate definition of congestion, or of devising any test that would be of practical use in selecting the districts that require treatment, and we are not in a position to indicate the places by the process of enumeration. The best course will be to leave the matter to the discretion of the two Departments concerned. Some of the information that is contained in our publications, should prove of considerable use, *e.g.*, the evidence taken in Down, Antrim, Tyrone, Cavan, and Queen's County, and statistics that have been published, showing the average valuation per head of population in all the rural districts and in the poorer electoral divisions in Ireland, and also those showing the number of various-sized holdings in each electoral division in Ireland, classified according to valuation, the area and valuation of the land in each class, and the population that is living on it. Probably the best guide will be the reports of the Inspectors of the Department, the Land Commission and the Local Government Board. Moreover, the representatives on the County Council of specially poor areas can always bring to the notice of their Council and of the County Committees the needs of such areas, without any reason to fear want of sympathetic co-operation ; and the representatives of the County Council on the Council of Agriculture can emphasise these needs if they be of opinion that there is any neglect on the part of the Department.

First VII., pp. 1–165.
I., pp. 356–8.
Second VII., pp. 1–400.

314. As regards the question, whether the powers of the two bodies require enlargement : the Department has already very full powers of developing agricultural and rural industries, but it has no direct power to develop non-rural industries, though it may give useful assistance by means of technical instruction, a fairly elastic term. The question whether it is desirable to give the Department power to promote non-rural industries all over Ireland (and the funds necessary for so doing), does not come within the terms of our reference, but we are of opinion that if the Department were given these powers as regards indefinite poor areas, while precluded from exercising such powers in the rest of Ireland, a very awkward situation might arise. It is evident that the Department will require funds for carrying out supplementary schemes of agricultural development and technical instruction in the poorer districts needing special treatment. We have no means of estimating the amount required, but it is obvious that a sufficient sum should be provided to enable the Department to start special remedial treatment in the districts where it is most needed.

315. As regards the re-settlement of land, the Estates Commissioners when they buy a property have fairly adequate powers for dealing with it ; but difficulty arises in connection with direct sales from landlord to tenant, especially when the terms fall within the zone limits. In such cases the Commissioners have no power of withholding their sanction to the sale, at the terms agreed upon between landlord and tenant, of holdings in rundale or intermixed plots, or holdings otherwise uneconomic, unless they decline to declare the property an estate. Their powers in this respect are somewhat indefinite, and have apparently been curtailed by the decision in Weir's estate ; but sufficient time has not yet elapsed to enable us to gauge the full force of the changes in procedure that may be necessitated by that decision. In any case, it seems absurd that the Commissioners should be obliged to refuse to declare a property an estate in order to prevent a few uneconomic holdings being stereotyped. Where a direct sale does not fall within the zone limits, the Estate Commissioners can, if they think fit, refuse to sanction the advance of the purchase money of any holding unless they are satisfied with the security and consider the agreed price equitable. Where the sale is not direct, but to the Estates Commissioners, they are free to buy untenanted land or otherwise improve the uneconomic holdings. The difficulty in this case is that they must recover from the tenants nearly all

See. 42 Ir. L. T. R. 35.
See footnote p. 76.

their expenditure, as the only fund at their disposal out of which a loss can be incurred is the reserve fund, which is small and already largely hypothecated.

XLIV.—*Continued.*

Relief of Congestion outside the Board's area

316. If, however, the estate is, with the consent of the owner, certified as a "congested estate," the Commissioners may, with the consent of the Lord Lieutenant, incur loss upon their dealings with the estate up to a certain limit, which loss will ultimately be met out of the Land Commission Vote. No such loss has been as yet incurred owing to a difficulty in the interpretation of section 43, sub-sections (2) and (3) of the Act of 1903. The matter was exhaustively considered in the judgment of Mr. Justice Meredith in Warden's case, and the effect of the decision appears to be that the enhancement of the re-sale price, consequent on expenditure on improvements, which would entitle the Estates Commissioners to claim recoupment, from the Parliamentary vote, of money spent out of the reserve fund, is to be calculated from the price at which the estate would have been sold if unimproved, and not from the price that was paid to the vendor. It appears that the Treasury did not acquiesce in this decision, and proposed to appeal against it, but the appeal has not been prosecuted. The question, however, is not yet satisfactorily disposed of, and no Treasury Rules have been issued making provision for the carrying out of recoupment pursuant to this decision. We are of opinion that it should be made quite clear that the loss capable of recoupment (up to a limit of 10 per cent.) may be incurred only on the improvement of the estates, and not by selling them in their unimproved condition at 10 per cent. less than the price paid to the vendor.

40 Ir. L. T. R. 104.

317. It has been suggested that the present definition of a "congested estate" should be amended.* In the first place, it is evident that there may be a large number of holdings under £5 valuation on an estate which should not pass unimproved, though they do not form anything like half of its total area. We have not received any evidence showing what would be a more suitable proportion, or what would be the effect of decreasing the proportion to, say, a third or a quarter. Moreover, £5 rateable value seems in general too low a standard. In the next place, the fact that half an estate consists of mountain or bog land is in itself no indication of its poverty. If that mountain or bog land is appurtenant to holdings of better land, its presence may make the condition of the estate satisfactory. Again, it is not clear why, if a considerable portion of an estate, though less in area than a quarter of the total, is held in rundale or intermixed plots, it should be allowed to pass from landlord to tenant without re-striping. We have had no evidence to show how many estates come within the present definition of a congested estate, or how many more would be brought in by any particular change in the proportions specified.

318. It has also been suggested that the necessity of obtaining the consent of the owner, before the Estates Commissioners can declare as "congested" an estate which satisfies the definition, has prevented them from dealing with estates, under section 6 (4) and section 43, which should be treated as "congested," and that, therefore, the owner's consent should no longer be essential. We learn from the Estates Commissioners that, as regards sales to them under section 6, the necessity of obtaining the owners' consent has not caused any difficulty, because if he does not give his consent, the Commissioners need not buy the estate, and if he is satisfied with the price offered by them, he has no object in refusing his consent. As regards direct sales the Estates Commissioners considered that the circumstances are different. If the tenants have entered into agreements to purchase, then, unless the Commissioners are prepared to purchase the estate at the sum of the prices agreed upon, the owner may decline to consent to the estate being declared "congested," first, because the result would be to remove the estate from the

* A "congested estate" is defined as an estate not less than half of the area of which consists of holdings not exceeding £5 in rateable value, or of mountain or bog land, or not less than a quarter of the area of which is held in rundale or intermixed plots. 3 Ed. VII. c. 37, Sect. 6 (5)

XLIV.—*Continued.*

Relief of Congestion outside the Board's area.

operation of the zones, and secondly, because he would have to change the sale from a sale direct to the tenants by himself to a sale to the Commissioners under section 6, and the price of it would be that offered by the Commissioners, and not that arranged by himself, and he would then have to accept this price or let the sale fall through. This difficulty has prevented the Commissioners declaring estates congested, which, if the landlord's consent were not necessary, they would have so declared. For the above reasons the Estates Commissioners have not generally pressed the matter on owners and have no record of absolute refusals.

319. The effect of dispensing the consent of the owner would be to withdraw all estates that satisfied either the existing, or any amended, definition from the operation of the zones, and it is impossible to estimate the number of estates that would be affected by this change. The simplest method of preventing uneconomic holdings or holdings in rundale or intermixed plots from being stereotyped, would be to empower the Estates Commissioners, on the sale of an estate direct from landlord to tenant, to exempt from the operation of the zones any holdings in rundale or intermixed plots, or under £10 valuation, if they consider it necessary to enlarge or otherwise improve these holdings before vesting. Where the sale, though direct, does not fall within the zone limits, they should be empowered to refuse advances as regards such holdings unless they think that, having regard to all the circumstances of the district, the vesting of such holdings in their existing state is unobjectionable or unavoidable. We recommend that they should be given these powers, whatever proportion of the entire estate such holdings form. The sale of the remainder of the estate would be unaffected. We further recommend that the Estates Commissioners should be given the same power as has been proposed for the Board of incurring a loss upon the re-sale of such holdings, and of any untenanted land acquired for the enlargement of such holdings. We estimated in the case of the Board that a loss of 13 per cent. would be sufficient for this purpose, and we recommend that any loss up to this limit incurred by the Commissioners should be defrayed out of the Parliamentary votes in the same way as any loss incurred on the re-settlement of a "congested estate."

See paragraph 308.

320. It was suggested that the Estates Commissioners should be given compulsory powers for the acquisition of the untenanted land necessary to relieve uneconomic holdings, but the evidence given has not satisfied us that such powers are required for this purpose. Compulsion is necessary, we consider, within the Board's area mainly because every acre of suitable land is required. The area over which we recommend the Commissioners should continue to operate contains a much smaller proportion of holdings under £10 valuation and a much larger proportion of untenanted land than does the Board's area. Moreover, it probably will not be necessary to enlarge as many of the holdings under £10 valuation in the area to be assigned to the Estates Commissioners as in the area to be assigned to the Board, since such holdings are more sporadic in the former than in the latter area.

XLV.—Miscellaneous Questions.

321. We received considerable evidence on two important questions, as to which we offer no specific recommendations. In the first place, our attention was called to the lack of adequate transit facilities in many parts of Ireland, and to the high rates charged. It would be impossible to consider the position of the congested districts in this matter apart from the rest of Ireland, and the question calls for more detailed attention than we could give it. Moreover, it is at present the subject of inquiry by the Viceregal Commission on Irish Railways. The other question to which we refer is the Finance of Land Purchase; it also has been the subject of a special inquiry, and is at present occupying much public attention. As it is a matter affecting interests much wider than the relief of congestion, and is not peculiar to the congested districts, we do not make any recommendations.

322. One of the best results achieved by the parish committees is their success in staying the progress of, and preventing, fever, diphtheria, and tuberculosis, by providing sanitary homes for the smaller householders. But there is another beneficent organisation which the Board has been able, in a small measure, to facilitate, and which has for its immediate object the alleviation and cure of sickness and disease, namely, Lady Dudley's scheme for the establishment of district nurses in the poorest parts of Ireland. Many witnesses have borne the strongest testimony to the effect of their presence among the sick poor in the districts which have the inestimable advantage of their admirable services. The effect, moreover, of these nurses on the homes of the poor, and on the utilisation of their little resources, especially to meet the emergency of sickness, is a benefit second only to their ministrations in time of illness. We have been greatly impressed by the humanising influence of the beneficent work done by the nurses, all of whom have been trained to their special duties by the "Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for Nurses." The services of nurses trained by this institution can be obtained by any district in the United Kingdom on the payment or guarantee of at least £100 per annum, but the congested districts are wholly unable to provide anything approaching the amount required, which, on the average, is £126 per annum. Had it not been for Lady Dudley's scheme the poorest parts of the West of Ireland could have derived no benefit from the supply of nurses trained by the Jubilee Institute. By means of the funds collected by Lady Dudley, through private subscriptions from the charitable and philanthropic, it has been possible to place nurses at eighteen centres in the congested districts. This scheme, which has so marked an educational side on the best practical lines, has been assisted by the Board to the best of their ability, considering the limitations of their resources, by erecting houses for the nurses, and charging only a low rate of interest on the outlay. With a greater income more liberal assistance might well be given, in the interest of relieving and uplifting the poorest and most remote districts in the Board's area, to a project which owes its origin to the thoughtful beneficence and untiring exertions of Lady Dudley.

XI., p. 53.

XLVI.—SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. The great majority of the people in the congested districts and neighbouring areas are dependent on the land for a living (9).

2. The majority of the holdings in the West of Ireland are inadequate for the support of the occupiers, and their enlargement is a condition precedent to any marked agricultural development (8, 9, and 96).

3. The efforts of the Congested Districts Board in this direction have been well advised, and in an extension and development of their work lies the best hope of a satisfactory re-settlement of the congested and adjoining areas (96).

4. The Board should be continued and charged with the relief of congestion in the Province of Connaught, the counties of Donegal, Kerry, Clare, and the four rural districts of Bantry, Castletown, Schull, and Skibbereen in Co. Cork (97-107).

5. In order to obviate as far as may be possible the evils of dual administration, the Board should have exclusive control over land purchase within their new area, and no estate, or part of an estate, should pass by direct sale from landlord to tenant except with their consent (98-101, 152, and 219-23).

6. The work of relieving congestion outside this area should be entrusted to the Land Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction (108 and 311-2).

XLVI.—*Continued.*
Summary of Conclusions and Recommendations.

7. The enlargement of the small holdings within the Board's new area involves a large scheme of migration and the acquisition of most of the untenanted land at present in the hands of landlords, and part of large holding held by tenant-purchasers and tenants within the same area (96 and 119-22).

8. We roughly estimate that to raise to an economic standard the holdings within the Board's area which call for such treatment, will involve the acquisition of additional land with an annual valuation of £450,000, and, so far as we can estimate, the amount of land within the same area that can be made available will be hardly sufficient for the purpose (109-13 and 119-23).

9. As the amount of land available for the relief of congestion is limited, and as the greater part of the area requires resettlement, the Board should have power of acquiring land by compulsion where voluntary negotiations fail, provided that they, by formal resolution in each case, declare that such land is necessary for the relief of congestion (114-6).

10. Compulsory powers should apply to a landlord's interest in any tenanted property, to untenanted land (with certain exceptions), to non-residential holdings whether held by a tenant or a tenant purchaser (unless they are *bona fide* worked in conjunction with a residential holding in the occupation of a person whose principal business is farming), and to the excess of any holding or holdings held by one tenant or tenant purchaser above £100 valuation. The Board should have powers for the compulsory allocation of turbary and also for the re-arrangement of holdings on estates they buy (114–8 and 198–204).

11. The procedure that the Board should follow in acquiring land is set out in paragraphs 152-7, 198-205, and in note A, pp. 117-24.

12. Owing to the limited amount of land available, the provision of holdings for landless men, or the enlargement of existing holdings beyond the minimum economic standard will lead to the perpetuation of congestion and therefore are to be avoided (124-31).

13. Our opinion as to the economic effect of breaking up and redistributing grass lands amongst small occupiers, and as to the probable agricultural future of such men, is indicated in paragraphs 132-51.

14. The price to be given for land taken compulsorily is such a sum as after paying off all charges suitable for redemption by the State will yield the landlord his "average net profit income" (160-88), compensation for sporting rights being included if such rights are acquired (160 and 191), and allowance being made for the effect of existing economic or natural causes on the probable receipts of the next five years (160 and 187).

15. The Court should have power to award a sum in respect of the Equity of Redemption in cases in which they consider the right of any real value (173-9).

16. The rate of interest at which the average net income should be capitalised should be the actual rate obtained by the National Debt Commissioners from investment in authorised securities of as much money as is required for this purpose (192-5).

17. Where proof of average net income is not available, the price should be such sum as the Court may consider the full value of the interest to be acquired (189-90 and 198-203).

18. All questions arising out of the price paid for land compulsorily acquired, or as to whether the land is exempt from compulsory acquisition, should be decided by a Court consisting of one of the present legal sub-commissioners of the Land Commission, assisted by two lay assessors, with an appeal to the Judicial Commissioner or to such other tribunal as Parliament may determine (196-7, 198 and 204).

19. All costs properly incurred in connection with the compulsory acquisition of land should be defrayed out of money voted by Parliament (206).

20. Uneconomic holdings already vested in tenant purchasers should be improved as far as is practicable (207–9).

21. The Board should be given certain powers of intervention as regards estates or holdings within their area which are the subject of incomplete purchase negotiations (210–6).

22. The Estates Commissioners should continue to do the work of reinstating evicted tenants within the Board's area up to a certain stage (217–8).

23. Our estimate of the amount of land purchase to be effected by the Board and of the time required for their operations is contained in paragraphs 224–7.

24. The existing restrictions upon the sub-division, sub-letting or consolidation of holdings bought under the Land Purchase Acts should be extended (228–35).

25. The work of agricultural education and development, which we regard as of supreme importance should be carried out by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction in consultation with the Board, who should be empowered to nominate two members to the Agricultural Board (140, 236–43).

26. As the funds of the Department were assigned only for the non-scheduled districts of Ireland, and as an extended system of migration will necessitate detailed treatment, the sum of £23,000 should be provided for this work (244).

27. Drainage and afforestation, which require treatment on a large scale, should be under the control of central bodies with local branches, linked on to or associated with the existing local authorities (247–51).

28. The preservation of sporting rights is in certain districts, a matter of public importance (249).

29. Parish committees should be temporarily continued for the purpose of carrying out work similar or analogous to what they already do, and provision should be made for the maintenance of improvements (250–2).

30. Certain improvements should for a time be exempt from taxation (253).

31. Agricultural organisation on a co-operative basis should be encouraged by the Board especially for the marketing of produce (254 and 258).

XLVI.—*Continued.* Conclusions and Recommendations.

32. The power of small occupiers to mortgage their holdings should be restricted, and excessive indebtness relieved, by an application of the Homestead Law or by amendment of the Irish Bankruptcy Laws: and the present system of rural credit should be re-organized by the extension of co-operative credit societies, and the establishment of Land Banks (254–8).

33. After agriculture, the development of the sea fisheries off the western seaboard seems to offer the best hope of improving the condition of the people, and should be vigorously carried out by the Board (259 and 266).

34. Efforts should be made to induce fishermen to devote themselves continuously to the work of fishing, and to follow the fish round the coast (260–3).

35. Special treatment is necessary for the development of the fishing industry in the middle west (263–6).

36. The Board should aid in the establishment of fishing villages in suitable centres (268).

37. The possibility of the development of large industries in the West seems to be limited, but probably the Board can be of much use in carrying out inquiries and supplying expert advice in addition to other intervention (269–71 and 273).

38. Boat-building, barrel-making, net-making, the making of woollen goods, quarrying, kelp-making, industries connected with peat, and bacon-curing, offer the best prospect of industrial development on a large scale, either because of the local supply of the raw material or because of the connection of the industries with the fishing trade (272).

39. The further development and extension of cottage and home industries, whilst most useful, must be carried on with great circumspection (274–7).

40. The respective functions of the Board and of the Department, and their future relations within the Board's area in the work of technical instruction, require delicate adjustment. This might be facilitated by the Congested Districts Board being empowered to nominate two members to the Board of Technical Instruction (278–83).

41. The Board should consist of twenty members—four *ex-officio*, three (to be paid) appointed by the Crown, four nominated by the Crown, and nine elected by the county councils. The paid members should hold office for ten years, the others for six years, and they should all be eligible for re-appointment or re-election (285–92).

42. The Board should be made a corporation, and should hold frequent local inquiries (293–4).

43. The Board should be equipped to buy and re-sell land to the value of £1,000,000 each year, and it is contemplated that on the average it would be necessary for the Board to hold an estate for two years before re-selling (295).

44. The Board should be empowered to obtain advances under the Land Purchase Acts for buying tenancy interests; and of the total amount of advances made each year, under the Land Purchase Acts, £1,500,000 should be available for the Board's area, of which £1,000,000 would be for the purchase of land that required treatment by the Board (199, 223, 227).

45. The income required by the Board for carrying out its work, including £23,000 for agricultural development and £130,000 for loss on the re-settlement of estates, and all administrative expenses, is estimated to amount to less than £300,000 (295–310).

46. If the cost of agricultural development were placed on the vote for the Department, and if the loss incurred in the re-settlement of estates were defrayed in the same way as the bonus and the loss incurred by the Estates Commissioners on "congested estates" (*i.e.*, by the addition to the Parliamentary votes of an annuity sufficient to amortise in about sixty-eight and a half years the capital sums provided), the necessary addition to the Board's present income would amount to less than £60,000 (295, 299 and 309).

47. For the relief of congestion outside the Board's area, which should be entrusted to the Land Commission and to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, it does not seem feasible to define or even indicate the places that require treatment. The selection of such places must be left to the discretion of the bodies concerned, acting on the information supplied by their inspectors and the local authorities (311-3).

48. A substantial addition to the Department's funds will be required, the amount of which we are unable to estimate (314).

49. The Estate Commissioners should be given power to exempt from the operation of the zones any holdings in rundale or intermixed plots, or under £10 valuation, if they consider it necessary to enlarge or otherwise improve these holdings before vesting (319).

50. The Commissioners should be empowered to incur a loss on the re-settlement of such holdings and of any untenanted land bought for their enlargement, and this loss up to a limit of 13 per cent. on the purchase money should be defrayed out of the Parliamentary Votes in the same way as loss incurred on the re-settlement of a congested estate (319).

51. We are not in a position to recommend any change in the definition of a "congested estate"; but it should be made quite clear that any loss sustained on the re-sale of such estates should be incurred on their improvement, and not by selling them in their unimproved condition at a smaller price than that paid to the vendor (315-8).

52. The present powers of the Board are contained in ten Acts of Parliament. As each of these Acts are affected by our recommendations, we have thought it useful to reprint the sections that refer to the Board with notes, showing the amendments already made and some of the modifications required by our recommendations (see pp. 127-50). It would be convenient for purposes of codification if these sections were repealed by the Act creating the new Board, and such of them as will be required in future re-enacted, with the amendments necessary.

XLVII.—Concluding Remarks.

323. The Secretary has drawn the attention of the Commission to the great help he has received during the inquiry, not only from the Board, the Land Commission, and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction—the three bodies mentioned in the terms of reference—but also from other Departments of Government, and from numerous officials; he has also greatly profited by the assistance rendered to him by those, who, for

XLVII.—*Continued.* Concluding Remarks.

varying periods, were employed in the Office of the Commission, and who have shown great ability and zeal in the discharge of their duties, especially Messrs. A. Waters, E. B. D'Alton and G. W. Narramore.

324. In concluding our Report, we wish to place on record our high sense of the services of our Secretary, Mr. Walter Callan. From the outset Mr. Callan displayed a perception of the nature of our task, a quickness in apprehending our intentions, a foresight in anticipating our calls for information, and an ability in embodying the results of evidence and discussion in well considered memoranda, which have frequently won our admiration. His devotion to his duties has been unfailing, and his tact and judgment in dealing with numerous witnesses and correspondents have materially smoothed the course of our proceedings. We feel deeply indebted to Mr. Callan.

All of which we humbly submit for Your Majesty's gracious consideration.

DUDLEY, *Chairman.*

A. P. MacDONNELL.
(Subject to my Minute of Dissent.*)

JOHN C. R. COLOMB.†

FRANCIS MOWATT.

✠ PATRICK O'DONNELL.‡

JOHN ANNAN BRYCE.

WALTER KAVANAGH.§

CONOR O'KELLY.‖

ANGUS SUTHERLAND.

WALTER CALLAN,
Secretary.

Dublin. 5th May, 1908.

* See pp. 153–74.
† Subject to the reservations set out on pp. 175–202.
‡ Subject to the reservations set out on pp. 203–8.
§ Subject to the reservations set out on pp. 208–9.
‖ Subject to the note on p. 210.

MAP OF
IRELAND

Showing the Travelling, the principal Tours of Inspection, and the Country Sittings of the Commission.

Scale - Ten Statute Miles to One Inch

10 0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

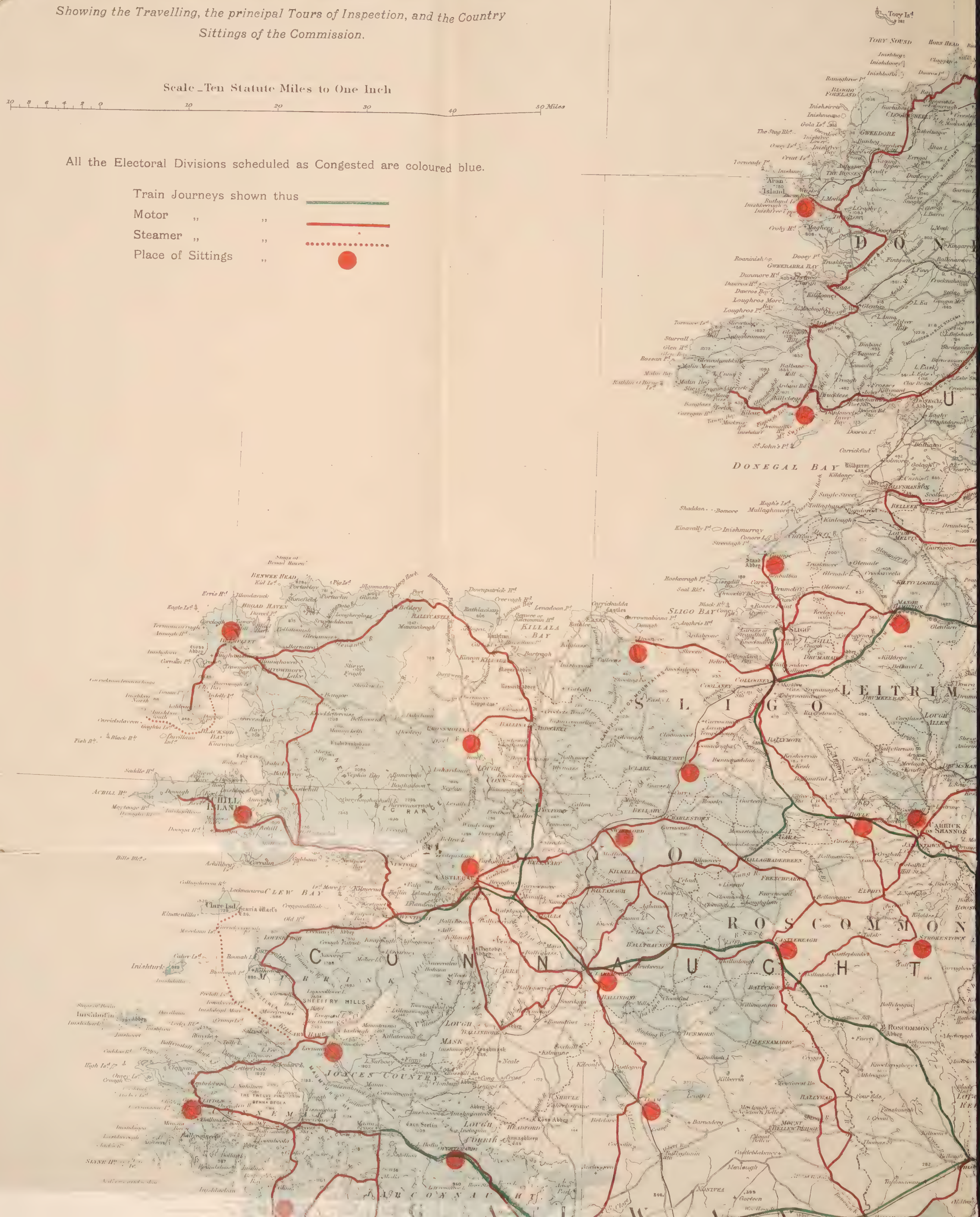
All the Electoral Divisions scheduled as Congested are coloured blue.

Train Journeys shown thus

Motor ,, ,,

Steamer ,, ,,

Place of Sittings ,,


Tory Is.d
TORY SOUND
Inishbofin
Inishdooey
Inishbarra
Ramoghrew Pt.
BLOODY FORELAND
Inishmeane
Gola Is.d
GWEEDORE
The Stag Rks.
Owey Is.d
Cruit Is.d
Torneady Pt.
Inishinny
Aran Island
Ruthland Is.
Inishkeeragh
Inishfree Upr.
Inishfree Lr.
Crohy Hd.
Maghery
Roaninish Is.
Dooey Pt.
GWEEDARRA BAY
Dunmore Hd.
Dawros Hd.
Dawros Bay
Loughros More Bay
Loughros Pt.
Tormore Is.d
Sturrall
Glen Hd.
Glen Bay
Bossan Pt.
Malin Bay
Kathlin O'Byrne Is.
Malin Beg
St. John's Pt.
DONEGAL BAY
Hilbarron
Kildoney Pt.
Shaddan
Bomore
Hugh's Is.d
Mullaghmore
Kinavally Pt.
Inishmurray
Conore Is.d
Streedagh Pt.
Single Street
Tullaghan
Kinlough
Rosscreagh Pt.
Seal Rks.
Black Rk.
SLIGO BAY
Carrickadda Castles
Carrowmore Pt.
Donagh
Rathlee
Carrowmore Lake
Carrowmore Pt.
Inishcrone
Ballysadare Bay
Knocknarea
Classiebawn Castle
Mullaghmore Hd.
Streedagh Bay
Drumcliff Bay
Glencar L.
Rosses Pt.
Coolaney
Markree Obs.
Collooney
Ballysadare
Templehouse L.
Lough Gill
Hazelwood
Dromahair
Manorhamilton
Glenfarne
Killarga
Belhavel L.
Drumkeeran
Lough Allen
Arrigal Mt.
Slieve Anierin
Arrow L.
Keshcarrigan
Boyle
Carrick on Shannon
Lough Key
Castle Island
Kilmore
Elphin
Roscommon
Strokestown
Castlerea
Ballaghaderreen
Frenchpark
Ballymoe
Tulsk
Ballintober Abbey
Ballinlough
Ballymoe
Dunmore
Glenamaddy
Tuam
Mount Bellew Bridge
Castleblakeney
Menlough
Monivea
Gorteen
Ballinasloe
Athlone
Lough Ree
Lough Corrib
Lough Mask
Lough Carra
Lough Conn
Lough Arrow
Lough Gara
Lough Meelagh
Lough Glinn
Lough Forbes
Lough Bofin
Lough Nafooey
Lough Ballynahinch
Lough Inagh
Lough Derryclare
Lough Shindilla
Lough Fadda
Lough Doo
Lough Aughrusbeg
Lough Aughrusmore
Lough Muckanagh
Lough Skannive
Lough Nacorra
Lough Cullin
Lough Feeagh
Lough Furnace
Lough Nakeeragh
Lough Bunnaton
Lough Easky
Lough Talt
Lough Gowna
Lough Kinale
Lough Owel
Lough Derravaragh
Lough Sheelin
Lough Ennell
Lough Iron
Lough Glore
Lough Funshinagh
Lough Croan
Lough Rea
Lough Ballycurrin
Lough Gill
Lough Allen
Lough Arrigal
Lough Meelagh
Lough Glinn
Lough Forbes
Lough Bofin
Lough Nafooey
Lough Ballynahinch
Lough Inagh
Lough Derryclare
Lough Shindilla
Lough Fadda
Lough Doo
Lough Aughrusbeg
Lough Aughrusmore
Lough Muckanagh
Lough Skannive
Lough Nacorra
Lough Cullin
Lough Feeagh
Lough Furnace
Lough Nakeeragh
Lough Bunnaton
Lough Easky
Lough Talt
Lough Gowna
Lough Kinale
Lough Owel
Lough Derravaragh
Lough Sheelin
Lough Ennell
Lough Iron
Lough Glore
Lough Funshinagh
Lough Croan
Lough Rea
Lough Ballycurrin
DONEGAL
SLIGO
LEITRIM
ROSCOMMON
CONNAUGHT
MAYO
GALWAY
BENWEE HEAD
Kid Is.d
Erris Hd.
Broad Haven
Eagle Is.d
Termoncarragh
Annagh Hd.
Inishglora
Carrowteige
Glenamoy
Glenamoy R.
Inishkeel
Corrillan Pt.
Carrowmore Lake
Carrowkeel
Inishcoo North
Inishcoo South
Carrickfadaveen
Gubbla Is.d
Black Rk.
Fish Rk.
Duvillaun Is.d
Blacksod Bay
Kinvarra
Saddle Hd.
Achill Hd.
Moytoge Hd.
Inishgalloon
Inishbiggle
Duneen Hd.
Achillbeg Is.d
Corraun
Bills Rks.
Clare Is.d
Clare Island
Grania Wael's Cas.
Clew Bay
Gillaghereen Rk.
Lecknavarra
Kilmeena
Kilmeena R.
Kilmeena Bay
Kilmeena Pt.
Kilmeena Hill
Kilmeena Lough
Kilmeena Abbey
Kilmeena Church
Kilmeena Glebe
Kilmeena Rectory
Kilmeena Vicarage
Kilmeena Workhouse
Kilmeena Dispensary
Kilmeena Police Barrack
Kilmeena Coastguard Station
Kilmeena Lighthouse
Kilmeena Pier
Kilmeena Quay
Kilmeena Harbour

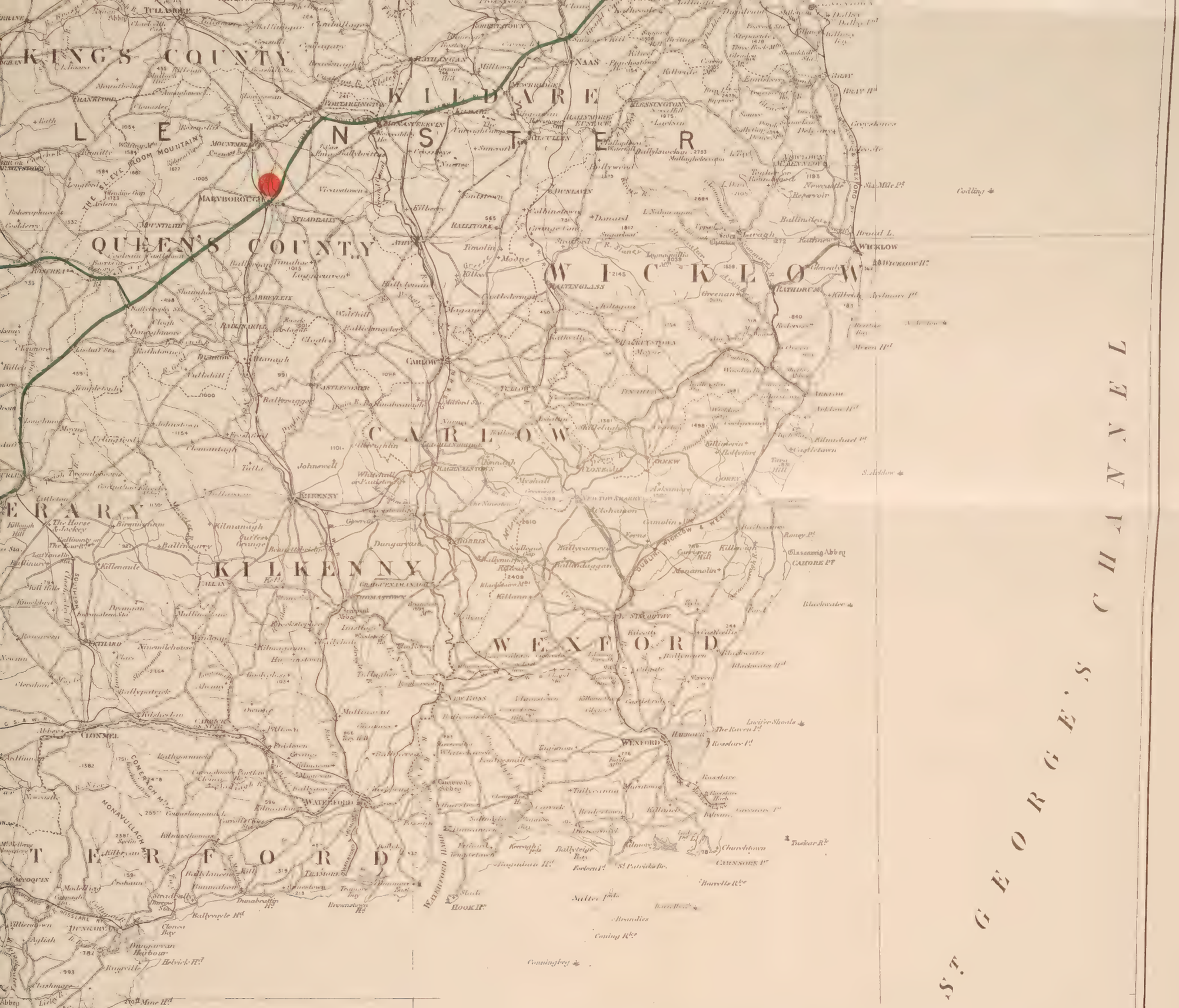
IGESTION IN IRELAND.

All rights of reproduction reserved.

ATLANTI

Roads First Class
Second Class
Railways
County Boundaries
Province "
Rivers and Streams
Towns
Villages

GALWAY BAY
MOUTH OF THE SHANNON
DINGLE BAY
KENMARE RIVER
BANTRY BAY
DONEGAL BAY
SLIEVE MISH MOUNTAINS
MACGILLICUDDY'S REEKS
CARRAUNTOOHIL
MANGERTON
GLENGARRIFF
KILLARNEY
CORK
LIMERICK
GALWAY
SLIGO
BELFAST
DUBLIN



LIST OF PLACES AT WHICH COUNTRY SITTINGS WERE HELD.

	Place of Sitting.	County.
1.	Bunerana	DONEGAL.
2.	Burtonport	
3.	Killybegs	
4.	Garndonagh	
5.	Grange	SLIGO.
6.	Dromore West	
7.	Tubbercurry	
8.	Manorhamilton	LEITRIM.
9.	Carrick-on-shannon	
10.	Mohill	
11.	Ballinamore	
12.	Newry	DOWN.
13.	Castlewellan	
14.	Rathlin	ANTRIM.
15.	Cushendall	
16.	Cookstown	TYRONE.
17.	Gortin	
18.	Swanlinbar	CAVAN.
19.	Ennistymon	CLARE.
20.	Kilrush	
21.	Scariff	

	Place of Sitting.	County.
22.	Listowel	KERRY.
23.	Dingle	
24.	Killarney	
25.	Caherciveen	
26.	Waterville	
27.	Kenmare	
28.	Castletown Berehaven	CORK.
29.	Bantry	
30.	Schull	
31.	Skibbereen	
32.	Crossmolina	MAYO.
33.	Belmullet	
34.	Achill Island	
35.	Castlebar	
36.	Claremorris	
37.	Swinford	
38.	Leenane	GALWAY.
39.	Clifden	
40.	Carna	
41.	Spiddal	
42.	Oughterard	
43.	Tuam	
44.	Loughrea	
45.	Ballinasloe	
46.	Castlerea	ROSCOMMON.
47.	Strokestown	
48.	Boyle	

Prepared and Printed at the Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton 1908.

NOTES INCORPORATED IN REPORT.

A.—MEMORANDUM ON PROCEDURE.

(*See paragraph* 205.)

Resolution for compulsory acquisition.

See paragraph 157.

It has been already recommended that where the Board, having failed to secure certain lands by voluntary negotiation, deem it necessary to acquire this land compulsorily, they should pass a formal resolution describing the land, and that the resolution should be published in the *Dublin Gazette* and in one or more newspapers circulating in the county in which the lands are situate. This notice will be repeated when the Board's surveyors are in a position definitely to specify the lands. A copy of the notice should be served by the Board's solicitor upon the person who appears to be the owner of the land, and upon all persons known or believed to be interested therein. The notice should state that any person interested in the lands who objects to the acquisition thereof, should lodge in the office of the Land Commission, within a prescribed period—say one or two months—a statement of the grounds of their objection, of which the Board should be at once supplied with a copy. Any objection lodged should, after the expiration of the period limited in the notice, be heard by the Court of First Instance. Both the Board and the objectors should have the right of appealing to the Judicial Commissioner or such other Court of Appeal as may be appointed by Parliament.

Objections to be considered by Court against compulsory acquisition.

See paragraph 117.

The only objections to the acquisition of the land which would be considered by the Court would be :—

(1.) That part of the land specified in the notice was a demesne or home farm, or other land exempt from compulsory acquisition or that it materially interfered with the amenity of residence. If the Court should find in favour of the objector, such land would be excepted from the operations of compulsory acquisition, but the notice would hold good as regards the remainder of the land.

(2.) That part of the land is held by an exempted tenant purchaser, *i.e.* one whose holding or holdings do not exceed £100 valuation, and are residential, or worked *bona fide* in conjunction with a residential holding by a man whose chief occupation is farming. This objection would hardly ever occur in practice, as the Board's officers could ascertain from the Local Registration of Title Office, as regards the great majority of cases,* and elsewhere, if any of the land they believed to be part of the estate, had in fact been purchased by the former tenant.

See paragraphs 101, 152 and 219–23.

(3.) That the owner of the land had already entered into negotiations to sell either to the Estates Commissioners or to the tenants. Again, this objection could hardly occur in practice, if the recommendations already made are carried out, since they involve the exclusion, as from the passing of the new Act, of the Estates Commissioners from the Board's territory, and the prohibition of direct sale except on the certificate of the Board. Therefore there would remain only the case of land affected by negotiations prior to the passing of the Act, and the new Board could, as soon as it came into existence, obtain from the Estates Commissioners a list of all lands within their area so affected.

It might happen that the person from whom the Board had attempted to obtain the land voluntarily was not entitled to sell under the Land Purchase Acts. This, however, need not affect the vesting of the estate in the Board, since in virtue of the powers given them, and of their

* All holdings vested since 1st January, 1892, are registered in the Local Registration of Title Office, as also are about half of those vested previously.

formal resolution to acquire the land, it must be vested in them no matter who may be the owner, unless it falls within one of the three foregoing classes. If such a case as that just mentioned did arise, *i.e.* if the Board had unsuccessfully negotiated with a person not entitled to sell, the person entitled should be given the option of accepting the price offered under the voluntary negotiations to and refused by the reputed owner, instead of having the price compulsorily fixed by the Court in accordance with the scheme already recommended. At the expiration of the period mentioned in the notice the Court would examine all objections lodged. Cases (2) and (3), if they occurred, would present only simple questions of fact, and the notice of compulsory acquisition could be amended by excluding any land so affected. Case (1) would present mixed questions of law and fact, which in general would not be troublesome. The Court should be empowered to vest in the Board, if thought desirable, all the lands specified in the notice, except the alleged home farm or other land in dispute. If this question was afterwards decided in favour of the Board, the land in question could subsequently be vested; if decided against them, the notice would be cancelled as regards such land.

As the land is to be vested compulsorily in the Board, no matter who is the owner, it will be possible to have it vested as soon as the Court has declared that the land is not exempt from compulsion without waiting to examine into the title, as is, to a considerable extent, still necessary under voluntary sale, despite the provisions of section 17 of the Act of 1903. The result of this procedure, unobjectionable under compulsory powers, but impossible under the voluntary system (where the root of the Board's title is not its compulsory powers but the title derived from the vendor) would be that any land the Board proposed to acquire could be vested in them within a reasonable period—say, three months from the date of their decision to apply compulsion. On the decision of the Court that the lands were not exempt from the application of compulsory powers they would be vested in the Board, with all arrears of rent, and the Court would proceed to fix the price.

Payments by Board between date of vesting and date of fixation of price.

The Board being in possession of the lands and entitled to the rents and profits arising therefrom would, when they collected their rents on the next gale day, have to pay to the person entitled that part of the rent which had accrued from the last gale day up to the date of vesting. On the other hand if the untenanted land was let temporarily and paid for in advance, the Board would be entitled to receive, or set off against the price, the apportioned part of the grazing or conacre rent paid or payable in respect of the period between the date of vesting and the determination of such temporary letting. If one or more gale days occur between the vesting of the land in the Board and the fixation of a price a difficulty would arise as to the amount payable to the landlord in respect of such period. If the latter produces his estate books and other accounts promptly, it will soon be apparent to the Court whether the necessary materials for fixing the price on the basis of net profit income are available. If the price could be fixed upon the basis of net profit income, the amount payable would be the proportion of the charges and of the net profit income that accrued between the date of vesting and the gale day. If net income returns were not available and the price had therefore to be fixed by valuation, the amount payable would be, according to the present arrangement, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the purchase money for the period between the date of vesting and the gale day. Out of that amount the landlord would, as under the present system, have to meet charges. If the gale day occurred soon after the vesting, there would be a difficulty in determining the amount in either case, as the Court would not have definitely settled the price by either method. The Court could, however, estimate the amount that they thought would be payable and order the lodgment of that amount by the Board, for distribution amongst the landlord and the chargeants. The objection to this course is that if more were paid than the landlord would be entitled to, it might be putting a premium on delay: if less was paid than he would be entitled to, then it would be a hardship for him. In practice, however, there would probably not be much difficulty if the Board were required to pay into Court the full

proportionate amount of the rental. If the gale day occurred so soon after the vesting that the Court had not been able to get any information as to net income, the full amount might be paid over to the landlord. Any premium thus put upon delay could not be great. If a sufficient interval occurred to enable the Court to get some indication of the probable net income, an amount approximate to this might be paid over. If the interval had been sufficient to show the Court that there was not enough evidence of net profit income available the price would have to be fixed by valuation, and the full amount of interest thereon might be paid over. In any case an account would subsequently be taken for re-adjustment, and the amount, if any, overpaid would be deducted either from the price, if the landlord was an absolute owner, or from the next half-yearly payment of interest if the landlord was only tenant for life. The price would most probably be ascertained before a second gale day occurred, but if not, the Court should have power to order a reduction in the amount to be paid over, if they thought there was an unreasonable delay on the landlord's part in producing his accounts, just as, under the 25th section of the 1903 Act, the rate of interest may be reduced below $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. after the "Closing Day," if the Land Commission are not satisfied that the delay is not caused by any default of the landlord.

Examination of title to take place concurrently with proceedings for fixation of price

Once the lands are vested in the Board, all claims upon them will be transferred to the purchase-money, as at present happens when a vesting order is made under section 14, sub-section 1 of the Act of 1887, and section 16 of the Act of 1903. Concurrently with the examination by the Court of the proofs of net income adduced by the landlord (or with the fixation of price by valuation where net income returns are not available), Examiners of Title, specially assigned from the Land Commission staff for this work, should investigate the title of the landlord and the claims of all chargeants, and other persons having an interest in the land, to be paid out of the purchase-money. As each charge was established it should be paid off without waiting until the landlord had proved his title to sell, though this is necessary under the present system. Thus if a quit rent of £10 a year were payable out of the land it should be at once redeemed by payment of £250, and the Board would then be liable, pending re-sale, not for £10 a year but only for $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. upon £250. If the price the landlord is to receive is subsequently fixed upon net profit income the £10 would be of course deducted from his gross income. If on the other hand the price to be paid him was a capital sum fixed by valuation that sum would be reduced by £250, since the charge which he would otherwise have had to redeem would have been paid off. When all the charges have been paid off the Board would be liable, pending re-sale, for $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. upon the money required to pay them off and upon the price of the securities or cash that have to be transferred to the landlord to produce his net income. These two sums would represent the total price of the estate if it had been fixed on the basis of net income.

Dealings with tenant-purchasers and tenants.

We do not think that much difficulty can arise in connection with dealings with land acquired by the Board from tenant purchasers. Most of these purchasers are registered owners, and a land certificate, which is their evidence of title, shows most of the charges affecting the land. Evidence was, however, given as to the difficulties experienced by the Board in dealing with the transfer of tenants' interests. Where the Board acquires the tenant's interest in the whole or part of a farm for re-division amongst small holders, it is at present necessary, in order that the Board may give good title to those amongst whom the farm is to be divided, that the tenant should be able to show a title to the holding, just as it is necessary for the landlord to show a title to an estate, and all charges, equities, and liabilities affecting the tenant's interest must be removed before the holding can be vested. Otherwise these charges and equities follow the holding, and can be enforced by sale against the Board and against the new tenants, even though they have paid the full value of the holding. If the original tenant was not possessed of the legal estate, the risk is greater. Dealing with equities and incumbrances on holdings is more difficult than dealing with equities and incumbrances on estates, since holdings are seldom charged by deed, or indeed by any written instrument, a fact which increases the difficulty of tracing the devolution of title to

the legal estate and to the charges, equities and liabilities. The Board, like other people acquiring a tenant's interest, have been hampered by these difficulties, and so far have been obliged to take a good deal on chance.

Case (1). Where an alternative holding is given.

All cases where the Board will in future acquire a tenant's interest in a holding may be divided into two classes, (1) where the Board will give in exchange another holding of equal or greater value, and (2) where the consideration is cash. Under compulsion, dealing with tenancy interests in the former case becomes comparatively simple. It is not necessary to inquire whether the tenant is the person in whom the tenancy is legally vested, since under the suggested powers of their Act the Board will be able to declare that the holding must be acquired by them, no matter who is the owner, and all claims on the old holding will be transferred to the new. Even where they obtain a tenancy interest by voluntary negotiations, this latent compulsory power of the Board might be held to obviate the necessity for enquiring into the title of the tenant, provided :—(1.) That the holding given in exchange is not of less value than the original holding; (2.) That the Act declares that, in all such cases, all claims to the legal estate in the old holding, and all charges, liabilities, and equities affecting that legal estate, should be transferred from the old holding to the new, the vesting being subject, as at present, to any public right affecting it, any sporting rights over it, any maintenance charge under the Public Works Act, and any easements, rights, or appurtenances mentioned in section 34 of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1896.

The only additional points that have to be met are, first, that some public notice should be given by which claimants to the tenancy and holders of equities would have an opportunity of knowing that their rights were transferred away from the original holding, and, secondly, that there should be a public permanent record of the holding to which the rights were transferred. The first point could be met by publication of a notice in the *Gazette* and in one or more newspapers circulating in the neighbourhood of the holding. The second point could be met by a note being entered in the Registration of Title Office on the record of both the original holding and the new holding. This system of transferring claims on the land is simply an extension of a principle of general application as regards estates (see section 14, subsection (1) of the Act of 1887 and section 16 (*g*) of the Act of 1903), and is already the law as regards holdings in certain cases. Under the Act of 1901, empowering the Board to determine any tenancy in an estate purchased by the Board, on a request from three-fourths of the tenants, it is provided that where a new holding is given, and not cash, the County Court Judge may order that such charges, liabilities, and equities as affect a tenant's interest in his former holding shall either continue to affect that holding or be transferred to his new holding. Under section 12 of the Act of 1903, the Estates Commissioners have power to make similar orders as to the transfer of charges, liabilities, and equities. The Court of First Instance already suggested for the settlement of questions of price would seem to be the most suitable Court to decide all questions arising out of this power of transfer, which it is suggested should be given to the Board.

Case (2). Where cash is paid

The Board's Solicitor, Mr. O'Connor, suggested that, where the consideration was cash, all claims to the legal ownership of the tenancy and all charges, liabilities and equities affecting the legal estate should, by declaration be transferred from the holding to the purchase money, just as after a landlord has shown a *prima facie* title and the vesting order is executed, all claims upon an estate are similarly transferred. This involves a subsequent investigation of the claims before the final allocation of the purchase money. It seems impossible in practice to carry out these investigations as regards the purchase money of a holding in the same way as in the case of the purchase money of an estate, mainly owing to the difficulty of investigating claims which arise otherwise than by deed and to the inconvenience of putting small sums of money in settlement. The only remedy that can be suggested is that if the person in possession of the holding, or his predecessor in the legal estate has been paying rent for, say, six years, he should be deemed the owner for the purpose of sale, unless the contrary is shown within a period limited by a notice published in the *Gazette* and in one or more of the local papers of the

county in which the holding is situate. After discharging any charges which may have been found to exist, the balance of the purchase money should be paid over to the assumed owner, impressing the purchase money in his hands with a trust, for what it is worth, in favour of any owners of charges or equities not proved. It is difficult to make any more definite recommendation for the treatment of these cases, where the consideration for the transfer is cash. As the whole matter is complicated it is suggested that it should be considered by the Law Officers of the Crown, in consultation with, the Land Commission and the officials of the Board.

Points connected with present procedure before vesting.

Before dealing with any changes in the procedure for resale by the Board to tenants it may be well to consider two points regarding the present procedure for voluntary purchase up to the date of vesting.

1. Some statements were made of delay on the part of the Estates Commissioners in vesting estates which the Board had agreed to buy. It is quite obvious from the evidence of Mr. Crookshank, the Chief Examiner of Titles to the Estates Commissioners, that they can not be held responsible for this delay, and that it was entirely due to the regulations of the 4th July, 1905, made under section 23 (8). After the passing of the Act of 1903, the steps necessary for the completion of sales of estates to the Congested Districts Board seem to have been proceeded with as speedily as possible, and at the date of the regulations mentioned, *i.e.*, 4th July, 1905, the necessary preliminary steps had been taken in the office of the Estates Commissioners in all cases of sales to the Board then pending, though at the same date the Estates Commissioners were only dealing with direct sales begun a year earlier (June, 1904). These regulations, however, ordered that no vendor or class of vendors should be given undue preference over any other vendor or class of vendors, and every case had to be given a priority date, which in the case of sales to the Congested Districts Board was the date of the lodgment of the originating request. Consequently no Congested Districts Board case which bore a priority date later than June, 1904, could, after 4th July, 1905, be dealt with until all the other cases of earlier date had been carried through. The consequence was that as long as the regulations referred to remained in force, *i.e.*, from July, 1905, to February, 1906, no new Congested Districts Board case could be taken up, and there was a difficulty in dealing even with the cases partly opened in July, 1905. These regulations were superseded on the 13th February, 1906, by others which enabled the Estates Commissioners to deal at their discretion with the several classes of sales. When the earlier regulations were withdrawn the time of the Commissioners was so hypothecated that it was several months before they could give the Board the full advantage of the change in the regulations. The arrears were, however, overtaken as speedily as possible, and the Estates Commissioners seem to have made every effort to facilitate the vesting of estates bought by the Board. It might be desirable to give the Board a permanent right of priority for voluntary sales, within the financial limits suggested for the Board's operations.

2. The Solicitor to the Board stated that in order to facilitate matters it was the practice of the Board to have a preliminary agreement with the vendor prepared, after the signing of which the Board went into possession of the lands. When the title to the estate had subsequently been proved to the satisfaction of the Land Commission, a second agreement between the vendor and the Board had to be entered into under section 79. Having regard to the similarity between these agreements, Mr. O'Connor recommended that the preliminary agreement should be substituted for the statutory agreement, but he admitted that the action of the Board in going into possession of an estate on a preliminary agreement was not without risk. The Chief Examiner of Titles to the Estates Commissioners emphasised this point. As the matter is somewhat technical, perhaps the best course would be for the matter to be considered by the Law Officers of the Crown in consultation with both Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Crookshank.

Procedure for re-sales.

The question of procedure for re-sales must now be considered. At present after an estate has been vested in the Board's Trustees, they have to be registered as owners in the Registration of Title Office, and a land certificate issued, without which re-sale proceedings through the Land Commission cannot begin. This procedure has undoubtedly led to some delay in the past. What has to be done in the Registration of Title Office is, apparently, to enter up the particulars of the vesting order, assign a folio number, have the maps copied and engross the certificate. These operations should take only a couple of weeks, but it has generally been several months, in fact sometimes twelve months, before the certificate has been issued, even though registration might have been completed in a comparatively short time. The delay seems to be due partly to insufficient staff and partly to matters of office practice. In the first place, the Board's cases had not sufficient priority until the beginning of the present year. Land which is registered under the Registration of Title Act may be divided into two classes :—

(1.) Land vested by the Land Commission in themselves or by them or the Land Judge in a purchaser, whether the Board or an ordinary tenant, under the Land Purchase Acts. Registration in this case is compulsory. The vesting order made by the Land Commission is sent to the registering authority who has not to inquire into the validity of the title thereby transferred; consequently the time required for registration should be a matter of only a week or two.

(2.) Land voluntarily registered by the owner, or land sold under the Land Purchase Acts prior to 1892. As the title in this case has to be carefully examined, more time is necessary.

Delays in issuing land certificates.

These two classes of registration have always been dealt with separately, but until recently the Board's cases which now almost invariably fall under the first category, had no priority over other cases in the same class. The Registration of Title Office, however, recognising the undesirability of any delay in registering the Board as owners, in view of the fact that such delay would retard re-sales to a large number of tenants, arranged early in the present year to give the Board's cases priority, and to take them up on receipt of the vesting order. Consequently each case ought now to be registered in a fortnight. A further source of delay arose from the fact that where land is registered the certificate is not usually issued until it is bespoken, when in ordinary cases a fee has to be paid. No fee is however paid by the Board, and there seems to have been no reason why bespeaking should have been required in their case, beyond the fact that it was the usual office custom. It has been ascertained that land certificates were issued in a great number of cases without being bespoken, on a mere verbal request of the Board's officers. The extent of this practice is in dispute between the Board and the Registration of Title Office. Undoubtedly delays have occurred which were avoidable, but it is hardly worth while now going into the matter in detail, as the Title Office have on their own initiative for the last six months definitely dispensed with the lodgment of formal requests by the Board for issue of land certificates, and have arranged in future to issue them as soon as registration is completed. This amendment in the procedure, together with the priority given to the Board's cases, should remove delay and ensure the receipt by the Board of a land certificate within a couple of weeks of the date on which the estate is vested in them. Any further cause of delay that may arise we think that it ought to be brought to the notice of the Registrar of Titles. A suggestion was made that the Board should be allowed to dispense with the land certificate and re-sell to the tenants through the Land Commission on producing the vesting order previously made by that body, As waiting for a land certificate should not in future cause delay for more than a couple of weeks there would be no particular object in making this change, and there seem to be reasons against doing so, notably the fact that the lands affected (unlike other lands bought since 1891 under the Land Purchase Acts) would not be registered during the year or two that might elapse before the estate was re-sold to the tenants.

When the land certificate had been lodged the Board was, until last February, obliged to lodge with it at the Land Commission a document called an originating statement and a certificate for the registration of the matter as a *lis pendens*. There seems no reason why the lodgment of the latter document should cause any delay or trouble, but there does not seem to have been sufficient reason for requiring the lodgment of an originating statement since practically all the information it contained was included in the originating request which had been previously lodged before the sale of the land to the Board. It is, however, unnecessary to discuss this, as by rules dated 31st January last, the Land Commission have themselves dispensed with the originating statement. The Board's solicitor in his evidence stated that, though the land certificate is conclusive of everything therein stated to affect the title, the Board were obliged by the Land Commission to go behind the land certificate and show that all death duties payable by the recent owner had been duly discharged, and that all quit and crown rents, tithe-rentcharges and Board of Works' charges had been redeemed. When an estate is registered voluntarily it may be still subject to these charges, and consequently when an owner of land, proposing to sell to or through the Land Commission, lodges a land certificate as evidence of his title, it is necessary for the Commission to make sure that these charges are redeemed. Where, however, that owner has had the land vested in him by the Land Commission as the result of a sale under the Land Purchase Acts, the Land Commission themselves have seen that these charges are redeemed. There is a provision in section 47 of the Local Registration of Title Act which enables the registering authority to enter upon the land certificate a note of the fact that these charges have, in point of fact, been redeemed. The Land Commission seem to have held that the Board's officers ought to have seen that this note was entered upon their certificates, which would have made the issue of requisitions as to these charges unnecessary. The Board's solicitor, however, seems to have experienced, in at least one case, some difficulty in getting this note entered, and to have held that, in any case, it was not necessary as the Land Commission should know that they themselves had previously vested the land in the Board and had seen to the redemption of the charges. He stated, moreover, that the originating statement which the Board were obliged to lodge with the land certificate, contains a paragraph stating that the Board had obtained possession of the estate through the Land Commission.

Requisitions on land certificates.

We do not think, however, that any serious delay has been caused by the action of the Land Commission in this matter. Rulings on title were issued by the Land Commission since 1903 as regards thirty-three estates, purchased under the Act of 1903 through the Land Commission. In twenty-eight cases no requisition was made as to the quit or crown rents, tithe-rentcharges, or succession and estate duty. In the five other cases where such requisitions were issued it was done through an oversight, and they were dispensed with as soon as attention was called to the matter. It is not quite clear whether lands vested in the Board by the Land Judge do not remain liable to these charges, and whether it is not, therefore, the duty of the Examiners of the Land Commission to issue queries in these cases. In any case where the Board are owners of an estate which has been registered voluntarily, it would certainly be their duty to issue the queries in question. Probably no future difficulty will arise in connection with them, but it might be well for the Board's Solicitor to arrange with the registering authority to have the note, under section 47, already referred to, inserted, in every case, which would render it practically impossible for such queries to be issued in the future. In some cases under the present practice it seems impossible to avoid issuing the queries as the estate may be subject to leasehold interests, and the Board often, for the purpose of enlarging or re-arranging holdings, take a conveyance or surrender of such land from the tenant. The tenant may, from the nature of his interest, be liable to tithe-rentcharges, payable either to the Land Commission or to a lay impropriator, and the land may be subject to a Board of Works charge on the tenants' interest. The effect of the conveyance or surrender by the tenant to the Board would be to transfer such charges to the fee. The Land Commission must, therefore, look into

the matter of tithe rent-charges and the Board of Works charges in connection with tenants' interests. It has been suggested to us that these difficulties can be obviated to a large extent by the Congested Districts Board supplying the registering authority, as we understand they have arranged to do, with particulars of all leasehold interests on estates bought by the Board, where the lease was for at least thirty-one years, in order that these interests may be noted on the land certificate.

Priority for Board's work.

We may say, in concluding the question of procedure, that we have had no hesitation in recommending that the Board's cases should have, where necessary, special priority in the various Government offices connected with the work. No matter how the sale of land in the Board's area may be effected, the work will have to be done sooner or later, and consequently no extra expenditure is involved in expediting the process, and the work of resettlement in that area is more urgent than elsewhere. As regards the matter of expediting the work, it may be pointed out that sales must be less rapid within the Board's area than outside it, owing to the time taken resettling estates, and that these unavoidable delays should be counterbalanced so far as may be possible by special expedition in dealing with the Board's cases.

B.—MEMORANDUM ON SPORTING RIGHTS.

(*See paragraph* 249.)

We have declared that compensation for sporting rights must, if acquired, be paid for (paragraphs 160, 191, and 196); against interference with the amenities of residences of owners (paragraph 117); and pointed to mountain land as not being suitable for breaking up (paragraph 120). Amenities include sporting rights, while mountain land, unsuitable for breaking up, may, and generally does, possess a sporting value. It therefore becomes necessary to devote special consideration to these questions as a whole.

The laws of this and other countries to secure the preservation of game and fish testify to an almost universal recognition of their national importance. The Act of 1881 provided for the retention by the owners of the exclusive right of taking game and fish, and exercising general control for their preservation over the whole area of their property, although it deprived them of almost every other power incidental to the relations between landlord and tenant. Interference by tenants with the exercise of these rights and powers rendered them liable to penalties similar to those for non-payment of judicial rent. 44 Vic., s. 5.

The Act of 1903 provided that where a landlord had "sporting rights exclusive of the tenant" (as provided for under the Act of 1881) he can at the time of sale either reserve them, or convey them to the tenants by agreement, but "in the absence of such agreement these rights shall be vested in the Land Commission." This Act attached to this reservation the right to enter upon the land, after it had been vested in the tenant purchasers, provided that any person so entering land "shall be liable to make reasonable amends and satisfaction for any damage done or occasioned thereby." It was further provided that the possessor of such rights reserved "shall have the same authority to prosecute for trespass in pursuit of game as if he were the occupier of that land." In contemplating, therefore, the breaking up of estates into small holdings by the use of public money, Parliament has recognised the expediency of providing for the preservation of game and fish, and as the law stands it is only through the voluntary action of landowners, when selling to tenants, that power necessary for general supervision, and control for purpose of preservation, ceases to operate. 3 Edward VII., c. 37, s. 13.

Having regard to such consideration, it is open to question whether this dissipation of power of general control by the act of a landlord, should be allowed to continue; this will be made more clear later on. Though the Act of 1903 and other Purchase Acts recognise the importance to the State of the preservation of game and fish and the value of these incorporeal hereditaments attaching to estate ownership, none authorise advances from the Exchequer, to enable the tenants to acquire or secure control over such rights, however substantial and remunerative. Public money is freely spent to augment the production of salmon and trout. Without the strict preservation of rivers and streams such expenditure would be waste. Riparian owners are now by law and custom, the guardian of these inland waters. From motives of self-interest they are prompted to preserve. The extent of their efforts and expenditure is in relation to the prospects of individual gain. Power over the whole extent of the waters they own centralises in them, and is exercised by them under Statute.

When by sale of estates their owners disappear, and a multitude of riparian peasant occupiers take their place, unless some authority assumes general and effective control over the waters, it cannot be expected that preservation will be efficient, and if it be not, then injury, if not destruction, of fish will result.

For example, in any salmon river, however long, taking fish by legal methods is only possible at a limited number of places, while netting and illegal captures of fish can be made anywhere. It is too much to expect that the temptations to the purchasing tenant to secure food or profit by fish from his bit of river can be resisted, unless restrained by effective measures. If there be not established co-incident with the sale a substantial interest common to all—and a power of general control to safeguard that common interest—the danger to the fisheries is obvious. Similar considerations apply to safeguarding the national interest in preservation of game, but to a lesser degree.

It is also to be remarked that licences for rods to kill salmon and licences to kill game exist and are enforced in the interest of preservation of both. It is not to be anticipated that an occupier with a holding of £10 valuation is likely to pay either £1 for a rod licence to fish his few yards of water, or £3 for a game licence to kill game on his few acres of land. If authority and control over large areas necessary for preservation of game and fish be allowed to disappear, with the extinction of estate ownerships, the restraints imposed by licences will, in effect, disappear also. Salmon licences are the only source of income at the disposal of the boards of conservators for the purpose of the preservation of the fish in their several districts, and without money, preservation must cease.

It has already been stated that no public money is advanced to tenants for the purchase of, or for dealing with, sporting rights, but it may be useful here to state the circumstances under which they are transferred.

Except in an unknown minority of cases, up to the time of the agreement for sale to the tenants the sporting rights belong exclusively to the owner of the estate. As the tenant cannot get an advance for the purchase of these rights he can only obtain them :—

1. By paying for them out of his own pocket ; or
2. By paying the owner, as consideration for acquiring them, an enhanced price for the land ; or
3. By receiving them as a present, through the generosity of the owner.

By whichever of these processes the dissipation of control over a considerable area into fragments among a host of small occupiers, independent of each other, is reached, the injurious effect upon preservation of game and fish is the same.

This bad effect upon the prospects of survival of game and fish is not confined to the area of the particular estate concerned. It may border an important salmon river where preservation is specially important to all the rest of it, above and below, or it may lie on the middle of a tract specially valuable for moorland game. In any case, it is fatal to effective preservation of fish in rivers or tributaries and game in immediately adjoining areas. Whether this process is to be allowed to continue by direct sales within the area of the Congested Districts Board, is a matter demanding special attention in formulating the functions and duties of that body, having regard to the fact that except in respect of direct sales all estates must pass through their hands, and they, in each case, will temporarily be owners, with sporting rights vested in them, and controlling future arrangement as to their ultimate disposal.

Vast tracts within the Congested Districts Board's area are of such a character as to suggest great potential value for sporting purchasers (or purposes), while in the most poverty-stricken districts the rivers and lakes are, in an economic sense, of the highest value, though the land may be described in the same sense as almost, if not wholly, worthless.

In these areas are situate many properties great in territorial extent, perhaps intersected by rivers, lakes, and streams, and large extent of mountains and moors yielding profit to the owners from their sporting value far above the rents from land. On these properties are population, small in relation to the area of the estates, but in such circumstances owing to the poor quality of the land, as to compel the Congested Districts Board to take action for providing permanent amelioration of their condition. Effective measures to secure that object necessitate the Board becoming the owner, so as to exercise the powers conferred by statute upon them and necessary to discharge their duty. Now a purchase of the sort of property described above presents the following problem.

Under the existing state of things, a sale of the land only would, in effect, deprive the proprietor of his powers effectually to preserve fish and game. It cannot be expected he would voluntarily agree to sell the land separately. For the Board compulsorily to take the land alone might be out of the question, for it would destroy the exercise of power necessary for preservation. On the other hand, if the fisheries and game rights be included in the purchase, the owner is entitled to be paid by the Board their full value. It may be

remarked in passing that for fishings and shootings there is a free market. Now the real value of these rights and amenities attaching to estate ownership are subject to and dependent upon the powers for preservation vested in the owner by Statute. These he is in possession of at the time of the proposed purchase by the Board, the completion of which transfers to them these powers. So long as they retain them in their full effect, the transaction is a sound business one, and so long as they retain and exercise these powers the income from these sporting rights may be regarded as secure. If, however, the Board, when selling the estate and vesting the land in the tenant purchasers, do not reserve all the exclusive sporting rights they bought—or in any way diminish the power of central control essential to preservation—they will destroy the value of the incorporeal hereditament for which they necessarily paid market price, and not only inflict loss upon their own funds and the Imperial Exchequer, but gravely imperil these forms of national assets, sources of their own profit and contributory to the welfare and prosperity of their country.

Again, where the Board have acquired a property on which the sporting rights are a valuable asset and have been paid for accordingly, control over contiguous areas of less sporting value is a matter of importance. If these rights later become vested in the tenants on the contiguous areas the value of the original purchase by the Board will be depreciated accordingly. For this reason it is desirable to provide that the owners within the Board's area should not be allowed to transfer sporting rights to the tenant in direct sales to the injury of that power of control necessary to general preservation, but should vest them in the Board. It is a question whether the Board should retain these necessary powers in their own hands indefinitely, remembering that they are a temporary body, while the interests to be conserved are permanent.

General Considerations.

To make preservation of game and fish effectual it is essential to base arrangements for securing it upon the goodwill of the community, and especially of occupiers of land, both riparian owners and others. It is essential to enlist the services of occupiers by making preservation a matter of self interest to them. This can only be done by encouraging and organising their co-operation by which to secure for them some gain.

It is suggested that while, on the one hand, the Board should retain exclusive sporting rights and exercise all the powers necessary for preservation, on the other, they should act as trustees to administer and work through local committees, these incorporeal hereditaments for the benefit of the areas placed under the Committee's supervision. The Board in constituting the committees should make rules for their guidance, &c., much on the lines of the Parish Committees, which admittedly have been successful.

The Procedure of the Congested Districts Board for Scotland.

Happily, what is above suggested is in conformity with the method pursued by the Congested Districts Board for Scotland. From their Eighth Report some general idea can be formed of that body's method of dealing with sporting rights of properties acquired and held pending purchase by the crofters. It appears in the case of the Kilmuir estate purchase, now in process of settlement, the price to be paid by the crofters for shooting rights alone is calculated at 16 years' purchase, but, as in Ireland advances are not obtainable for such a purpose, this method does not apply.

Eighth Report of the Congested Districts Board of Scotland, Appendix IV., par. iv.

In response to inquiries made by our Secretary, the Secretary of the Board for Scotland outlined the rules and system in force guiding and regulating the sporting rights. It is suggested that these might form a valuable guide to the Irish Board. The preservation and the increase of these national assets of game and fish are as important to Ireland as to Scotland or any other country, and the natural conditions of Western Ireland present in a marked degree many advantages for their development. The Board now, and so long as it continues, is an effective instrument for gradually improving what is contributory to the benefit of the general community, and with advantages to its own resources.

Letter from Secretary to Congested Districts Board for Scotland to Secretary of Royal Commission 27 : 3 : 08. XI., p. 108.

It is suggested that the Board should organise and administer arrangements for accomplishing such a result, so that in due course the work can be taken over and carried on as a going concern by local and possibly representative bodies now existing. From the point of view of enlisting popular sympathy there is some force in the desire expressed by the witness who appeared before us on behalf of the Irish Game Protection Society. In order to "encourage a general conception of the advantage to the nation of game and fish," he suggested that the amount received by the British Exchequer (£23,000 a year) for game licences issued in Ireland should be received back by Ireland. The purpose in view was that localities should receive benefit from that source in proportion to the licences issued, the number of which is likely to vary in ratio to the amount of game in the district. It may be mentioned that the sum annually collected for dog licences in Ireland is about £47,000, and after deducting £27,000 for the Petty Sessions Department, the balance, £20,000 per annum, goes to counties and boroughs for the relief of rates, &c.* In effect, therefore, the proposal as to the ultimate destination of the money collected for Game Licences is in harmony with the system already adopted in respect of dog licences. The number of dogs in Ireland of all sorts is proverbially great. As a rule, they are not under control, and are left at large night and day. To this cause may be attributed the paucity of game in Ireland—despite its natural advantages—as compared with Great Britain. It may be noted here that the dog tax in Ireland is 2*s*., while in Great Britain it is 7*s*. From the point of view of preservation it is important this tax should be enforced, with the support of popular opinion prompted by self-interest.

Q. 59275.

Were the proposal made to us as regards revenue derived from Game Licences carried out, and the money merged with that payable on account of Dog Licences and paid to County Councils in one sum annually, a popular conception of the value of game to the community generally might develop, and as a source of public profit be better understood. Meantime, if on estates purchased and settled by the Board the policy and practice are such as to benefit the occupiers out of profits derived from wise conservation and management of the Board's sporting rights, popular favour in support of general preservation will be at all events developed. In order to carry out any such policy, the Board must be given more freedom. It will be remembered that when the Board had arranged, with the consent of the tenants on the Dillon Estate, to carry out a policy on the lines indicated above, the views of the Land Commission affected the Board's action. Reference to the letter of Mr. Commissioner O'Brien to the Board, 16th December, 1900, suggests the necessity of freeing the Board from such interference in dealing with sporting rights. If the views expressed in that letter are to prevail, the Board will be hampered in efforts to reap advantages to their income, or to confer them on the tenants they settle on the lands, by a wise administration of the sporting rights they buy. In conclusion, attention is specially directed to the evidence of the Rev. James Kelly, P.P., who went fully into the question of Sporting Rights. His statement, Q. 52614, puts clearly his whole contention, "*On sale, either the sporting rights are in the hands of the landlord or judicially passing into the tenant's hands. Well, in either case, I should say that in the act of transfer or sale to a public body the sporting rights should go there and then 'in globo' to the tenants, and not be individually vested in them.*"

XI., p. 106.

X. Q. 52606–25

This proposal, if carried out, would, in effect, enable the Board to deal with shootings and fishings on the lines of the system pursued by the Board for Scotland.

Sec. 4 of the Act of 1903 provides facilities for its adoption in Ireland. It provides for advances to Trustees (as distinct from tenants) for purposes of preservation of game and fish.

3 Edward VII., c. 37, sec. 4.

* In the proposed area of the Board—excluding the four Unions in Co. Cork, for which returns are not available—the figures for the year 1906 are as follows:—130,220 dogs licensed, the total amount of the dog tax paid being £13,022. This represents one dog licensed for every eight persons and the equivalent of 1·3*d*. in the £ (on total valuation) paid for dog tax.

C.—STATEMENT AS TO ACTS AFFECTING THE CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD.

(*See Recommendation, No. 52, p. 115*).

PURCHASE OF LAND (IRELAND) ACT, 1891.—Part II. (Sections 34-41).

TEXT.

34.—(1.) For twenty years after the passing of this Act, and thereafter until Parliament shall otherwise determine, there shall be a Board called the Congested Districts Board for Ireland, consisting of the Chief Secretary and of *a member of the Land Commission whom the Lord Lieutenant may nominate to especially represent agriculture and forestry*, and who shall be ex-officio members of the board, and of five other members. *The Chief Secretary, when absent, shall be replaced by the Under Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant.*

(2.) It shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by warrant under the Royal Sign Manual, to appoint and fill up vacancies among the members, other than the ex-officio members, and also in the same manner to appoint one or more persons, not exceeding three, to be temporary members of the Board for the purpose of the business of the Board relating to fisheries, agriculture, or other special matters. A temporary member of the Board shall hold office for such period as may be mentioned in the warrant appointing such member.

NOTES.

By section (1) sub-section (4) of the Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Act, 1899, the Vice-President of the Department was made ex-officio a member of the Congested Districts Board. For over seven years this caused no increase in the number of the Board, as the then Vice-President was an original member of the Board, but since May, 1907, this proviso has increased the Board to eleven.

By section 84 of the Land Act, 1903, the Under Secretary replaced the member of the Land Commission mentioned in this sub-section, and the words italicised were repealed by section 103 of the Irish Land Act, 1903.

It is proposed that the Board should consist of the following :—

(1) Ex-officio, four in number :—
The Chief Secretary.
The Under Secretary.
The Vice-President of the Department.
One Estates Commissioner.

(2.) Elected—nine in number :—
The County Councils of Donegal, Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo, Kerry and Clare, each to elect one, and one being elected by a joint committee of the four Rural District Councils of Bantry, Castletown, Skibbereen and Schull.

(3.) Nominated members, four in number.

(4.) Paid members, three in number, one having special knowledge of land re-settlement, another of fisheries, and the third of industrial development.

Vacancies caused in the new Board will be filled up by a fresh election or nomination.

The distinction between temporary and permanent members has been nominal and would be out of place in the new Board.

34.—*continued.*

(3.) Three members of the Board, not including temporary members, shall form a quorum, and any act of the Board may be signified under the hands of any three members of the Board

The quorum, presumably, should be larger in future, as the Board is being increased from eleven to twenty. Any act of the Board could, in future, be signified by their seal as a body corporate.

35.—(1.) For the purposes of this part of this Act, the sum of one million five hundred thousand pounds (in this Act referred to as the Church Surplus Grant) shall, with interest at the rate of two and three-quarters per cent. per annum, be charged on the Irish Church Temporalities Fund, and such interest shall, *so far as not required for the purposes of the Guarantee Fund as hereinafter mentioned*, be placed at the disposal of and paid or applied as may be directed by the Congested Districts Board for the purposes of this Act.

As the interest on the Church Surplus Grant was, by section 73 of the Land Act of 1903, removed from the Guarantee Fund, the words in italics, though not actually repealed, have at present no meaning. The Board received an increase of income in 1899 to the nominal extent of £25,000 under section 5 of the Congested Districts Board (Ireland) Act, 1899, and a further increase of £20,000 under section 38 of the Irish Land Act, 1903, out of the Ireland Development Grant.

(2.) The interest on the Church Surplus Grant shall be paid by the Land Commission at such times as the Treasury direct, and so far as not for the time being required, may, under the directions of the Treasury, be invested, and the principal and income of such investment shall be dealt with as if it were the said interest.

(3.) The Land Commission may, with the consent of the Treasury, place at the disposal of and pay and apply as may be directed by the Congested Districts Board for the purposes of this Act any part of the principal of the Church Surplus Grant *which may not in the opinion of the Treasury and of the Lord Lieutenant be required for the purposes of the contingent portion of the guarantee fund.*

The words in italics, though not repealed, are rendered inoperative owing to the removal of the interest of the Church Surplus Grant from the Guarantee Fund by the Act of 1903. The whole sub-section has been inoperative, as the Treasury have not consented to any payment and application by the Board of the capital sum. See also section 40 (6), *post.*

(4.) Section thirty-two of the Land Law (Ireland) Act (1881), and section twenty of the Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Act, 1882, and section twelve of the Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Act, 1883, shall be repealed.

These provisions facilitated emigration, and were practically dormant for some years before 1891.

(5.) The Irish Reproductive Loan Fund and the Sea and Coast Fisheries Fund, including all moneys due on foot of loans, and for interest, dividends, and other annual income payable on foot of such funds, save and except the sum of twenty thousand pounds, forming portion of the Sea and Coast Fisheries Fund, shall be placed at the disposal of the Board for the purposes of this Act, but shall be applicable only in any county in which the fund is before the passing of this Act applicable, and the said sum of twenty thousand pounds shall be retained by the Commissioners of Public Works, and expended by them elsewhere than in the congested district counties, as if this Act had not passed.

The £20,000 excepted was by section 15 (c) of the Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Act, 1899, placed at the disposal of the Department. See also Public Works Loans Act, 1892, section 4, *post.*

36.—(1.) Where at the commencement of this Act more than twenty per cent. of the population of a county, or in the case of the county Cork of either riding thereof, live in electoral divisions of which the total rateable value, when divided by the number of the population, gives a sum of less than one pound ten shillings for each individual, those divisions shall for the purposes of this Act be separated from the county in which they are geographically situate, and form a separate county (in this Act referred to as a congested districts county), *and the provisions of this Act as to the share of a county in any portion of the Guarantee Fund shall apply to such county with the necessary modifications.*

The words in italics, though not repealed, have been rendered inoperative by section 73 of the Irish Land Act, 1903, under which a congested districts county ceases to be separated from the county in which it is geographically situate for the purpose of the Guarantee Fund.

The recommendations of the Commission involve the abolition of this test of congestion, and consequently of the existence of "congested districts counties," it being recommended that the whole of Connaught, Donegal, Clare, Kerry, and the four rural districts of Bantry, Castletown, Skibbereen, and Schull should be placed under the Board.

(2.) Provided that if within one year from the passing of this Act it appears to the Congested Districts Board that it is expedient to include under the provisions of this section any electoral division other than the divisions hereinbefore mentioned, or to exclude therefrom any electoral division, it shall be lawful for the Lord Lieutenant, on the report of the Board, to include or exclude, as the case may be, such division.

Thirty-one electoral divisions were scheduled under this provision, and none were excluded. This sub-section has been inoperative since August 6th, 1892.

(3.) *The interest on the Church Surplus Grant shall form part of the contingent portion of the Guarantee Fund, and be applicable for the purposes of that Fund next after the rates on Government property, and be apportioned between the congested districts counties in proportion to their population.*

(4.) *The local grants under the accounts headed "Model Schools and National Schools" shall not form part of the contingent portion of the Guarantee Fund for a congested districts county.*

(5.) *Where under this Act a sum is required to be raised by a levy on a county from which a congested districts county is separated, no portion of it shall be presented or applotted upon or raised out of any hereditaments in the latter county.*

(6.) *Where under this Act a sum is required to be raised by a levy on a congested districts county, one half of that sum shall be paid out of the share of the county in the interest on the Church Surplus Grant, so far as that share extends; and the residue shall be raised by the Lord Lieutenant by a*

Repealed by sections 73 and 103 of the Irish Land Act, 1903, *post.*

36.—*continued.*

levy on the county, and the requisition may be sent to the secretary of the grand jury of the entire county, and the same shall be paid accordingly, but shall solely be presented and applotted upon and raised out of the hereditaments within the congested districts county.

37.—(1.) For the purpose of amalgamating small holdings in a congested districts county, the Congested Districts Board may—

(*a*) out of the moneys at their disposal, give special aid to the migration or emigration of any occupier of a holding, with his family, if any, and settling such migrant or emigrant under favourable circumstances in the place to which he first migrates or emigrates, on condition that he transfers his interest in that holding to an occupier of a neighbouring holding and that the holdings are amalgamated, or that he transfers such interest to the Land Commission; and

The Board never gave any special aid towards the emigration of the inhabitants of the congested districts. The migration that the section apparently contemplates is that of tenants upon estates that have not been bought by the Board, and, for reasons explained in the Report, it has been found practically impossible to effect migration in such cases.

(*b*) recommend the Land Commission to facilitate the amalgamation of small holdings, which the Land Commission are hereby authorised to do, whether by the apportionment of a purchase-annuity and of the guarantee deposit, or by a sale to a tenant, or by making an advance towards the purchase of an interest in a holding; and any such advance may be made out of money supplied by the Board, and shall be repaid by an annuity charged on the holding as if the advance were made under the Land Purchase Acts, but all sums received by the Land Commission on account of such annuity shall be paid to the Board. The annuity may be charged on the amalgamated holding, and not merely on the holding purchased, subject, nevertheless, to any prior charges on such portion of the holding as has not been purchased, and subject to any rent of either holding.

The power subsequently given to the Board by the Act of 1893, *post*, to acquire and hold land through its trustees has rendered unnecessary the utilisation of the Land Commission in this way contemplated throughout sections 37 and 38.

(2.) Provided that no holding shall be increased by amalgamation under this section so that in the opinion of the Board the rateable value will exceed twenty pounds.

It has been already indicated that the Board cannot hope, with the land available, to enlarge holdings up to a standard of £20 valuation, and no holding already of that value requires enlargement by the Board.

37.—*continued.*

(3.) In a congested districts county a small holding purchased by means of an advance by the issue of stock under this Act, shall not during the continuance of the purchase-annuity charged thereon be sold, except to the occupier of a holding in the neighbourhood or to the Land Commission, and if it is, the Land Commission may cause the holding to be sold as if for a breach of condition under Section thirty of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881.

In the definition clause a small holding is defined as a holding of a rateable value of less than £10 or any higher sum fixed by the Congested Districts Board.

An extension of this restriction has been recommended, see paragraph 232.

(4.) The purchase by the Land Commission of a holding shall be made through the Congested Districts Board, and out of moneys provided by the Board, and for such price as may be agreed on by the vendor and the Board, or, in case of difference, may be determined by the Land Commission to be its full market value.

(5.) Where a small holding in a congested districts county is (whether under this section or the Land Purchase Acts), liable to be sold, or has been purchased by the Land Commission, the Land Commission shall endeavour to sell the same to one of the occupiers of a neighbouring holdings with a view to the holdings being amalgamated.

(6.) The sale may be made upon such terms and conditions and at such price as the Land Commission fix, and the price may not be greater than the difference between the value of the two holdings after amalgamation, and the value of the purchaser's holding before amalgamation.

(7.) The purchase money may be advanced as if it were for a purchase under the Land Purchase Acts, save that the annuity shall be charged on the amalgamated holding, and not merely on the holding purchased, subject nevertheless to any prior charges on such portion of the holding as has not been purchased.

38.—(1.) On a holding amalgamated in pursuance of this Act, one house only shall be used as a dwelling-house, and if more than one house is so used, the Land Commission shall, except where that use is permitted as hereinafter mentioned, cause the holding to be sold as if for a breach of condition under Section thirty of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881.

These restrictions with the necessary modifications might be continued as part of the general powers of supervision to be exercised by the Board (see especially paragraphs 230-1).

38.—*continued.*

(2.) Provided that the Congested Districts Board, if they think special reasons justify the course, may request the Land Commission to permit, and thereupon the Land Commission shall permit, the former occupier of another house on the amalgamated holding or a member of his family to become and be caretaker of such other house, and of any yard and garden attached thereto, not exceeding one-quarter of an acre, for such limited time and on such conditions as the Board approve.

(3.) Where a holding amalgamated in pursuance of this Act is of less value than the holdings out of which it was amalgamated, either because only one house can be used as a dwelling-house on an amalgamated holding, or otherwise by reason of the amalgamation, the Land Commission may, and on the request of the Congested Districts Board shall, certify the amount of the difference, and that amount shall be paid by the Board out of the moneys at their disposal to the person or department on whom loss has fallen, and if paid to the Land Commission shall be applied towards the discharge of the purchase annuity on the holding.

See note to Section 37 (1) (*b*).

(4.) The provisions of this Act respecting amalgamation of holdings shall, in cases where the Congested Districts Board think it expedient, apply to a part of a holding.

39.—(1.) The Congested Districts Board may take such steps as they think proper for—

(*a*) aiding migration or emigration from any electoral division, which either forms part of a congested districts county, or the total rateable value of which, when divided by the number of the population, gives a sum of less than one pound ten shillings for each individual, and settling any migrant or emigrant under favourable circumstances in the place to which he first migrates or emigrates; and

(*b*) providing suitable seed potatoes and seed oats for sale to occupiers in any such electoral division; and

Apparently the Board could under these sections aid emigration or migration from, or supply seed potatoes and seed oats to, occupiers in, not merely scheduled electoral divisions, but also electoral divisions under the 30*s.* limit in any county in Ireland, but no steps have ever been taken in this matter, and whilst, of course, the Board's powers of aiding migration must be maintained, it does not seem desirable to continue these nominal powers of operating outside the enlarged area specifically assigned to the Board.

39.—*continued.*

(*c*) aiding and developing agriculture, forestry, the breeding of live stock and poultry, weaving, spinning, fishing (including the construction of piers and harbours, and the supply of fishing boats and gear, and industries connected with and subservient to fishing) and any other suitable industries; *and for the purposes of Part II. of this Act the Land Commission may acquire (by purchase or taking on lease) and hold land, and may place such land under the control of the Congested Districts Board on such terms and conditions as they may deem expedient.*

As regards the construction of piers and harbours, the council of any county may, under section 18 of the Local Government Act, 1898, if they think fit, agree to take over from the Congested Districts Board any marine works constructed or acquired by such Board subject to payment of compensation to persons other than the Board.

The words in italics were repealed by the Congested Districts Board Act of 1893, sections 2 (4) *post.*

(2.) The said seed shall be sold for ready money, and, where such price can be obtained for the same, for not less than the cost of the seed (including all expenses incurred for carriage, storage, or otherwise) except so far as such cost may be defrayed out of gifts specially given to the Board for that purpose.

(3.) Any person nominated by the Board may, at all reasonable times, and after due notice to the occupier, enter any land occupied by an occupier to whom seed has been sold, and ascertain whether it has been properly sown.

(4.) The Board may proceed under this section directly or indirectly, and by the application of money at their disposal or otherwise, and may make gifts or loans to any persons upon and subject to such conditions as the Board consider expedient, and any moneys received in respect of the principal or interest of the loans may be applied as part of the money placed at the disposal of the Board.

Much of the work done by the Board is in virtue of the spending powers conferred by this section.

40.—(1.) *The Lord Lieutenant may direct the officers of the Land Commission to discharge such secretarial and other duties for the Board as he thinks proper, and for that purpose officers may be added to the permanent staff of the Land Commission, and if the Lord Lieutenant thinks those officers are insufficient, he may, with the sanction of the Treasury, authorise the Board to employ such officers as are required.*

This sub-section was repealed by the Congested Districts Board Act, 1894, section 3, *post.*

40.—*continued.*

(2.) Any member of the Board shall be eligible to act as an officer under this section for any temporary purpose, but so long as he is employed as such officer he shall not act as a member of the Board.

This sub-section will require modification in view of the proposal that there should be paid members of the Board, who would also act as officers of the Board.

(3.) The salaries or remuneration of the officers (if any) employed by the Board and the administrative expenses of the Board shall be fixed by the Treasury, and paid out of moneys provided by Parliament.

This sub-section has been inoperative in part since 1894, and entirely since 1899.

(4.) The Congested Districts Board may accept any gifts of property real or personal for all or any of the purposes for which money is provided under this part of this Act, and apply them according to the directions of the giver, if consistent in their opinion with the principles on which they apply the said money, and, subject to any such directions, may apply them in like manner as that money.

(5.) *Any property given to the Board, and any investments made by or securities given to the Board, may be held, and given to the Land Commission, and shall be held by the Land Commission in trust for the purposes of this part of this Act, or such of them as the circumstances of the case require.*

Repealed by Congested Districts Board Act, 1893, section 2 (4) *post.*

(6.) The Congested Districts Board shall submit to the Treasury annually and at any other time for any special purpose, in the form fixed by the Treasury, an estimate showing the amount proposed by the Board to be expended, and shall not expend any sums except in accordance with such estimate when approved by the Treasury, and shall not create any permanent charge on the Church Surplus Grant, except that they may, with the sanction of the Treasury, borrow out of the moneys available for local loans in Ireland on the security of the annual income of the Church Surplus Grant such sum as, having regard to the liabilities of such income for the purposes of the Guarantee Fund and the other moneys at the disposal of the Board, the Treasury consider can be properly borrowed without danger to the security given by the Guarantee Fund.

See also section 35 (3) *supra.*

(7.) The Board shall keep such accounts of their receipts and expenditure, and those accounts shall be audited in accordance with such regulations, as the Treasury direct, and be laid before Parliament.

41. The Congested Districts Board shall, once in every year, after the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one, make a report to the Lord Lieutenant on their proceedings under this Act, and every such report shall be presented to Parliament.

PUBLIC WORKS LOANS ACT, 1892 (Section 4).

4. Whereas by section thirty-five of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891, the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund and the Sea and Coast Fisheries Fund, including all monies due on foot of loans and for interest, dividends, and other annual income payable on foot of such funds, save as in that section mentioned, were placed at the disposal of the Congested Districts Board for Ireland for the purposes of that Act, and it is expedient to confer on that Board the powers and remedies for the recovery of the said monies possessed by the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland; therefore the Congested Districts Board for Ireland shall have and may exercise for the recovery of any money due on foot of loans made by them out of the funds aforesaid or otherwise payable on foot thereof all such powers and remedies as are possessed in that behalf by the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, and a certificate under the hand of the Secretary to the said Board stating the amount due in respect of any such loan together with interest thereon, and any costs and charges in respect of any such loan or the recovery thereof shall have the same effect as a like certificate under the seal of the said Commissioners.

This section confers summary powers on the Board for recovery of monies due out of these funds, which they do not possess as regards other funds, and it would seem desirable to extend the powers to other debts due to the Board, and so enable the Board to proceed for their recovery at Petty Sessions instead of in the County Court, and to have the warrant placed in the hands of the local police for levying instead of with the sheriff.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD (IRELAND) ACT, 1893.

1. This Act may be cited as the Congested Districts Board (Ireland) Act, 1893, and shall be construed as one with Part Two of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891.

2.—(1.) The Congested Districts Board for Ireland may acquire land for the purposes of Part Two of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891, and of enlarging small holdings in a congested districts county, and shall

See notes on Sections 37, 38, & 39 of Act of 1891 (*supra*.)

2.—*continued.*

be landlords of all land so acquired within the meaning of the Land Purchase (Ireland) Acts, 1870 to 1891.

(2.) For the purpose of holding land so acquired, or any property given to or investments made by or securities given to the Board, the names of such two members of the Board, as the Board from time to time appoint, shall be enrolled in the High Court as "Trustees of the Congested Districts Board for Ireland"; and land, securities, and other property acquired by or given to the Board shall be held by such trustees under that name in trust for the Board, and notwithstanding any change in the persons who are trustees, shall, without any conveyance or assurance, vest in the trustees for the time being so enrolled, and shall be dealt with by them as the Congested Districts Board direct.

This provision would be unnecessary if the Board be created a corporate body as suggested.

(3.) All land heretofore acquired by the Land Commission on behalf of the Congested Districts Board shall, upon the enrolment of trustees under this Act, vest in those trustees by virtue of this Act without any conveyance, and shall be deemed to have been duly acquired by the Congested Districts Board for the purposes authorised by this Act.

(4.) So much of section thirty-nine of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891, as relates to the acquiring and holding of land by the Land Commission, and sub-section five of section forty of the said Act, are hereby repealed.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD.—(IRELAND) ACT, 1894.

1.—(1.) Where the Congested Districts Board sell land to a tenant, and the Land Commission make an advance for the purchase of such land, the said Board may give to the Land Commission both or either of the following guarantees:—

(*a*) That the Board will make good any default by the purchaser to the extent to which it might have been made good out of the guarantee deposit; and

(*b*) if by reason of the tenant purchasing an addition to his holding or for any other special reason it seems desirable, then that during eighteen years from the date of the

Guarantee deposits were abolished by section 11 of the Act of 1903.

1.—*continued.*

advance the Board guarantee the payment of all sums against which the purchaser's insurance money might otherwise have been set off by the Land Commission, and where the first of such guarantees is given the Land Commission shall not require or retain out of the advance the guarantee deposit, and where the second of such guarantees is given the annuity for the repayment of the advance shall be at the rate of four per cent. per annum on the advance.

Purchaser's insurance money (a special temporary addition made to the purchaser's annuity under the 8th section of the Act of 1891, where the annuity would otherwise be less than eighty per cent. of the annual value) was abolished by the 28th section of the Act of 1896.

The Board, under the 81st section of the Act of 1903 (*post*), continues to be liable for any default made by tenant-purchasers who have re-bought from the Board, where that body, in order to avoid a second inspection for value and delays, have given a certificate under the 80th section of the Act of 1903 that the holding is sufficient security for the repayment of the advance.

(2.) The sums payable by the Congested Districts Board under any such guarantee shall be paid out of the money at the disposal of the Board, and shall be applied in like manner as if they had been paid out of the guarantee deposit or set off against the purchaser's insurance money, as the case may be.

(3.) All sums so paid by the Board shall be debts from the purchaser to the Board, and be a charge on the holding purchased next after the purchase annuity.

(4.) The Congested Districts Board shall not give guarantees under this section to an amount exceeding in the aggregate such sum as the Treasury, having regard to the liabilities of the Congested Districts Board, may fix for the purpose of preventing any loss to the Exchequer.

2. For the purpose of the taking of land by the Congested Districts Board, the Lands Clauses Acts (except the provisions thereof with respect to the purchase and taking of land otherwise than by agreement) shall be incorporated with the Congested Districts Board (Ireland) Acts, and the enactments so incorporated shall be construed as if the Congested Districts Board were the promoters of the undertaking.

The larger powers now recommended for the Board in this respect would cover the powers conferred under this section.

3.—(1.) The Lord Lieutenant may, with the sanction of the Treasury as to number and remuneration, authorise the Congested Districts Board to appoint to the permanent staff of the Land Commission such officers as may be required for the purposes of the Board.

This section has been inoperative in consequence of the arrangement made by the Treasury when the Board received a nominal addition to their income of £25,000 per annum under the Act of 1899. See also note to Section 40 (3) of the Act of 1891.

3.—*continued.*

(2.) Every officer so appointed, not being the secretary or assistant secretary, shall be selected by open competition in accordance with regulations made by the Civil Service Commissioners and approved by the Lord Lieutenant.

(3.) The Lord Lieutenant may also, with the sanction of the Treasury as to number and as to remuneration payable out of moneys voted by Parliament, authorise the Board to employ temporarily such persons as the Board may require.

(4.) Sub-section one of section forty of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891, is hereby repealed.

4. (1.) This Act may be cited as the Congested Districts Board (Ireland) Act, 1894.

(2.) Part two of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891, section four of the Public Works Loan Act, 1892, the Congested Districts Board (Ireland) Act, 1893, and this Act, are referred to in this Act as the Congested Districts Board (Ireland) Acts, and together with this Act, may be cited collectively.

LAND LAW (IRELAND) ACT, 1896 (Section 43–5).

43.—(1.) *Where the Congested Districts Board have agreed to purchase land, whether in a congested districts county or elsewhere, the Land Commission, on a request from the Board stating the congested districts county for the benefit of which the land is purchased, and the amount of the purchase-money, shall, subject as in this section mentioned, advance the purchase-money to the Board in like manner as if the Board were a tenant purchasing his holding under the Land Purchase Acts, as amended by this Act.*

(2.) *The advance shall not be made, if it exceeds, or together with any previous advance on account of the county for the benefit of which the land is purchased not repaid or written off will exceed, twenty-five times the share of the county in the interest on the Church Surplus Grant (referred to in section thirty-five of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891), after deducting from that share any prior*

These sub-sections were repealed by section 103 of the Act of 1903, as the powers herein contained were extended by that Act. See Sect. 72 (*post.*)

43.—*continued.*

charges, whether under this section or otherwise, including such proportion of contingent charges under Part Two of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891, as the Treasury may fix.

(3.) *The advance shall be repaid by the Board by an annuity of the same amount, and involving the same interest and sum for repayment of capital, as if it were an annuity payable by a tenant purchasing his holding, and the amount of such annuity shall be deducted by the Land Commission from the interest on the Church Surplus Grant.*

(4.) *Where the Land Commission make an advance to a tenant for the purchase of his holding from the Congested Districts Board, the amount of the advance shall be written off the debt due from the Board for advances made to them on account of the congested districts county, for the benefit of which the Board purchased the land, in such manner as may be arranged between the Land Commission and the Board, and shall be treated as the redemption of a proportionate part of the annuities payable by the Board to the Land Commission.*

(5.) *Where land is purchased by the Congested Districts Board for the benefit of more than one congested districts county, the Board shall state in their request to the Land Commission the proportion of the purchase-money which is to be treated as being advanced for the benefit of each county.*

These sub-sections were repealed by section 103 of the Act of 1903, as the powers herein contained were extended by that Act. See sect. 72 (*post*).

(6.) *The Land Commission shall not make any advance in respect of any purchase by a tenant from the Board of a small holding, as defined in the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891.*

This sub-section (see paragraph 29 in Report) was repealed by the Congested Districts Board Act, 1899, section 4 (*post*).

(7.) The Congested Districts Board shall not buy any land held under a lease for a term of years of which less than sixty are unexpired at the time of the sale, unless they hold or buy the reversion expectant upon the determination of such lease.

44. (1.) The Congested Districts Board may sell land to a tenant of a small holding for the price agreed upon, and credit the purchaser with the whole or any part of the purchase-money, and such purchase-money, shall be secured to the satisfaction of

44.—*continued.*

the Board, and be payable by such annuity payable half-yearly, and calculated at such rate of interest as may be agreed on.

(2.) For carrying such sale into effect the Trustees of the Congested Districts Board may convey the land to the purchaser charged with the said annuity; but the conveyance shall not operate to convert the interest of the purchaser in the holding into real estate.

(3.) The particulars of such conveyance may be communicated to the Land Commission and thereafter they shall issue half-yearly applications for payment of the half-yearly instalments of the annuity charged on the holding, and shall credit or pay to the Congested Districts Board all sums received by the Commission in respect thereof, and shall furnish to the Board particulars of all instalments for which they issue applications under this section, showing which have and which have not been paid.

(4.) The Trustees of the Congested Districts Board shall have for the recovery of any such instalments unpaid the same remedies as the Land Commission have for the recovery of unpaid instalments of an annuity under the Land Purchase Acts.

(5.) Holdings purchased under this section, while subject to any annuity for the payment of purchase-money, *shall not be subject to the provisions of the Local Registration of Title (Ireland) Act, 1891, but* shall be subject to all the provisions of the Land Purchase Acts respecting a holding subject to an annuity under those Acts; and the powers under those provisions to require a holding to be sold when sub-divided by reason of the death of the proprietor, may be exercised within twelve months after the sub-division becomes known to the Congested Districts Board, notwithstanding that it is more than twelve months after the death.

(6.) Whenever, upon the amalgamation of small holdings, part of the amalgamated holding is subject to an annuity under this section, and the amalgamated holding is not a small holding, the Congested Districts Board may agree with the occupier of such amalgamated holding for the purchase

These sub-sections have been rendered largely inoperative by the further powers conferred under the Act of 1903, but a modification of sub-section (4) may be of use to the Board for recovering instalments from the tenant-purchasers on Clare Island and the Leonard Estate, which were not sold under the Land Purchase Acts.

The words in italics were repealed by section 3 of the Act of 1899, *post.*

44.—*continued.*

by him of that holding under the Land Purchase Acts, and the Land Commission may sanction the agreement and make an advance as if such occupier was in occupation of the whole of such holding under a contract of tenancy.

(7.) On such last-mentioned advance being made by the Land Commission, the balance of the principal of the purchase-money payable by the annuity under this section shall be treated as repaid to the Board out of the advance, and the purchaser and the holding shall be discharged from all liability in respect of the said annuity.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD (IRELAND) ACT, 1899.

1. Where the Congested Districts Board make an offer to the Land Judge for the purchase of an estate, or part of an estate, for the purpose of re-selling the same to the tenants thereon, the provisions of section forty of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1896 (in this Act referred to as the principal Act), shall be suspended, and shall not have effect in the case of that estate, or part of an estate, unless and until the offer is refused by the Land Judge, or is withdrawn.

2.—(1.) Where the Land Commission have made an advance to the Congested Districts Board under subsection (1) of section forty-three of the principal Act, and the land purchased by the Board is subject to any superior interest, as defined by section thirty-one of the principal Act, or any incumbrance, as defined by section thirty-four of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1887, the Land Commission may, on the application of the Board, exercise any powers for the apportionment and redemption of superior interests conferred on them by the Land Purchase Acts, and may direct that a sum of guaranteed land stock equivalent at the price of the day to the redemption price of the superior interest, or the amount due in respect of such incumbrance, as the case may be, shall be advanced and disposed of in like manner as if the advance were made to a tenant for the purchase of his

This Section has been practically superseded by the powers conferred in the Act of 1903.

2.—*continued.*

holding, and the amount of such advance shall be repaid by the Board in the manner provided by sub-section (3) of the said section forty-three.

(2.) Rules for the purposes of this section may be made by the Land Commission, and shall be laid before Parliament.

3.—(1.) *Notwithstanding anything in sub-section* (1) *of section forty-three of the principal Act, the Land Commission shall not make an advance under that sub-section unless the ownership of the land is registered under the Local Registration of Title (Ireland) Act,* 1891.

(2.) *Where the ownership of any land has been registered under the said Act of* 1891, *after the date of an agreement for the sale thereof to the Congested Districts Board, no fee shall be payable to the Local Registration of Title Office on the transfer to the trustees of the Board of that land, and in no case shall any such fee be payable on any sale by that Board to a tenant of his holding upon any land the ownership of which is registered.*

(3.) *So much of sub-section* (5) *of section forty-four of the principal Act as exempts the holdings therein mentioned from the provisions of the said Act of* 1891 *is hereby repealed.*

(4.) *No stamp duty shall be payable on any purchase of land by the Board for the purpose of sales to tenants.*

Repealed by section 103 of the Act of 1903. (See also sections 49 and 50).

4.—(1.) *The limit provided by sub-section* (2) *of section forty-three of the principal Act in respect of advances which may be made by the Land Commission to the Congested Districts Board may, in exceptional cases, with the consent of the Treasury, be exceeded to such extent and for such periods as the Treasury may determine.*

Repealed by Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1901, section 1 (3).

(2.) Sub-section (6) of the said section forty-three (which prohibits the Land Commission from making an advance in respect of the purchase of a small holding) is hereby repealed.

5. For the purposes of sub-section (3) of section forty of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891, and for other purposes of the Congested Districts Board (Ireland) Acts, there shall be paid, as from the first day of October, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine, to the Congested Districts Board, subject to such conditions as the Treasury may require, out of money provided by Parliament, an annual sum not exceeding twenty-five thousand pounds.

6.—(1.) This Act may be cited as the Congested Districts Board (Ireland) Act, 1899.

(2.) This Act shall be construed as one with the Congested Districts Board (Ireland) Acts, and together with those Acts may be cited collectively.

PURCHASE OF LAND (IRELAND) ACT, 1901.

1. —(1.) Where it appears to the Lord Lieutenant that it is expedient that the limit provided by sub-section (1) of section nine of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891, with respect to the advances which may be made in any county should be exceeded, he may certify to that effect to the Treasury, and the Treasury may authorise advances to be made in that county, to such increased amount as may be determined by them, not exceeding fifty times the share of the county in the guarantee fund, where they are of opinion that such advances can be made up to that increased amount without risk of loss to the Exchequer.

By the Act of 1903, section 40 (4), the limit was raised from fifty to sixty times the share of the county in the guarantee fund.

(2.) *The Lord Lieutenant may certify to the like effect with respect to the limit provided by sub-section* (2) *of section forty-three of the Land Law (Ireland) Act*, 1896, *and in such case the Treasury may authorise advances to be made under that section for the benefit of the county mentioned in such certificate to such increased amount as may be determined by them, not exceeding fifty times the share of the county in the interest on the church surplus grant, after making the deductions in the said sub-section mentioned, where they are of the same opinion as aforesaid.*

Repealed by the Act of 1903, section 103. See also sections 40 (4) and 73.

1.—*continued.*

(3.) *Sub-section* (1) *of section four of the Congested Districts Board* (*Ireland*) *Act*, 1899 (*which extends the limit under section forty-three of the Land Law* (*Ireland*) *Act*, 1896), *is hereby repealed.*

Repealed by the Act of 1903, section 103.

2. This Act may be cited as the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1901.

CONGESTED DISTRICTS BOARD (IRELAND) ACT, 1901.

1.—(1.) Where the Congested Districts Board have, whether before or after the passing of this Act, purchased an estate and the tenants of holdings thereon to the extent of not less than three-fourths in number and rateable value so request, the Board may serve a notice on any tenant thereon which shall have the effect of determining his tenancy in his holding as from the date mentioned in the notice, not being less than six months from the service thereof.

(2) Every such notice shall contain an undertaking by the Board that they will within the period mentioned in that behalf in the notice, or so soon thereafter as practicable, provide the tenant with a new holding on the same or an adjacent or neighbouring estate, subject to a rent not exceeding that payable by him for his original holding, and of not less value in respect of the land comprised in the new holding and the buildings and improvements thereon than the value of the land comprised in the former holding, and the buildings and improvements thereon respectively at the date of the purchase of the estate by the Board.

(3) If any such tenant is dissatisfied with his new holding, or refuses to enter into possession thereof, he may, within four months after he has been served with a notice stating that the Board are prepared forthwith to put him into possession thereof, apply to the county court within the jurisdiction of which the estate is situate, and that court may, subject to rules of court, hear and decide upon the application.

(4) If where the tenant is dissatisfied with the new holding the Court decides that the value thereof is, in

Section 82 (1) of the Act of 1903 empowered the Board to exercise the powers conferred by this section on a request made by not less than three-fourths in number and rateable value of the tenants of holdings situate on any town lands that would be affected by the exercise of these powers.

As has been mentioned in the Report, the Board have not found it possible to exercise these powers.

More extensive powers in this respect are proposed in the Report.

1.—*continued.*

respect of any of the matters aforesaid, less than the value of the former holding, the Court may, after taking into account in connection with such inferiority in value the rent payable for the new holding, and every circumstance which the Court considers material, order such compensation as it may deem fit to be paid by the Board to the tenant, and, in addition, or as an alternative, may order the Board to erect such buildings, or make such other improvements on the holdings, as the Court may think reasonable.

(5) Where a tenant refuses to enter into possession of the new holding, the Court may order the payment to him by the Board of such sum as, in the opinion of the Court, is equal to the value of his interest in his former holding.

(6.) The county court may, upon application, order that such charges, liabilities, and equities as affect the tenant's interest in his former holding shall either continue to affect that holding, or be transferred to his new holding.

As has been mentioned in the Report, the Board have not found it possible to exercise these powers.

More extensive powers in this respect are proposed in the Report.

(7.) Any decision of the county court under this section shall be final, and any notice under this section determing a tenancy may be enforced by a writ of possession of the county court, but no such writ shall be executed in pursuance of this section in the case of any tenant until the Board certify to the sheriff that they are prepared forthwith to put such tenant into possession of his new holding.

(8.) Where a matter requiring the cognizance of the Court under this section arises in respect of an estate situate within the jurisdiction of more than one county court, the county court, within the jurisdiction of which the greater part in rateable value of the estate is situate, shall take cognizance of the matter.

(9.) Every notice under this section shall be served on the tenant affected thereby, either personally, or by leaving the same at his residence, or by transmitting the same by registered letter to his last known address.

1.—*continued.*

(10.) The Court may award costs to or against any party to any proceedings under this section, and in addition to any other power, may, where of opinion that a reasonable offer for the payment of compensation, or the execution of any works has been made by the Board, order a tenant to pay any costs incurred by the Board after the date of the offer. Any costs ordered to be paid by a tenant under this section may be deducted from any compensation payable to him thereunder.

(11.) Rules of court may regulate the practice and procedure under this section.

(12.) In this section the expression "estate" includes part of an estate.

As has been mentioned in the Report, the Board have not found it possible to exercise these powers. More extensive powers in this respect are proposed in the Report.

2. The right to enter upon a holding during the continuance of a statutory term conferred on a landlord by sub-section (5) of section five of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881, for the purposes therein specified, is hereby conferred on the Congested Districts Board and any person authorised by them in that behalf, in respect of any holding not subject to a statutory term which is situate upon land purchased by that Board; and for enforcing the right conferred by this section the Board shall have the like remedies as in the case of a holding subject to a statutory term.

3. Where the Congested Districts Board have, whether before or after the passing of this Act, purchased land elsewhere than in a congested districts county, the Lord Lieutenant may, if he thinks fit on the report of the Board by Order in Council, declare that for the purposes of this section the land shall be treated as part of such congested districts county as he may determine, and the Board shall thereupon have, with respect to that land, all the powers conferred on them by the Congested Districts Board (Ireland) Acts as amended by this Act.

This section would have no meaning under the power suggested in the Report, though somewhat analogous powers might be required where grass land outside the Board's area is placed at their disposal by the Land Commission.

4.—(1.) This Act may be cited as the Congested Districts Board (Ireland) Act, 1901.

(2.) This Act shall be construed and may be cited with the Congested Districts Board (Ireland) Acts.

IRISH LAND ACT, 1903.
PART II.
(SECTIONS 72–85).

72.—(1.) The sums required by the Congested Districts Board for advances for the purchase of land shall be paid to them out of advances made by the National Debt Commissioners to the Land Commission under this Act, and all payments so made shall be deemed to be advances made to the Land Commission for the purposes of the Land Purchase Acts, and shall be treated accordingly. .

(2.) Until the Congested Districts Board have disposed of the land so purchased by them to purchasers under the Land Purchase Acts, interest shall be paid by the Board to the Land Commission at the rate of two and three-quarters per cent. per annum on all sums so advanced, and for the time being outstanding, in such amounts and at such times as may be prescribed; provided that if after the expiration of five years any land so purchased has not been disposed of, payments on account of sinking fund, at the rate of ten shillings per cent. per annum, shall be made by the Board to the Commission. All such interest and sinking fund payments shall be a charge on and paid out of the annual income of the Board.

(3.) Regulations made by the Treasury may provide that where the Congested Districts Board have expended money on the improvement of an estate, and in consequence have sold parcels of that estate at an enhanced price to tenants or others, the National Debt Commissioners may advance to the Land Commission, for repayment to the Congested Districts Board, such sums as represent the increase of price consequent on the improvements.

73. For the purposes of the Guarantee Fund a congested districts county shall cease to be separated from the county in which it is geographically situate, and the local grants, under the accounts headed "Model Schools and National Schools," shall form part of the contingent portion of that fund throughout the whole administrative county, and the interest on the Church Surplus Grant shall cease to form part of that fund in any electoral division of the county.

74. There shall not be at any time vested in the trustees of the Congested Districts Board untenanted lands exceeding in the aggregate, according to the estimate of the Land Commission as approved by the Treasury, the capital value of thirty times the interest on the Church Surplus Grant.

75.—(1.) Where the Congested Districts Board purchase land for the benefit of a congested districts county, they may sell under the Land Purchase Acts any parcels thereof which are not required for tenants of holdings in that county, to any tenants or proprietors of holdings, not exceeding five pounds in rateable value, on an estate adjacent to or in the neighbourhood of that land, or to any sons of such tenants.

(2.) The provisions of this Act, with respect to the application of the Land Purchase Acts to parcels of land, shall apply in the case of the sale of any such parcel.

If the proposals contained in the Report be adopted, the Board will be free to sell any lands to tenants or proprietors of any holdings within their area, and any land that is not required for the enlargement of holdings to any sons of tenants, but as the Commission are of opinion that this power should be very sparingly exercised, it was recommended the Board should be under a statutory obligation to give full particulars in their Annual Reports, wherever they give a holding to a man, who, at the date of the creation of the new Board, was not a landholder.

76.—(1) Where a parcel of an estate purchased by the Congested Districts Board is resold to the vendor or to the trustees of a settlement, an advance under the Land Purchase Acts may be made to him, not exceeding in any case one-third of the purchase money of the estate, or twenty thousand pounds, whichever is the less.

(2) Sub-section four and sub-section six of section three of this Act shall apply in the case of any land in respect of which an advance is made in pursuance of this section.

The sub-sections referred to are as follows :—

3. (4.) Where any land is resold in pursuance of this section a Judicial Commissioner may, if he thinks it equitable, on the application within the prescribed time of any person who, at the date of the sale of the land to the Land Commission, was entitled to any estate in remainder or reversion in that land, order, upon such terms and conditions as he may think reasonable, that the land so resold shall devolve in accordance with the terms of the settlement which at the date of the sale to the Land Commission affected it.

(6.) Any land resold in pursuance of this section shall not be subject to the provisions of the Local Registration of Title (Ireland) Act, 1891, relating to the devolution of freehold registered land.

77.—(1) For the purpose of the purchase by the Congested Districts Board of an estate from the Land Judge, the provisions of this Act with respect to the powers and duties of the Land Judge in relation to an offer of the Land Commission, shall apply with the substitution of the Congested Districts Board for the Land Commission.

(2) An order of the Land Judge declaring the Congested Districts Board to be purchasers of any land shall have the effect of a conveyance made by him, and shall also vest in the Board the right to collect and recover any arrears of rent specified in the order, and a certified copy of the order shall be transmitted to the registering authority under the Local Registration of Title (Ireland) Act, 1891, and the trustees of the Board shall thereupon be registered under that Act as the absolute owners of the land.

78. The Congested Districts Board shall have, in the case of an estate purchased by them, all the powers with respect to regulations authorising the cutting or making of turf on holdings, conferred on the Land Commission by the provisions in that behalf of Part One of this Act, and those provisions shall apply accordingly with the substitution of the Congested Districts Board for the Land Commission.

79.—(1.) The Congested Districts Board may enter into agreements for the purchase of land from any person who may be certified by the Estates Commissioners to be a person who may be dealt with as the owner of the land in accordance with the provisions of Part One of this Act or otherwise, and those Commissioners shall, in such manner as may be prescribed by rules to be made by the Lord Lieutenant, prepare all such agreements and make orders consequential thereon vesting land in the trustees of the Congested Districts Board.

(2.) Where a vesting order is made in pursuance of this section the purchase money shall be distributed by the Land Commission in like manner as if it were the purchase money of land vested in the Commission, and all the provisions of Part One of this Act with respect to the distribution of the purchase money of land so vested shall apply accordingly.

80. Where an application is made to the Land Commission for an advance under the Land Purchase Acts to a person purchasing any land from the Congested Districts Board, and that Board certify that the land is in their opinion sufficient security for the repayment of the advance, the Land Commission shall sanction the advance.

81. If at any time the arrears of any purchase annuity payable in respect of an advance, sanctioned in pursuance of a certificate of the Congested Districts Board, are declared by the Land Commission to be irrecoverable, that Board shall pay, out of the interest on the Church Surplus Grant, to the Land Purchase Account, the amount of those arrears.

82.—(1) The Congested Districts Board may exercise the powers conferred on them by section one of the Congested Districts Board (Ireland) Act, 1901, on a request made by not less than three-fourths in number and rateable value of the tenants of holdings situate on any townlands which would be affected by the exercise of those powers in the event of the request being acceded to.

See p. 146.

(2) The provisions of the said section one as to an order of the county court respecting charges, liabilities, and equities affecting a tenant's interest in a holding shall apply where, with the consent of a tenant, the area of his holding is altered, or he is put into possession of a new holding, by the Congested Districts Board.

83. The resumption of a holding during the continuance of a statutory term by the Congested Districts Board may be authorised under sub-section six of section five of the Act of 1881 for the purposes of migration or the enlargements of holdings, in addition to the purposes specified in that sub-section.

84. The Under Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant shall be *ex-officio* a member of the Congested Districts Board in lieu of the member of the Land Commission nominated under sub-section one of section thirty-four of the Act of 1891.

See note to sect. 34 (1) of the Act of 1891.

85. Section eighteen of the Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Act, 1899, which makes provision with respect to congested districts counties, is hereby repealed.

The Agriculture and Technical Instruction Act, 1899, section 18, prohibited the Department from expending any of its funds in, or in relation to a congested districts county.

NOTES BY COMMISSIONERS.

MINUTE OF DISSENT BY SIR A. P. MacDONNELL.

I have signed the Report because I agree with the greater part of it, and because I am in hearty sympathy with the spirit of humanity and benevolence towards the Western peasantry which pervades it. But I am regretfully compelled to dissent on many points of principle, organisation, and method, and therefore my signature of the Report must be taken as qualified by this Minute of Dissent.

The difference between the majority of my colleagues and myself is, I am consoled to know, not so much a difference of general sentiment or of ends to be attained, as a difference of means and method. We are unanimous in thinking that the condition of congestion prevailing in large regions of the West of Ireland calls urgently for remedy; we agree on the broad lines of the remedy; we disagree regarding certain principles and administrative methods which the application of the remedy involves. I am sorry that there should be disagreement, but its existence imposes on me the obligation of frankly re-stating my reasons for the opinions I hold.

I object more or less to sixteen out of the fifty-two "Conclusions and Recommendations" summarised in Section XLVI. of the Report; but instead of setting forth a bald catalogue of objections, I shall endeavour to present them in a connected form under the following heads:—

I. The necessity for a definition of "congestion."

II. The most suitable agency for the relief of congestion.

III. If a Congested Districts Board be retained—

(*a*) How it should be composed, and what powers it should exercise;

(*b*) In what area it should operate, and what should be its relations with the Estates Commissioners;

(*c*) How land should be acquired for it.

IV. The principles on which the price of land should be fixed.

V. A summary of the organic and other changes necessary for the better relief of congestion.

I shall follow the order of these heads, working into my argument the criticisms I have to offer on other points, and the proposals I have to make on the general subject.

Section I.—The Necessity for a Definition of "Congestion."

2. The Congested Districts Board for Ireland was established under the provisions of Section 34 of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891, which described "congestion" in the following terms:—

> "Where more than twenty per cent. of the population of a county live in electoral divisions of which the total rateable value, when divided by the number of the population, gives a sum of less than one pound ten shillings for each individual, those divisions shall (for the purposes of the Act) form a separate county, in the Act referred to as a congested districts county."

Thus "congestion" may be defined as a condition of poverty produced by the concentration, within a limited area or on inferior soil, of a relatively dense population. This conception of "congestion" has underlain all Parliamentary legislation on the subject, and all exercise of jurisdiction and executive action by the Congested Districts Board since its creation.

3. It is now proposed by the majority of the Commission (1) to dispense with any definition of "congestion" and to abolish the limitations imposed on the Board's activity by Section 36 of the Act of 1891; (2) to schedule the whole Province of Connaught, with the counties of Donegal, Clare, Kerry, and the four western Unions of Cork, as subject to the jurisdiction of a remodelled Congested Districts Board; and (3) to exclude the Estates

Commissioners from operating within the area so scheduled, except when specially permitted to do so by the new Congested Districts Board. With (2) and (3) of this proposal I will deal later on: here I restrict myself to (1).

4. I agree with my colleagues in regarding as unsatisfactory the description of congestion given in the Act of 1891, but I consider it very unwise to dispense altogether with the definition and to confer on the Congested Districts Board, or other Authority which Parliament may charge with the relief of congestion unqualified discretion to spend its funds where and how it likes, within the scheduled area. The cost of relieving congestion must be, in any case, very great, and the results of ill-directed expenditure may be very demoralizing to the people. For these reasons alone expenditure should follow well-considered lines, and should be restricted to defined or definable areas. I should hesitate to entrust the power here claimed to a Department of the State: still less am I disposed to entrust it to a Board working under no Parliamentary control and dealing with funds not its own. Therefore, I would retain a definition, but would state it in precise terms, and limit remedial action to those estates which comply with it.

5. As a description of congestion, Section 36 of the Act of 1891 seems to me at once too narrow and too wide. It is too narrow because the population test as applied by the section excludes thousands of estates which are badly congested and urgently need relief. It is too wide because it allows the Congested Districts Board to spend the funds allotted for the relief of congestion on estates where no congestion exists, provided they are within the scheduled area. In order to secure economy and efficiency of expenditure on the one hand, and on the other hand to extend relief to all localities really needing it, an improved definition of congestion is required.

6. The definition which I propose is a modification of that given in Section 6 (5) of the Irish Land Act of 1903. Abandoning the population test and substituting the estate for the electoral division as the territorial unit, I would define an estate as congested when

(*a*) not less than one-fourth of its area, excluding mountain and bog-land in the owner's occupation, consists of holdings of a rateable value not exceeding £10, or

(*b*) not less than one-fourth of its area excluding mountain and bog-land is held in rundale or intermixed plots;

provided that one or more townlands of an estate in which a numerical majority of the holdings are on the average under £10 valuation, or are held in rundale or intermixed plots, may be regarded as a separate estate and congested.

7. It will be noticed that this suggested definition differs from that given in the Act of 1903 in three particulars. First, it raises the limit of valuation for congested holdings from £5 to £10; next, it excludes mountain or bog land, the valuation being a better criterion; thirdly, it precludes, through the proviso, the existence on the estate of a "grass ranch" or other "enriching area" from affecting the qualifying valuation, while it gives the authority charged with relieving congestion the necessary discretion to deal with parts of an estate. Thus an interpretation is placed on the term "congestion" which, if from one point of view favourable to the tenant, is from another point of view prohibitive of unnecessary expenditure on estates not needing it. The result should make for efficiency and economy.

It is recommended that the amended definition of congestion be of general application, in other words, that it should govern the action both of the Estates Commissioners in non-scheduled areas and of the Congested Districts Board (if the Board be retained) in scheduled areas, and that no irrecoverable expenditure of public money be made on any estate whose circumstances do not comply with the definition. If this, or something like it, is not done, we shall have the authority charged with the relief of congestion interfering where interference is not wanted—to the indefinite prolongation of these relief operations, the waste of public money, the perpetuation of political and agrarian agitation, and the sapping of the self-reliant spirit of the people.

SECTION II.—THE MOST SUITABLE AGENCY FOR THE RELIEF OF CONGESTION.

8. The problem of congestion in the West as presented in the Report is of great magnitude. The estimates given in paragraphs 111-113 of the Report (which are probably as near the truth as any that can be made) state that within the area proposed to be scheduled as under the Congested Districts Board's exclusive jurisdiction there are some 80,000 holdings under £10 valuation which must be bought and improved, while several thousand holdings over £10 valuation will also need improvement before re-sale to the tenant-purchasers. It will take at least ten millions sterling to purchase those holdings (putting the price at 20 years' purchase of the valuation); and purchase is an indispensable preliminary to enlargement or improvement.

9. For the enlargement of those congested holdings the Report states that grass land of an annual valuation of £450,000 (which I estimate would cost 12½ millions sterling at 28 years' purchase of the valuation) will be needed. Therefore the price of the fee-simple of the 80,000 holdings which must be enlarged or improved, of the land needed for the enlargement of them, and of the holdings above £10 valuation which require improvement may be estimated at 22½ millions; while if allowance be made for the purchase of tenants' interests, &c. (which is an essential step in the process of improvement and migration) the price will probably not be less than 24 millions. This great sum represents the cost of the raw material which the Authority charged with the relief of congestion has to work up into the manufactured product of economic holdings.

In this process large losses must be incurred. The Report (par. 308) estimates these losses at not less than 13 per cent. on the price of the land or something over 3 millions sterling. To this must be added the cost of establishments and the expenditure disbursed through Parish Committees which are shown in the Report at about 2¼ millions, making a total of 5¼ millions. The sum of more than 29 millions is thus reached, and as the Report contemplates the improvement of the uneconomic holdings (and they are many) already sold under the Land Purchase Acts, the total may be put at not less that 30 millions. This expenditure is on land alone.

10. I take no exception to these estimates except on one point. Assuming that the Board's methods of dealing with the problem of congestion remain unchanged, the percentage of loss on the land purchase and improvement operations is, I fear, under-estimated in the discussion in Section XLIII. of the Report. In his paper, printed on page 42 of the Appendix to our 11th Report, the Board's Chief Land Inspector, Mr. Doran, satisfactorily shows, I think, that "migration cannot be safely carried out at a less loss than 30 per cent. on the price of the land," and also that the general average loss on the creation of new holdings and the improvement of the old ones cannot be safely taken at a lower rate than 15 per cent. on the price of the land. Indeed, my doubt is whether, on Mr. Doran's figures, 15 per cent. is not too low an average.

If this policy of migration is to be effectively carried out, new holdings must be found for *at least* 20,000 families out of the 80,000 who are congested. A loss of 30 per cent. on the price of 20,000 holdings carved out of grass lands (average valuation per holding £15, and average number of years' purchase 28 years) will be about 2½ millions sterling, or £125 per holding. An average loss of even 12 per cent. on the remaining 60,000 holdings, with the balance of untenanted land which has to be bought, will reach another 2 millions sterling, thus giving 4½ millions as the irrecoverable loss on the land improvement operations connected with the 80,000 congested holdings of under £10 valuation. But several thousand holdings above that valuation have also to be improved, the cost of which, together with the cost of Parish Committees, and of establishments for a period of 23 years (over which the Board's operations are to last, according to the general tenor of the Report) will reach at least 2½ millions sterling (see par. 295). Therefore, assuming that the procedure of the Board for relieving congestion

remains substantially unchanged, the total irrecoverable loss would be 7 millions sterling; and this I think a more accurate estimate than that which may be inferred from the tenor of the Report which, however, does not commit itself to any precise figure.

To this great work of relieving congestion the Report proposes to place under the Board's general control the work of transferring from proprietors to tenants, under the Land Purchase Acts, all non-congested estates in these nine western counties, with, of course, all non-congested holdings in congested estates (unless it allows the Estates Commissioners to effect the transfer of estates that call for no treatment); and it recommends that these enormous operations, involving an expenditure of between forty and fifty millions of money, should be entrusted to an independent Board of 20 members, 9 of whom are to be elected by the County Councils of the nine administrative counties now containing scheduled districts; 3 are to be stipendiary members charged respectively with the conduct of business in the Land, Fisheries, and Industries Departments of the Board; 4 are to be *ex-officio* members; and 4 are to be nominated by the Crown.

11. From this proposal I dissent for the following reasons :—

Wherever history records a peaceful transfer of land on a great scale from owner to occupier, financed by State funds, that transfer has been invariably effected by State agency. There is no instance on record, so far as I know, where such a task has been entrusted to a Body independent of State control. A voluntary Body may be most usefully employed on the philanthropic side of such an undertaking, but not in determining the conditions of the transfer. And if I am met with the statement that the Congested Districts Board has already negotiated for the purchase of nearly two millions worth of land, my answer is that the process has been tentative, the negotiations have been laborious and slow, while such measure of success as has attended them is largely due to the fact that the Board has been, in this connection, wisely responsive to official guidance. But who will prophesy similar responsiveness of a semi-elective independent Board?

12. The relief of congestion is, in my opinion, the most difficult administrative problem of the time in Ireland. A permanent and radical solution of that problem is only to be found in a policy of State aided emigration to the Colonies, or in a policy of migration, which means removing people from congested districts to new holdings carved out of untenanted land bought for the purpose, and distributing the holdings thus left vacant among their former neighbours.

The first alternative is a counsel of despair. In the second alternative only, according to the Report, is salvation for the congested districts to be found. I agree; but at the same time I point out that the policy of migration has received, and will no doubt continue to receive, the strenuous opposition of the sons of tenant farmers and other landless men living in the neighbourhood of the untenanted land which it is proposed that migrants shall occupy. The Government must, I submit, decide *in limine* on the answer to this crucial question, whether in the general interests of the country it is better to reserve for migrants from congested districts those portions of the grass lands of Connaught which are not wanted for the enlargement of congested holdings in the immediate neighbourhood of these grass lands, or whether it is better to distribute that surplus among the local landless men.

The Government may of course abstain from coming to a definite decision upon this question. It may trust to the tact and adroitness of its agents in reconciling opposing claims and may wait upon events. For a waiting policy of this kind a good deal might, no doubt, be said if we could take our own time and choose our opportunities, but no permanent relief of congestion—indeed I venture to say no substantial temporary relief in a vast number of cases—is to be found in temporizing measures. If therefore the problem of congestion is to be dealt with in earnest an immediate decision must be come to on the question above stated.

It is not by fostering Cottage Industries or by increasing the productiveness of small holdings, or by improving the dwellings of the people, beneficial though all these be, that we shall remove the permanent causes of impoverish-

ment in congested districts; for Cottage Industries are beaten out of the field by foreign competition; intensive cultivation finds its limit in the inexorable law of diminishing returns; and improvements in the home are not maintained, or continued in an atmosphere of poverty. The causes of congestion lie deeper than these palliatives can reach; they lie in the prevalence of holdings on which a family cannot live—"uneconomic holdings" as they are called; in the right of sub-division which tenants practice; in the freedom with which they mortgage their holdings; in the defective character of Primary Education; and in the *inertia* and moral languor which these closely allied causes produce.

13. While the best hopes of relieving congestion lie in the policy of migration it is certain that the execution of the policy is beset with difficulties. The people living near the grass lands claim them as their and their children's patrimony, and resent the intrusion of strangers; the people to be migrated are suspicious and hard to move; the process of settlement calls for very deliberate action* regarding the choice of the land to be brought under tillage, the selection of migrants, and the conditions of their settlement in their new homes; finally, the policy should be pursued firmly and persistently with due and even preferential regard for the claims of the tenants occupying uneconomic holdings near the grass lands. I cannot agree with my colleagues in thinking it in the least likely that such an undertaking can be carried to a successful end with expedition and economy by an independent semi-elective Board composed of heterogeneous elements and subject to political and local pressure of all kinds.

If migration be the real remedy for congestion, and if there be, as there certainly is, an acute conflict between the claims for land of local "landless" men and of "congests" to be migrated from a distance, it follows as a necessary consequence that it is not a popular Board which should be entrusted with the work. For local feeling will be in favour of the local "landless" men, and the elected members of the Board must necessarily reflect the feelings and opinions of their constituents.† In these circumstances the policy which the Report recommends could only be carried out by the nominated members disregarding the opinion of the elected members, and thereby coming into collision with popular opinion in every district in which migrants were being settled. The advantages claimed by the Report for a Board with an elective element would then disappear, while the Board would remain bereft of the authority attaching to a Government Department.

I agree with the Report in thinking that the larger the area over which migration is practised the more effective it will be. The Province of Connaught is a better area to operate in than the districts now scheduled, and all Ireland is better than Connaught. Therefore the body which can migrate "congests" to any part of Ireland is better suited for the work than the Body with more limited scope of action. Last March the Estates Commissioners settled a very threatening agrarian disturbance in County Galway by quickly arranging to migrate some large tenants to Leinster, thereby making their Galway farms available for the enlargement of small holdings there. If the district had been under the present or proposed Congested Districts Board, the operation, if possible at all, could not have been done without numberless embarrassments and delays. For these reasons I submit that the Estates Commissioners are alone competent to treat migration on broad lines; they alone are capable of drawing on all Ireland for the untenanted land needed to redress the balance of the West. Moreover it is by entrusting the work to

* The Report (page 113) recommends that "on an average it would be necessary for the Board to hold an estate for two years." The inference from Section 72 (2) of the Act of 1903 is that the Board may not keep an estate before re-sale for more than five years. I would leave five years as the maximum limit and look for a three years' average. In new holdings a four years' average might be better.

† The chairman of the Roscommon County Council, speaking at Elphin on 9th April in prophecy of the character of our Report, is stated to have used the following significant words:—"This Body (the new C. D. Board) will have on it one member elected by each County Council, who will know how to look after the people of his own county . . . There is no need of saying that the people of one parish must get all the land in that parish." How conducive to impartial and effective administration it would be to have a Board, with all but half its members animated by these sentiments!

them that we shall best avoid that "fining down" of tenancies (which the Report recommends), to a valuation of £100, whereby the "strong farmer" class, to whom their smaller neighbours should look up for lessons in progressive agriculture and the amenities of life, would suffer, the market for labour would be diminished, the greed of land stimulated beyond measure, and the countryside reduced to one dead level of small occupants, selfish and ignorant.

I am in favour of acquiring, for the relief of congestion, so much of the "ranches" and grazing farms, no matter by whom held, as is not "fattening" land; I would not exempt nominal farmers whose real livelihood comes from other sources than the land; but I am very doubtful about the expediency of "fining down" true agricultural tenancies. To the "fining down" of "residential" farms, no matter of what size, I am opposed; while I regard the "fining down" of holdings bought under the Land Purchase Acts as destructive of confidence in Government, and calculated to demoralize the people, not only of the congested districts but of all Ireland.

14. Whatever agency we employ for the relief of congestion must, if the work is to be done with expedition, be invested with much larger powers than the law at present confers on the Congested Districts Board. The power of compulsorily purchasing congested estates, and the grass lands required for the relief of congestion in them—I do not go beyond this—is essential not only in the Western Counties, to which the Report would limit the power, but wherever throughout Ireland congestion is to be found. As between two bodies, both engaged on the relief of congestion, it is, in my opinion, truly illogical and unreasonable to propose, as the Report does, to grant the power of compulsorily acquiring land to the Congested Districts Board which is independent of Parliamentary control, and to refuse it to the Estates Commissioners, a great State Department completely subject to such control. The Report (par. 320) says that the evidence given has not satisfied the Commissioners that compulsory powers, while necessary for the Congested Districts Board, are wanted to enable the Estates Commissioners to relieve congestion. But as a matter of fact two of the Estates Commissioners have told us that they did require such powers for the relief of congestion, and I can find on the record no evidence to the contrary. Moreover, it is the fact that generally throughout Ulster, wherever congestion exists, the untenanted land is so scant that without compulsory powers it would be impossible to relieve congestion there. This conclusion is confirmed by the experience of the Estates Commissioners in working the Evicted Tenants Act.

15. When congested property is bought it is essential that full power to re-arrange the holdings, to improve them, and to transfer tenants from old buildings to new ones shall be conferred upon the appointed agency. These powers involve interference in a far-reaching way with private rights and legal relations. On which of the two agencies—the Estates Commissioners or this large semi-elective independent Board—is it expedient to confer them? It would be a new departure in constitutional government, as well as a leap in the dark administratively, to confer them on the Board; but the Estates Commissioners, whom experience has shown to be capable of administering such powers with prudence and success, may be properly, and, according to precedent, invested with them.

But these are not the only powers which would have to be conferred on the Board if effect were given to the scheme of the Report. It would also be necessary to confer on it the judicial and executive powers which the Estates Commissioners now possess in connection with the purchase of Estates, re-sale of holdings, and decisions on all questions of law and fact that daily arise during that operation. No one, however, will contend that such powers could be entrusted to an independent semi-elective Board not sitting continuously but with considerable intervals. And if it be contended that the exercise of the powers might be delegated to one or more of the members of the Board I point out that by such a delegation these members, as exercising judicial functions, would become independent of the Board which itself is to be independent of Parliamentary control. In fact, we should arrive at a dictatorship of a more pronounced type than the most autocratic Government Department.

16. For reasons which I shall state in due place, I hold that a nominated Board of moderate size is a far more efficient agent for relieving congestion than the large semi-elective Board proposed in the Report. But here I wish to consider what inferences may be drawn from our experience of the working of the existing Board. One of the reasons why this Commission was appointed is the insignificant impression hitherto made on the problem of congestion by the operations of the Congested Districts Board which have extended over 17 years. These operations may be classified under five heads :— Agriculture, Industries, Public Works, Fisheries and Land Improvement. Under Agriculture some good work has been done in improving the breed of cattle, but in no other direction is any permanent good result to be traced. Under Industries a few factories have been subsidised, like those at Foxford and Annagry, and the support given to Cottage Industries has increased the family receipts to some extent. But Foxford excepted, I doubt if any of these undertakings possess the stamp of permanency, and even Foxford is doubtful. The sum spent on piers and roads has been well spent, and excellent work of a permanent kind has been done under the head of Fisheries and its subsidiary industries of boat-building, barrel-making, net-mending, and fish-curing. The pity is that more money could not have been devoted to this branch of work, and a more courageous policy pursued. The Land, however, has, at all events for the last ten years, been the chief object of the Board's solicitude, and what the Board has here to show is some excellent work of a sanitary kind done by the Board itself and by Parish Committees (the latter spending £52,000) and 6,965 holdings (bought for £667,716) re-sold to tenants after improvement. The results of the Parish Committees' work will be permanent or not according as the holdings on which it has been done provide their owners with the means of decent living. But by far the larger number of the holdings that have been re-sold to tenants remain uneconomic, and there is disillusionment in the reflexion that this perpetuation of congestion destroys the hope of ultimate permanent improvement.

I admit in the fullest way that the Board has been a benefactor to thousands of poor tenants whose small holdings it has improved, if it has not enlarged them ; whose homes it has made brighter and more sanitary, and whose incomes it has increased through Cottage Industries. But it is not by these means, beneficent though they be in their degrees, that the congestion of the West is to be permanently relieved. When all is said that can be, and should be, said in praise, the stubborn fact remains that (to quote the words of the Board's Chief Land Inspector, Mr. Doran) "the Board has only kept on toying with the problem."

17. The truth is that up to the purchase of the Dillon Estate in 1899, the work of the Board was that of the pioneer and the philanthropist. That purchase began a new chapter in the Board's record, and for the next few years its energies were directed to improving that sadly neglected property, The Board did not proceed by migration (although one of its early resolutions showed its appreciation of that remedy), but by improving holdings without, as a rule, enlarging them. To Mr. Wyndham must be given the credit of clearly enunciating the truer principle when, on introducing the Bill which became the Act of 1903, he asked for a credit for the purchase of untenanted land : "That", he said, "will add to the working capital of the Congested Districts Board who abandoning a policy of buying a few estates here and there and trying to sell them as quickly as possible, will adopt a policy whereby a number of estates will be bought, the tenants being expected to do something to work out their own salvation."

This principle of purchasing untenanted land, as the true basis for relieving congestion, has since then been kept steadily in view by the Board. But it soon became apparent that the pursuance of that policy—the only sane policy if congestion is not to be perpetuated—postulated the grant to the Board of much larger funds for expenditure in improvement and migration than it controlled. So far back as 1905, attention was called to the matter, and the Government was warned that the Board could not fulfil the expectations created by the Irish Land Act of 1903, if larger funds were not provided for it. These warnings combined with the public appreciation of the smallness of the results which the Board had achieved compared with the magnitude of its task, led to the appointment of this

Royal Commission, and the Board's present condition of impecuniosity is due to the fact that the Commission was unable to report a year earlier than it has done.

With larger funds, better organization, and more efficient establishments, the Board can do a higher quality of work and can greatly improve on the past rate of progress. But knowing as I do the strength and weaknesses of the Board (points which, I venture to say, are not adequately disclosed in the evidence or in the Report) I feel certain that without altogether changing its character and bringing it nearer the type of a Government Department, the Board cannot be made capable of increasing its past out-turn of work much more than three-fold. But even with such a great advance in efficiency, the Board would still take more than a generation to solve the problem of congestion within the larger area proposed to be scheduled.

18. If then the solution of the problem is not to be expected within any shorter period, even from a fully efficient Board, the question arises—can the Estates Commissioners working alone or reinforced be trusted to effect the desired solution more speedily. My answer is that they can. Consider what work the Estates Commissioners have done under the Act of 1903. Excluding from notice direct sales between landlords and tenants (whereby the ownership of 15½ millions worth of property, held by 34,465 tenants, has been transferred), the Estates Commissioners have within four years bought (under Sections 6, 7, and 8 of the Act), 300,276 acres of land at a gross cost of £2,914,321. Within the same period they have re-sold to the tenants (and vested in them) 203,781 acres of that land valued at £2,224,413, having spent £69,696 on improvements. During these operations they have created 644 new holdings and enlarged 2,822 old ones.

19. The Congested Districts Board, since 1896 when it was empowered to buy land, has bought 460,702 acres of land, for which it has paid or agreed to pay £1,947,621. During the same period it has re-sold to the tenants (but not vested in all) 171,452 acres for £766,403, having spent £183,000 on improving them. During the process of improvement, 448 new holdings were created and 1,473 old holdings were enlarged.

This comparison, on its face, is unfavourable to the Congested Districts Board, the out-turn of work (under Sections 6–8 of the Act of 1903) by the Estates Commissioners in four years being much greater than that of the Congested Districts Board in more than double the time. But I agree with paragraph 99 of the Report that the work of the two bodies does not admit of close comparison, because the Board had to deal with a much poorer population and much worse land. Still the comparison is useful as pointing to an essential difference between the principles and methods of working adopted by each body.

I admit that the congested districts require special treatment, but nevertheless I think the Congested Districts Board's methods of relieving congestion are of a slower, more laborious, more minute and more eleemosynary character than seem really necessary in an undertaking of this great magnitude. Having seen the work of the Estates Commissioners and of the Congested Districts Board, I have formed the impression that the tenants on the Board's estates have not been made to "work out their own salvation" to the extent that was good for them; and that the Estates Commissioners, while giving the people all the assistance they really required, have been more successful in inspiring a spirit of self-reliance and of self-help. We have it on the authority of trustworthy and competent witnesses, who have seen the two bodies operating in the same neighbourhood, that they prefer the methods of the Estates Commissioners to those of the Congested Districts Board, though the evidence, especially the clerical evidence (mostly from districts in which the Estates Commissioners have not operated) is generally in favour of the Board. But the problem of relieving congestion is so enormous, its cost so great, and the necessity of building up self-reliance of character in these congested districts is so imperative, that it seems to me the better course not to do so much for the "congested" tenant as the Board does, but to rough-hew the holding for him and to leave to him and his family, with some money-help, the task of shaping it to their own ends. Spoon-feeding can be carried too far.

For all these reasons I maintain that, to carry through this great policy of Land Improvement and Migration with success, expedition, and economy, it is not a semi-elective independent Board that is wanted, but a thoroughly efficient State Department; and, in my opinion, such a Department is ready to our hands in the Estates Commissioners.

In view of what is said in paragraph 100 of the Report, who can doubt that if the Irish Councils Bill had become law this conclusion would have been adopted by my colleagues? I am loath to think that the ill-starred rejection of that measure may have one more unfortunate result in the postponement for years of the final relief of congestion in the West.

20. The preceding considerations lead me to the following conclusions:—

First: It is essential that the solution of the problem of congestion should be attained as soon as possible.

Second: If a Board be retained, the solution of the problem will be postponed for a lengthened period—at least a generation. The delay will be all the greater if the Board be large and elective, because of the comparative inefficiency of a larger Board.

Third: The Estates Commissioners are already doing the kind of work required in the congested districts with marked success, expedition, and economy: If they were substituted for the Congested Districts Board they would finish the work in much less time than the Board would be likely to take.

21. The Estates Commissioners have now acquired an experience in purchasing land, arranging holdings, migrating tenants, and disposing of all questions arising in connection therewith which makes them peculiarly fitted for this great work of the resettlement of the congested districts. It might be necessary to create in their Department a section devoted to the relief of congestion alone, the staff and funds now controlled by the Congested Districts Board being transferred to it.

The Estates Commissioners' organization for this work would probably cost much less than the organization of the remodelled Board. The cost of the Land Staff of the Congested Districts Board is about £25,000 a year at present; under the proposed Board it would become £66,000 (see par. 295 of the Report.) The cost of the entire out-door staff of the Estates Commissioners employed on estates purchased under Sections 6, 7 and 8 of the Act of 1903 averages £10,750 per annum since 1903. In truth the ultimate cost of the whole policy of relieving congestion in the West will depend largely on the agency employed. The cost will be less if the agency be that of the Estates Commissioners, and more if it be that of a Board.

Section III. (*a*).—If a Board is to be Retained, its Composition and Powers.

22. If Parliament is not prepared to abolish the Congested Districts Board at once and to transfer its functions and establishments to the Estates Commissioners, then the question arises—should the Board be maintained on its present lines, or should the very differently constituted Board proposed by the Report be established? To that question, I reply unhesitatingly that the Board should be maintained on the present lines, a Stipendiary Member, whose whole time should be given to the Board's work being substituted for one of the present members; that it should be no larger than it now is (eleven members); and that it should be composed, as at present, of *ex-officio* and nominated members. I agree with my colleagues in thinking that the present members should vacate their seats and that the Board should be recruited anew.

In selecting members of the Board, the aim should be to secure the services of men of business habits, sympathetic temperament, and prudent judgment, *who would look on the problem of congestion as a whole, and whose impartiality would be proof against mere local considerations or local pressure.* I am not insensible to the advantages of having on the Board gentlemen possessed of local experience. There are on the existing Board no more useful members than the Most Rev. the Bishop of Raphoe, and the Rev. Denis O'Hara, whose local experience and influence have been invaluable.

But it will be as easy in the future as in the past to nominate to the Board members who reside in the congested districts, and combine local knowledge and experience with the essential qualifications I have described above—qualifications which would, I venture to say, be possessed by elected members only in very exceptional cases.

23. Local knowledge and experience are of two kinds—general and particular. It is the former kind that is wanted on the Board. Information regarding particular localities and individuals is best supplied by the Board's own officials and by associating with the Board the Local Government agencies which already exist, and may be expanded.

I consider it most important that the County Committees under the Agriculture and Technical Instruction Act, 1899, should be brought into closer touch and co-operation with the Congested Districts Board. On this point I am in entire agreement with the various witnesses who have recommended the creation of advisory sub-committees in the congested counties, and I think that the Agriculture and Technical Instruction Act, 1899, should be amended so as to permit of the establishment of such sub-committees in rural districts or even smaller areas for general administrative purposes, such as the relief of congestion, the management of woods, and the control of turbary, and sporting rights, under the Land Purchase Acts; not to mention other branches of the Administration not cognate to the present enquiry. If these sub-committees were created we should have in the county organisations the fullest means of securing to the Congested Districts Board not only information as to facts and local feeling, but also co-operation in the execution of its plans and in the control of the expenditure of its funds on local improvements. *I am strongly in favour of developing existing constitutional agencies to meet fresh local needs, and strongly against the creation of special agencies ad hoc to meet such needs.*

24. In determining the size of the Board, exclusive attention should be paid to the business-like and systematic transaction of work. A board of moderate size is a far more efficient agency for work than a large board. When a board is of such a size that business can no longer be conducted by conversation but must be carried on by debate, it ceases to be an effective instrument for executive action, because debate causes friction, waste of time, and divisions on party lines, not to mention the introduction of controversial topics.

I shall not be truthfully accused of repugnance to the introduction of the elective principle in its proper place, or of mistrusting the County Councils as an electorate. I am entirely in favour of associating the representatives of the people with the Government in directing and controlling the administration of Irish business; and I believe that the Government of Ireland will remain as unpopular and inefficient, as I know it to be, until this most salutary reform is introduced and the Irish people come gradually to learn how to administer their own affairs. But in the constitution of the Congested Districts Board, created as it has been to remedy a most pressing hardship, the elective principle would be entirely out of place, because it would increase the Board to an unwieldy size, and thereby make it inefficient; would convert it from being an executive into a political and debating body, and would expose it to local pressure of all kinds, not only as regards its policy but as regards its practice and the distribution of funds and patronage. Moreover, in a Board so constituted the elective members would naturally favour the tenant's point of view, and this would lead to pressure being put on the Government to use its power of nomination to establish an equilibrium of opinion. In the result, the Board would become a partizan Board, cease to command confidence, and sink into an arena of acrimonious discussions.

25. The recommendation to create a semi-elective Board is supported on the ground that the Board would thereby be made more effective and its policy more acceptable to the people generally. But to men of sense and shrewdness, as my countrymen are when their heads are not filled with wind, the popularity and effectiveness of the Board will be best guaranteed by the method which secures prudence, impartiality, and detachment from local prejudices at Head Quarters, and close association in the districts with the

various bodies concerned with the work of local government. Such a method is surely far preferable to a plan which creates at Head Quarters a Board of conflicting opinions and divergent interests, and relies for the acceptance of its policy in each district on the uncertain advocacy of one man who may cease to be "popular" when he exhibits moderation, or when the Party which elected him ceases to be dominant. There is, in my judgment, no comparison between the great benefits which the Board can reap from the co-operation of the local constitutional bodies properly expanded for the purpose, and the precarious results likely to be secured by the advocacy of an elected member.

26. I recommend that the Board, if retained, remain as at present composed of 11 *ex-officio* and nominated members. The *ex-officio* members, at present three in number (the Chief Secretary, the Under Secretary, and the Vice-President of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction), should be raised to four by the addition of an Estates' Commissioner. The reason is the necessity, admitted by all, of having the Estates Commissioners represented on the Board as the Land Commission was before the passing of Sec. 84 of the Act of 1903. Of the seven nominated members, I think four should be gentlemen usually resident in the congested counties (say, one from Donegal, one from Kerry or Cork, and two from Connaught). Of the other three members, one should be a paid member of the Board chosen, because of his administrative ability. The most striking defect in the Board's organisation at present is the want of driving power and the absence of co-ordination and control over the various branches of its activity in the intervals between the meetings. There is, it is true, provision for the assembling of special meetings, and no Under Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant has ever grudged working overtime daily for the Board. But these arrangements which may have sufficed, when the Board was in its experimental stage are quite inadequate now, and a glance at one of the agenda papers will show what a vast number of small matters are, on each occasion, kept over for the Board's orders. The necessity of dealing with these minor matters at the Board's meetings, diverts attention from more important work and leads to waste of time. The supervision of a paid member would be of infinite benefit in stimulating activity, maintaining efficiency, and co-ordinating activities in the various branches of the work. If a Board is to be retained the Commissioners are agreed as to the essential importance of this improvement. The chief difference is as to whether there should be one paid member, who would correspond to the managing director of a commercial company, or whether there should be three, one for each branch of the Board's work—Land, Fisheries, and Industries.

27. There should, I think, be only one paid member, because one member is sufficient for discharging the functions of direction and control in the intervals of the meetings, and because I am opposed to the continuance, under the Board, of any work except the relief of agricultural congestion. In my opinion the Board should, in future, have nothing to do with industries or fisheries except by arrangement with the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction in special cases such as the establishment of fishing villages mentioned in Paragraph 268. It was quite right that the Congested Districts Board should have concerned itself with industries and fisheries while as yet no Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction had been called into being. But the time has come when the Congested Districts Board should divest itself of functions for the due discharge of which a special Department has been recently created by Parliament. That Department has now passed its novitiate. It has agencies specially designed to deal with these branches of work in the country generally, or agencies which, if not at the present moment completely adapted to the needs of the congested areas, can be readily adjusted to their requirements. To any such adjustment the suggestion to create Sub-Committees under the Agriculture and Technical Instruction Act in rural districts or smaller divisions will powerfully contribute. I think it is bad policy to maintain two agencies for doing the same work. The division of labour provided for in the Act of 1899 should now be carried into practice, and over-lapping of functions should be stopped. The presence on the Congested Districts Board of both the President and Vice-President of the Department of Agriculture will afford ample security

that the interests of the congested counties as regards industries and fisheries will be duly provided for. I may add that, even if it be decided to maintain the Board's control over industries and fisheries within its jurisdiction, I should be still of the opinion that there should be only one stipendiary member for the control and direction of these branches of the Board's work as well as of the business of Land Purchase. The success of the whole plan greatly depends on the choice of the stipendiary member. He should be a man of proved administrative ability, firmness, tact, information, and well experienced in official business.

28. It has been suggested above that additional powers must be conferred on the Congested Districts Board if it is to be retained. For the reasons to be stated presently, *I would give the Board no powers whatsoever of purchasing land* unless in the case of tenants' interests incidental to land improvement and migration, when these interests can be acquired by voluntary negotiations. These transactions are petty transactions involving comparatively small sums. But its power to execute improvements and to re-arrange congested holdings should be increased. At present the powers of the Congested Districts Board to re-arrange and improve congested estates are practically contained in the Congested Districts Board Act of 1901, and long experience has proved how futile they are in practice. If the work of the Board is not to be indefinitely protracted we must run some risk and invest the Board with power to do what it thinks best for the occupants of congested holdings. But as the necessary powers involve radical interference with private rights they ought not to be conferred on the Board without strict safeguards. One safeguard must, as now, take the form of liberty to the tenant to appeal to a Judicial Court against the Board's action, and to receive monetary compensation if his appeal is allowed. Another safeguard might be the retention in some shape or other, and possibly on the application of the parties, of power to Government to supervise the Board's action in this branch of its work.

Section III. (*b*).—In what Area should the Congested Districts Board Operate, and what should be its Relations with the Estates Commissioners.

29. The recommendation made in the Report on this head is that the whole of Connaught, and the counties of Donegal, Clare, Kerry, and the four western Unions of Cork should be scheduled as under the exclusive control of the Congested Districts Board. This recommendation, if accepted, *will bring one-third of Ireland* under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Congested Districts Board; will vastly increase the Board's duties and responsibilities; will widen enormously its opportunities for spending public money; and by converting it into the Authority, under the Act of 1903, for the purchase and transfer of land on a great scale, will radically change its character, and confer upon it powers which no Board of the kind has, so far as I know, ever been entrusted with.

The area within which the Congested Districts Board operates at present (*i.e.*, the congested or scheduled districts) contains 2,986,681 acres, comprised in 84,954 holdings, and having a valuation of £523,188. The valuation per holding, therefore, is about £6 3*s.* 2*d.*

The "additional" area (*i.e.*, the new area which the Report (par. 107) proposes to schedule) contains 3,797,045 acres, comprised in 95,366 holdings, and having a valuation of £1,650,858. The valuation per holding, therefore, is £17 6*s.* 2*d.*

30. These figures demonstrate that while "congestion" is the characteristic mark of the existing scheduled areas, freedom from "congestion" is the characteristic mark of the "additional" areas which it is now proposed to schedule. And this statement, true of the whole "additional" area, is, with the exception of one county, Leitrim, not less true of its constituent parts. The average valuation per holding of the "additional area" in Co. Donegal is £18 (round figures); in Galway, £18; in Mayo, £15; in Roscommon, £18; in Sligo, £17; in Kerry, £17; in Clare, £19; in Cork, £16. Only in Leitrim, where the average valuation of the additional area is £12, is the limit of congestion approached.

31. The reasoning of the majority of my colleagues in support of the proposal to schedule this great area, covering one-third of Ireland, seems to me reducible to the following statement. The greater part of the area in question is either congested or consists of untenanted land needed for the relief of congestion. Therefore the scheme of scheduling an entire province or county as subject to the Board's jurisdiction affords a convenient way of dealing with the problem of congestion as a whole in the West of Ireland—(1) because it brings within the Board's jurisdiction congested estates with which it cannot at present deal; (2) because it is a simple way of defining the area within which the power of compulsorily acquiring land must be exercised; (3) because it extends to the area from which congestion may be relieved the powers which are exercised over the congested estates themselves; and (4) because it facilitates migration by establishing a uniform control throughout the entire scheduled area.

These reasons are more specious than real. In the first place it is manifest that nearly half of the "additional" area is not congested at all. Out of the 95,000 holdings which it contains, only 57,000 are shown as under £10 valuation. Some of these have been, it would seem, already dealt with, and nothing is easier, should Parliament so desire, than by simple enumeration to bring the congested estates in those non-scheduled tracts within the Board's control while excluding estates which are not congested. In the next place the definition of the area within which land should be compulsorily acquired in no way necessitates the scheduling of that area as under the Board's jurisdiction, nor does it facilitate the Board's acquisition of it. The land when acquired passes under the Board's jurisdiction by the operation of the existing law so that scheduling beforehand does not help the subsequent treatment of the land. The third reason would be certainly effective in enabling the Board to spend more money where it cannot do so now; but that is an argument against giving the power. In other respects the proposal would give the Board no powers which it does not at present possess. The fourth reason might have plausibility if the considerations urged in paragraph 13 above did not predominate.

In short, I am unable to accept the proposal because its effect would be to overwhelm the Board with work which it could not discharge; to bring under the Board's control, and make lawful objects of public expenditure thousands of estates which are not congested; to exclude the Estates Commissioners from co-operation in the work of relieving congestion in the West which they are highly competent to execute; and to give to an independent semi-elective body what really amounts to a controlling voice over the administration of the Land Purchase Acts over one-third of Ireland, involving functions which it is entirely unfitted to discharge.

I object to making the misery of the western peasant the occasion for a semi-political experiment which will indefinitely delay his relief.

32. In the area now scheduled under the Act of 1891 there are, we learn, from Mr. Doran, 50,000 congested holdings still untouched by the Congested Districts Board, which must be bought and improved, while some 280,000 acres of untenanted land must be purchased for their betterment. At a rate of progress three times greater than that of the past 10 years, it would take the Congested Districts Board, when brought up to the highest pitch of efficiency on existing lines, some 23 years to remove congestion from these 50,000 holdings. It seems to me that this is a task sufficient to tax the powers of any Board and I would, therefore, keep the Board to the great task of relieving congestion in the area already scheduled as congested under the Act of 1891, or in such additional areas as the Lord Lieutenant for facility of administration may add irrespective of the population test.

33. If from the 80,000 congested holdings stated by the Report to exist in the larger area we deduct the 50,000 congested holdings which according to Mr. Doran are contained in the area already scheduled we find that in the "additional" area which the Report proposes to schedule there exist some 30,000 congested holdings, some exhibiting congestion of a bad type. It is evident that if the relief of this congestion be superimposed upon the task the Board is now engaged on, the completion of that task would be indefinitely delayed. In such circumstances, it would be administrative

folly to reject the co-operation of the Estates Commissioners, and to refuse to employ them in relieving this congestion existing in the "additional" area now proposed to be scheduled. I am the more convinced of the unwisdom of such a refusal when experience has proved that the Estates Commissioners are a very expeditious and effective agency for the relief of congestion.

The real question then for decision is how shall the co-operation of the Estates Commissioners be secured without creating competition or friction with the Congested Districts Board (if it is to be retained) working within its own jurisdiction. It ought not to be beyond the reach of administrative ability to provide rules which will prevent this competition, and secure the necessary co-ordination of effort.

34. I suggest the following rules to that end :—

1. Limitation of the Congested Districts Board's activities to the areas now scheduled as congested under the Act of 1891, or which may hereafter be, or remain, scheduled under powers to be now taken.
2. No estate within the areas so scheduled to be bought or sold under the Land Purchase Acts except for the purposes of or with the consent of the Congested Districts Board. But if the Board delay or refuse its consent in case of a non-congested estate, an appeal to lie to the Lord Lieutenant, whose order shall be final.
3. The Estates Commissioners to be the sole purchasing authority, both within and without the scheduled areas.
4. The Estates Commissioners to buy for the Congested Districts Board, on requisition from them, any estate or land within the scheduled area, or any untenanted land outside the scheduled area needed for the relief of congestion, and to make over the estate or land, when bought, to the Congested Districts Board for subsequent treatment.*
5. The Estates Commissioners to hold for or make over to the Congested Districts Board any untenanted land acquired by the Commissioners in any administrative county containing scheduled districts which is not needed for the relief of congestion in estates purchased by the Commissioners.
6. The functions of the Congested Districts Board to be restricted to the improvement of estates bought on its requisition and their re-sale to the tenants, and to matters ancillary to such improvement.

35. The determining principles of this scheme are :—

(*a*) The necessity of solving this problem of congestion in the West at the earliest possible date.

(*b*) The fact that the relief of congestion in the areas now scheduled is in itself a vast task, and as great as should be imposed upon any board which can be created.

(*c*) The efficiency of the Estates Commissioners as an agency for the purchase of land and for the relief of congestion; and the importance of employing them in this work under conditions which shall preclude overlapping and friction with the Congested Districts Board.

36. In paragraph 17 above I have stated my opinion that, without bringing the Board nearer the type of a Government Department, it cannot be made capable of increasing its out-turn of work more than three-fold or at the very outside four-fold. A thoroughly efficient Board organized on the lines I have indicated, should be capable of holding at one time two millions' worth of land, and of annually re-selling one-fourth or more of it after the necessary improvements and migration of tenants had been effected.

The Board's income from public funds is at present £86,250. Its expenditure on fisheries and industries—branches which should now pass over to the Department of Agriculture—has averaged about £16,000 per annum.† As that

* See proviso to paragraph 49 (iii.) below.

† This is the figure furnished me by the Congested District Board. It has not passed under the criticism of the Commission but its strict accuracy is not material to the argument which here is concerned with procedure only.

sum should be transferred, with the branches of work, to the Department, the Board would be left with £70,250 fixed income. To enable it to deal annually with £500,000 worth of land, in connection with which large migration work must be carried out, a loss of about £75,000 would have to be incurred, to which the Board's present income can only contribute about £11,000. Therefore an addition of £64,000 per annum is required; and as increased establishments will be needed and some provision made for the excellent work now done by Parish Committees, the addition should be fixed at £90,000, or, say, a total of £160,000 per annum. The Board's power of borrowing for improvements from the Board of Works should extend to £150,000 instead of £100,000 as at present, and should be free of the condition now imposed of having to supply from its own funds one-third of the sum it desires to raise on loan.

With the funds thus provided, supplemented by the surplus rents and profits of purchased estates remaining over after the payment of interest on purchase advances, the Board's task *within the districts now scheduled* would be probably completed in 25 years. If the Board showed itself thoroughly efficient, and able to deal with more land in the year, then the scope of its activity might be widened.

The loss to the State would be about four millions sterling on these operations.

If a Board is to be retained, this is the scheme I recommend for adoption.

It would remain for the Estates Commissioners to deal with the 30,000 congested holdings and the holdings which, though not under £10 valuation, yet need improvement in the non-scheduled areas of the West. My recommendation is that a special section should be created in the Estates' Commissioners' office for this purpose, and that a sum of £500,000 should be annually allocated from the Land Purchase fund for the purchase (by compulsion if necessary) of these congested estates. Power to borrow from the Board of Works to the extent of £150,000 should also be granted.

On the *data* given in paragraphs 9–10 above the value of the lands to be dealt with would be under ten millions sterling, and the total irrecoverable loss, including costs of establishments and expenditure on such improvements as Parish Committees deal with, would, under the system followed by the Estates Commissioners, probably be less than two millions sterling.

Section III. (*c*).—How Land should be acquired for the Congested Districts Board.

37. I now pass to the subject of the purchase of land, upon which also I regret to differ from the majority of my colleagues. The difference of opinion affects two parts of the subject, namely, the authority which is to purchase, and the principle on which the price is to be fixed. The majority of the Commission maintain that the Congested Districts Board should be the purchasing authority. I hold that there should be only one agency—the Land Commission—for the purchase of land in Ireland under the Land Purchase Acts. The majority of the Commission maintain that the price of the land to be acquired should be regulated exclusively by the principle of *net income*. I take a different view, holding that the *actual valuation* should be deemed a factor in the price as well as the net income. I shall here deal with the question of agency, reserving the question of price for subsequent treatment.

38. But before dealing with the question of agency, I wish to state my opinion, that in future no congested estate (*i.e.* congested within the meaning of the definition in para. 6 above), should be sold direct by the owner to his tenants. At present congested estates may pass like any other estates under the provisions of Section I. of the Land Purchase Act, 1903. The result is that Congestion is perpetuated. An amendment of the Land Purchase Act is necessary in this connection whereby no congested estate could be sold otherwise than under Sec. 6 of the Act, *i.e.* to the Estates Commissioners.

39. Returning to the question of agency, I recommend that the whole work of Land Purchase for relief of congestion (as well as for transfer of non-congested property from landlord to tenant) should be done by

the Estates Commissioners, and that the Congested Districts Board, if retained, should be confined to the improvement of congested estates when so purchased, and their re-sale to the tenants. The only plausible argument advanced in the Report against this division of labour is that the Authority which improves and re-sells the property should also purchase, otherwise (it is said) such Authority cannot be responsible for the price fixed on re-sale. If this line of argument is to be carried to its logical conclusion, it is not the Congested Districts Board which should purchase or re-sell, but that Branch of the Land Commission which is responsible for collecting the annuities. However that may be, I point out that the argument has no force unless it be contended that the Congested Districts Board could buy land more cheaply than the Estates Commissioners, and that the Board would be embarrassed by the excessive price paid for land by the Estates Commissioners. But the reverse is the fact. It is the Estates Commissioners that buy more cheaply. As a competent witness puts it:—"The landlords prefer to deal with the Congested Districts Board, and the tenants with the Estates Commissioners." The fact of such preference is of itself a conclusive condemnation of the dual system of purchase, and the creation of two standards of value for land of the same quality—each financed by the State—is a patent scandal. The abolition of this dual system of land purchase will at once render possible a very effective and simple method of land purchase throughout the congested districts.

40. The method will be this:—The Congested Districts Board would requisition the Estates Commissioners to purchase certain congested estates situated within the scheduled districts, or untenanted lands within or without them, and on receipt of that requisition the Estates Commissioners would, if the funds allocated to the Congested Districts Board permit, proceed without question to purchase such estates or lands by amicable negotiations with the landlords where possible, and where not possible, by compulsion. The estates bought for the Congested Districts Board shall be placed on a separate roster from those sold under the other provisions of the Land Purchase Acts, and dealt with by the Estates Commissioners and the Land Commission in their order on that roster.

Having bought the estate by amicable negotiation, or if their offer be not accepted, having referred the question of price to the Court of Appeal provided in that behalf, the Estates Commissioners will transfer the property to the Congested Districts Board, which would then proceed to carry out all the operations necessary for improvement before re-sale, and having done so would deposit the sale agreements with the Land Commission for vesting their holdings in the tenants.

Thus a simple procedure for the purchase of land would be established, the changes in the existing law being only such as would give the Estates Commissioners (1) the power to transfer to the Congested Districts Board the property bought for them; and (2) the power compulsorily to acquire land which cannot be purchased by negotiations.

I may add that this procedure would solve the difficulties which my colleagues feel (Report Section XXX.) as to the treatment of agreements to sell and purchase already deposited with the Estates Commissioners in connection with estates situated in the congested districts. In such cases the Estates Commissioners would complete the purchase, and having done so would make over the estate, if congested, or the untenanted land, as the case may be, to the Congested Districts Board for necessary improvement and re-sale to the tenants. If the estate were not congested the Estates Commissioners would finally deal with it themselves, but untenanted land bought by the Estates Commissioners in administrative counties containing scheduled districts and not required by them for the relief of congestion there would be transferred to the Board. In case of direct sales the same procedure would apply with a slight modification of the law enabling the Estates Commissioners before their holdings are vested in the tenants, to make over the estate with agreements to the Congested Districts Board for improvement. The Congested Districts Board before improvement would record the agreement of the tenants to such enhancements of price or alterations of holdings, as the improvements might necessitate.

41. Compare this simple and practical procedure with the complicated and laborious one proposed in the Report. The latter maintains for the purchase of land two distinct bodies, operating under different procedures, worked by different Courts, creating different standards of value and involving fundamental changes in the existing law touching the rights of landlords and tenants, and yet not exclusive even as regards local jurisdiction. The complexity of the proposal stands confessed in the treatment of non-congested estates which the Report suggests. According to that suggestion no landlord of a non-congested estate situated within the Board's jurisdiction is to sell land to his tenants, and no tenant is to agree to buy his holding from his landlord without the previous consent of the Congested Districts Board, which might conceivably make the consent conditional on acceptance by the landlord of the price it thought right to fix. Apparently the same disability is to apply to the Land Judge and even to the Court of Chancery itself. In fine, both landlords and tenants in the scheduled areas, and all public authorities holding or managing land therein, are to be dependent for the exercise of statutory rights on the discretion of the Board, which itself would be independent of Parliament.

42. The majority of my colleagues recommend that when the Board wishes to acquire an estate by amicable agreement with the owner it should base its offer to him on two factors—the assessment as for second term rents, and the owner's "net income." Recognizing that the Board's staff could not, without great expense, be organized to ascertain the first of these factors on a large scale, and wishing, no doubt, to avoid the appearance of the dual standard of valuation which would be created if both the Board and the Land Commission were buying land independently of each other, the Report proposes that, before an offer is made, the second term rents of all holdings in the estate should be estimated by the rent-fixing Department of the Land Commission.

Now, the rent-fixing Department of the Land Commission does not assess the annual value of land except as part of a judicial proceeding for fixing fair rents, and it would be an entirely new departure to make the procedure for fixing fair rents subservient to the purposes of the Congested Districts Board. Without doing so, however, the Land Commission could not be made responsible for the accuracy of the assessments, or rather the estimates, of second term rents which its subordinates might furnish to the Congested Districts Board.

Assuming, however, for the sake of argument that the Land Commission could be properly called upon to undertake the estimating of second term rents for the Congested Districts Board, I point out that it would take the whole of the rent-fixing staff of the Land Commission (25 officers), working for the Board for half the year (as proposed) at their present rate of work (260 cases per annum), to assess second term rents on the land which the Board proposes to deal with in the year. Of the million pounds worth of land with which the Board is to deal in the year we may take the value of the tenanted land at £500,000. The average valuation of the tenanted holdings is about £5 (see Paragraph 113) and if the price is 20 years' purchase of the valuation we find that the £500,000 represents 5,000 holdings. If we assume that fair rents have already been assessed on two-fifths of these there will remain 3,000 holdings on which fair rents have to be fixed. This would take about 23 Assistant Commissioners at the above rate and would leave only 2 Assistant Commissioners to fix fair rents on the untenanted land which would have to be bought. No doubt under the procedure proposed the Assistant Commissioners would be able to proceed more rapidly and fix more fair rents than at present, but even allowing for this it may be doubted whether the whole staff could estimate fair rents within the half-year for the Board's requirements.

Moreover, the Land Commission could not spare the whole of its staff for half the year in the way proposed, and the new men who would have to be appointed and shared with the Board would lack the experience of rent-fixing which the Board's scheme postulates as necessary for the work. The plan could not be carried out without disorganising the work of the Land Commission or frustrating the expectations of the Board. It seems clear to me

that the Board, if maintained as a Purchasing Authority, would have to make its own arrangements for the valuation of the land which it desires to buy.

In my opinion, the creation of two standards of price cannot be avoided so long as the Estates Commissioners are not declared the sole Purchasing Authority.

And it is not only in regard to the first factor—the assessment of rents—that difficulties lie in the way. The second factor, namely, the net income of the vendor, remains to be procured. Many vendors are unable to supply this factor—the Board's recent experience shows that few are able to supply it; others may be unwilling to supply it; and in these cases the scheme makes no provision for procuring it, or, if procured, for testing its accuracy by such a judicial inquiry as the Estates Commissioners are empowered to institute in such cases. It would follow that the Board might have to base its offer of purchase on insufficient or inaccurate data.

43. On the subject of the compulsory acquisition of land the Report proposes that the Court of first instance established for the purpose should base the price on what the Report calls the vendor's "net profit income" as contra-distinguished from "net income." We find from paragraph 167 of the Report that "net profit income" is very different from "net income," *and must be less*; so that the price based on "net profit income" must be less than a price based on "net income." On the principles adopted by the Report, and on the assumption that the price is to be such in the case of voluntary sales as to furnish the vendor with his net income at a certain rate of interest, and in the case of compulsory sales to furnish him only with his net profit income at the same rate of interest, the strange consequences would emerge that the price resulting from compulsory purchase would be less than a price supplied by voluntary sales, and that while a *bonus* would be paid on the higher price resulting from voluntary sale, no bonus would be given on the lower price resulting from compulsory purchase. Two standards of price would, therefore, be established by the divergent results of voluntary and compulsory purchase by the Board, and a third standard of price might be created within the same area if the Board were to permit the Estates Commissioners to co-operate in Land Purchase within the scheduled area. A system involving such conflicting possibilities stands self-condemned.

44. The Report proposes to create for compulsory acquisition of land two Courts, one of First Instance, and one of Appellate Jurisdiction. The Court of First Instance is to be the Legal Assistant Commissioner's Court under the rent-fixing provisions of the Land Acts, assisted by the two assessors. The Appellate Court is to be the Judicial Commissioner's Court.

To the latter Court I should personally have no objection, though I should be prepared to defer to owners' wishes, if expressed, for a numerically stronger Court. But as regards the Court of First Instance, it would, I submit, be preposterous to set aside the Estates Commissioners, who have now (for Ireland) unrivalled experience in the purchase of land, and have been specially charged by the Evicted Tenants Act with its compulsory acquisition, and to impose the duty on an inferior Court which has had no such experience at all.

It seems to me highly probable that the Court of first instance proposed by the Report would please no party, being a mixed tribunal susceptible of criticism from one side as against the Judge and from the other side as against the Assessors.

The only explanation I can give for this anomalous proposal is the strange jealousy of the Estates Commissioners which pervades the atmosphere of the Congested Districts Board. It is, in my opinion, an unreasonable jealousy. The Estates Commissioners appear to me (and no one has had better opportunities of judging their work) to hold the balance between the parties and the taxpayer with scrupulous fairness, and to have done their work with remarkable success.

For reasons of principle and expediency I am opposed to the plan of the Report on this point. I believe it would lead to waste of money, delay, confusion, and inefficiency.

SECTION IV.—PRINCIPLES ON WHICH THE PRICE OF LAND SHOULD BE FIXED.

45. The majority of the Commission recommend that the price of land compulsorily acquired shall be fixed exclusively on the basis of "net profit income" when that can be proved, and when it cannot be proved that the Court adjudicating in cases of compulsory purchase shall have an unfettered and undirected discretion in fixing the price. The effect of this recommendation would be to increase the price to be paid for unencumbered land beyond its present pitch, to lower the price of encumbered estates, and to give more to those who have and less to those who have not.

I submit that while "net income" is an important factor in determining the price which should be paid for land it is only one factor. An equally important factor is the actual value of the land at the time of its acquisition. What the owner is entitled to receive is the full value of his property at the time it is bought, but that value cannot be determined with reference to the past alone and without regard to the present and the future. The stability or precariousness of the net income and the prospects of future rise or fall in value as indicated by existing economic conditions are matters which should be taken into account. When the case is one of acquiring tenanted land no difficulty usually arises. The second term rents or their equivalent indicate the true valuation at the time, and the vendor's receipts and outgoings indicate the net income. The difficulty arises in connection with untenanted land and with the landlord's claim that the net income therefrom in the recent past (excluding times of agrarian disturbance) shall be the basis of price. But the evidence establishes the fact that these grazing rents do not afford *per se* a suitable basis for price, and that it would be unfair to the taxpayer and to the purchasing tenant to accept them as such to the exclusion of other evidence of value. In this case it will be essential to estimate what the fair second term rent of the land would be if let to a solvent tenant, and to make the valuation on that basis a factor in the determination of the price.

Following this principle I suggest that the Court, in fixing the price to be paid either for tenanted land or untenanted land on compulsory acquisition should be directed to fix it with regard to the following considerations:—

1. What the fair rent actually is, or would be, if the land were let to an agricultural tenant.
2. What the landlord's gross income is from the land.
3. Outgoings of all sorts on account of the land.
4. Average rent paid for ten years.
5. Additional allowance (if any) in consideration of the land being in the owner's hands.
6. Compensation (if any) for sporting rights.
7. Price at which land of similar quality in the neighbourhood has been sold voluntarily or by agreement under the Land Purchase Acts.
8. The stable or unstable character of the landlord's income from the land and any other considerations which appear to the Court relevant.

Provided that, in considering points 2, 3, 4, and 8, any period during which the owner's income or outgoings have been substantially prejudiced by illegitimate interference with his land or tenants, should be excluded.

46. If net income be not taken as the exclusive basis for price, the ingenious procedure set out in Section XXV. of the Report will, to some extent, fail of its purpose. But I hope that the part of it indicated in paragraph 194 will be adopted independently of the particular object for which it was devised. It is worthy of adoption on its own merits, because it will produce an income which may be utilized for the general purposes of the Land Purchase Acts, and because it will be a boon to vendors anxious to invest sale proceeds in "gilt-edged" securities with the minimum of expense.

47. My colleagues' preference for "net profit income" as an exclusive basis of price leads them to results which are at once novel, and, I think, unfair to embarrassed landlords. Let me illustrate my meaning by a concrete example:—

A and B are owners of two properties exactly similar in every respect, each property yielding £1,000 a year net income. A's property is unencum-

bered, but B's property is mortgaged for £15,000 at 5 per cent. interest, B thus having a net income of £250 per annum.

The Congested Districts Board desires to purchase both properties, and offers for each twenty-five years' purchase of the net income. A accepts the offer; B refuses it. The Board buys A's property, paying him £28,000 (including the bonus of 12 per cent.), and deciding to acquire B's property compulsorily, refers the case to the tribunal created for that purpose. The tribunal decrees a price which shall—

(*a*) redeem the mortgages; and

(*b*) when invested at 3½ per cent. secure to B an annual income of £250;

in other words, B's property is acquired for £22,500, or £5,500 less than A's property of precisely equal value.

It is true that the tribunal is enabled to give B compensation for his "equity of redemption," but obviously small importance is attached to this power.

This novel procedure is to apply only to owners whose properties are bought by compulsory process; owners who sell under the voluntary provisions of the law are to be exempt from it. But if the procedure be justifiable in the one case, why not apply it in the other? There would be no practical difficulty in applying it to encumbered estates sold by voluntary agreement. Why then differentiate against the man whose need is greatest? The effect of differentiation must be to neutralise *pro tanto* the value of the appeal to the judicial tribunal, and to compel embarrassed owners to accept an inadequate price from the Board rather than incur the risk of greater loss.

Section V.—Summary of Organic Changes Recommended for the Better Relief of Congestion.

48. For the reasons set forth in the preceding paragraphs I recommend that the following changes be made in the law and procedure with a view to the better and more expeditious relief of congestion:—

I. (i.) That the Congested Districts Board be abolished and its functions be transferred—

(*a*) to the Estates Commissioners so far as concerns the purchase, improvement, and re-sale of lands to tenants;

(*b*) to the Department of Agriculture so far as concerns the development of Fisheries and the promotion of Industries, including Technical Instruction. Agricultural business has already been transferred to that Department.

(ii.) That a special section be created under the Estates Commissioners for dealing with the problem of congestion; that the endowments and funds at present controlled by the Congested Districts Board be transferred to such section; and that the staff of the Congested Districts Board be placed under its control.

(iii.) That £1,250,000 of the sum annually raised for Land Purchase in Ireland be ear-marked for the purchase of "congested" estates in the Province of Connaught and the Counties of Donegal, Kerry and the western Unions of County Cork, and of untenanted land needed for the enlargement of congested holdings therein.

(iv.) That out of the endowment of £86,250 at present controlled by the Congested Districts Board the sum of £16,000, which is the average expenditure on Fisheries and Industries, be transferred to the Department of Agriculture; that the balance of £70,250 be increased to £220,000 per annum of which not more than £30,000 to be expended in costs of administration. Also that power to borrow from the Board of Works up to a limit of £250,000 annually for Land Improvement be allowed.

The total irrecoverable expenditure for relief of congestion in the West of Ireland, if entrusted to the Estates Commissioners, would thus, in round figures, be about 4½ millions The time the operation would last would be about 20 years, allowing estates to be kept on hand for an average period of three years.

(v.) That the endowment of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction be increased by a sum of £40,000 per annum for Agricultural, Industrial, and Fishery improvement in the congested counties of the West. Of this amount, £16,000 would be supplied by the existing Congested Districts Board Endowment (par. 36).

(vi.) That Congested estates be saleable only under the provisions of Section 6 of the Land Purchase Act of 1903; and that power of compulsorily purchasing congested estates and untenanted land needed for the relief of congestion in such estates be conferred on the Estates Commissioners.

(vii.) That power to improve congested estates, re-arrange holdings therein, migrate tenants therefrom, and execute such works, whether in or outside congested estates, as may be deemed by them necessary for the improvement of congested estates, be conferred on the Estates Commissioners subject to the tenant's right to appeal to the Civil Bill Court for compensation for injury which is provided in Section 1 (3) (4) and (5) of the Congested Districts Board Act of 1901.

(viii.) That untenanted land situated in the West of Ireland be bought and applied primarily for the relief of congestion. If the grass lands of Connaught are not saved from passing to local landless men, and are not primarily used for the enlargement of local uneconomic holdings and the provision of new holdings for congests, all hope of permanently relieving congestion may be abandoned.

49. II.—If my proposal to abolish the Congested Districts Board be not accepted, then as an alternative course I recommend :—

(i.) That a new Congested Districts Board be created, composed of—

(*a*) Four official members (the Chief Secretary, the Under Secretary, the Vice-President of the Department of Agriculture, and an Estates Commissioner taken in rotation).

(*b*) A Paid Member to be appointed by the Crown, with power to conduct and control the business, as ordered by the Board, in its various branches during the intervals between its meetings, and with full authority, subject to the Board's confirmation, over the Board's establishments. The Paid Member to hold office during the pleasure of the Board.

(*c*) Six members to be appointed by the Crown, of whom a suitable proportion shall have knowledge and experience of one or more of the congested districts. The appointed members to hold office for four years (as the temporary members do now), but to be eligible for re-appointment for another term of four years or any shorter time.

(ii.) That the functions of the Congested Districts Board be restricted to the areas scheduled under the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1891, and to such further areas as may be scheduled by the Lord Lieutenant under power to be now taken; also to untenanted land bought for them outside such areas; that power be taken to unschedule areas which have been adequately dealt with; and that no estate and no untenanted land within these areas, shall be bought or sold under the Land Purchase Acts except on the requisition or with the consent of the Congested Districts Board. Should the Congested Districts Board unreasonably withhold its consent in respect of a non-congested estate, an appeal shall lie to the Lord Lieutenant, whose order shall be final.

(iii.) That the Congested Districts Board shall not be a purchasing authority under the Land Purchase Acts except in regard of tenants' interests when these are not acquired compulsorily; that all purchases of the fee-simple of land for the Congested Districts Board, whether tenanted or untenanted, and whether by voluntary or compulsory procedure, and all acquisition of tenants' interests by compulsory procedure, shall be made by the Estates Commissioners on the requisition of the Board; and that the land shall, when bought, be vested in the Congested Districts Board for subsequent treatment and re-sale to the tenants. Provided that if any uneconomic holdings exist in the immediate neighbourhood of untenanted land bought

by the Estates Commissioners for the Board outside the scheduled districts, the Estates Commissioners shall retain so much land as is necessary to raise them to the economic standard, and make over the balance to the Board.

(iv.) That the Estates Commissioners shall make over to the Congested Districts Board, for its purposes, any untenanted land acquired by them, otherwise than on requisition of the Board, in the Province of Connaught outside the scheduled districts, which is not needed for the relief of congestion in holdings situated in the immediate neighbourhood of such untenanted land or in congested estates bought by the Estates Commissioners.

(v.) That the functions at present exercised by the Congested Districts Board in regard to Fisheries and Industries be transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction whose endowment should be increased on this account by £40,000 per annum, including £16,000 transferred from the Board's present endowment.

(vi.) That out of the Land Purchase Fund a sum of £500,000 per annum be ear-marked for the purchase of congested estates and untenanted land for the Board; that the Board be empowered to hold land worth £2,000,000 at one time; that the Board's present endowment of £86,250 (less by £16,000 mentioned in the preceding paragraph) be increased to £160,000, of which not more than £40,000 shall be expended on establishments of all kinds; and that the Board be declared competent to borrow £150,000 annually from the Board of Works for the improvement of congested estates purchased by them, provided that no more than £500,000 be outstanding at any time.

On this basis the Congested Districts Board, organised as I propose, might be expected to complete the work within the existing scheduled areas in about 25 years at an irrecoverable expenditure of about four millions sterling.

(vii.) That in substitution for the provisions of the Congested Districts Board (Ireland) Act, 1901, full power be conferred on the Congested Districts Board to alter and re-arrange holdings, to transfer tenants from one holding to another, and to void all intermediate interests on payment of compensation when this is necessary for the relief of congestion. The provisions of Section 1 (3) (4) and (5) of the Act of 1901, giving tenants and others affected by and discontented with the Board's action the right to appeal to the Civil Bill Courts, should be preserved; and the Lord Lieutenant should have the power, on an application by the parties, to assure himself that these powers were being exercised properly by the Board, and to instruct the Board accordingly.

(viii.) That the relief of congestion outside the scheduled districts be effected by the Estates Commissioners who should create in their Department a section for the purpose of dealing with such congestion. That the powers of compulsory purchase and compulsory intervention provided by clause 1 (vi.), (vii.) and (viii.) of paragraph 48 above, be conferred on the Estates Commissioners in regard to congested estates and untenanted land needed for the relief of congestion; and that the obligation to relieve local congestion before migrating "congests" from a distance, and of providing adequately for the latter, before disposing of untenanted land otherwise, be imposed on them. In this connection, my remarks under Clause viii. of the preceding paragraph are strictly applicable.

If in this case also £500,000 out of the Land Purchase Fund in each year were ear-marked for the purchase of congested estates and the untenanted land needed for enlarging holdings and migration, if 15 per cent on the price were allowed for loss, and £20,000 per annum for Establishments and expenditure on such work as Parish Committees do, and if power to borrow for land improvement up to £150,000 annually were granted, with a limit as in paragraph vi. above, the Estates Commissioners may be trusted to complete the work in the non-scheduled areas of the West in less than 20 years. If more money is given for land purchase, the work can be completed sooner. In this case the gross irrecoverable expenditure may be estimated at about 2 millions sterling.

A. P. MacDONNELL.

MEMORANDUM BY SIR JOHN COLOMB.

I have signed the Report because I am in general agreement with its conclusions, but there are three points on which I feel bound to define my position, and, as regards one of them, my inability to agree with my colleagues. The three points in question are

I. The economic effect of breaking up and redistributing grass lands unless such action is strictly limited to the congested area which it is proposed to place under the administration of the Congested Districts Board. Section XX.

II. The nature and constitution of the Courts which it is proposed to create for the settlement of all questions, including price, connected with the compulsory acquisition of land within the congested area. Section XXVI.

III. The nature and extent of the system of Primary Education best calculated to fit the children of the agricultural class for the work which lies before them. Section XXXV., par. 296.

I.—Economic Effects of Breaking up and Redistributing Grass Lands.

The general trend of the evidence and my own personal observations during the tours of the Commission have convinced me that the conditions of some districts visited demand treatment more drastic, and upon a larger scale than any heretofore attempted. In such districts substantial mitigation of evils, there present in acute form, can be accomplished only by judicious alterations in the sizes and arrangements of existing holdings, or, where that is impossible, by the redistribution of their inhabitants over larger areas. Hence, I concur with the recommendation to apply these principles within the limits of the congested districts, and I agree with the necessity of giving the Congested Districts Board adequate powers to obtain land for these particular purposes—*e.g.*, enlarging old holdings and creating new ones for the accommodation of "congests" transplanted. Untenanted lands, naturally, are more suitable for these purposes, because their appropriation would least disturb the rest of the rural population. Such lands, from economic and other causes, are mainly in permanent pasture, and used for maturing or fattening cattle—according to nature of soil—or as sheep farms. The contemplation of acute congestion in places bordering on these considerable tracts has produced a popular sentiment hostile to big pastures and to those who own or graze them : this sentiment in turn prompts a demand for breaking up all such lands into small farms to provide "homes for the people." Unfortunately there has been no official inquiry as to the probable effect upon the general welfare and prosperity of Ireland if such desires were promoted or assisted, on any appreciable scale, by the action of the State.

In the absence of such an authoritative guide, the difficulty of dealing with the questions is great, and the evidence given before us has failed to convince me that, in a purely agricultural country, with a preponderance of small farms, large blocks of pasture may not be an economic necessity. For this reason I desire to dissociate myself from any inference which may be drawn from the terms of Section XX. of this Report, adverse to the existing grazing system generally throughout Ireland, nor could I support, as a State policy, the alteration of breaking up the pasture lands into small holdings—unless such action were strictly limited to the area which is recognised as Congested, and which is subject to conditions quite peculiar to itself.

Where no other method of mitigating acute congestion is possible, the adoption of such a policy is necessary, but the extent to which it can be applied must be determined by reference to the interests of the general

agricultural community. Hence the extreme importance of examining the place of these grazing lands in the economic necessities of Ireland as a whole. Holdings which do not exceed £10 valuation number 275,344, of which 131,316 are in the proposed area of the Congested Districts Board, and 144,028 are scattered through the rest of the country. The total figures represent 56·1 per cent. or more than half the total number of holdings in Ireland.

Thus the question of breaking up the grass lands of Ireland into small holdings has two main aspects :—

1. The probable effect of such a policy upon the interests of the occupiers of small holdings existing whose position in other respects must remain untouched ?

2. What are the prospects of additional new occupiers settled in small holdings on these lands ?

They will be confronted by new conditions consequent upon the disappearance of grazing lands and graziers, and the point at issue really is, how will their interests be affected by the change. It must be noticed that the suggested policy contemplates a state of things without precedent in the chequered economic history of Ireland.

Referring to the conditions prevailing in Ireland under the Brehon Laws, Walpole observes :—" The principal source of wealth and the measure of value . . . . was cattle. The fines were calculated in cows. The cow was the unit of value." Sir W. Petty, some 250 years ago, computed that there were only some 500,000 acres of land under tillage, while some 7,000,000 acres were in pasture. Lecky, referring to the passing of laws (1665-80) prohibiting cattle, sheep and swine, and even butter and cheese to come into England, observes :—" In this way the chief source of Irish prosperity was annihilated at a single blow." Arthur Young, in his " Tour in Ireland, 1776," states :—" A great part of Roscommon, particularly from Athlone to Boyle, thirty miles long and ten broad, is sheep-walk, and lets on an average of 12*s.* an acre. It is generally walk, with only patches of potato and corn for the workmen . . . They have much other cattle with them, such as yearlings, two years old, three years old, &c., selling them four years old to such as want them for fattening." This exactly describes the district as the Commissioners saw it.

The correspondence of Mr. (afterwards Sir Robert) Peel, when Chief Secretary, in the early years of the last century, shows that it was only when corn duties were very high, tenants resorted to tillage, but when lower duties prevailed the graziers were in occupation.

The above references show how continuous has been the history of the Cattle Trade in Ireland in the past. As regards its place to-day in the economic situation of Ireland the late Chancellor of the Exchequer (now Prime Minister) recently described the Cattle Trade " as one of Ireland's most prosperous and necessary industries." This authoritative pronouncement suggests the inquiry why, under existing conditions, the Cattle Trade is necessary to Ireland ? In what way is its prosperity connected with that of the country at large ?

Before examining these questions as affecting the interests of the occupiers of small holdings, the general facts—illustrated by the following tables—need careful study.

The (A) group includes all holdings under £30, but as £10 has been assumed in the evidence and Report to be the dividing line between economic and uneconomic holdings, those under £10 and those between £10 and £30 are distinguished from each other. The next Group, (B) embraces holdings above £30 and not exceeding £100 as fairly representative of economic holdings, while the third (C) accounts for all above £100 valuation, and possibly includes most of the great grass tracts operated by graziers

No. 1.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLDINGS.

	Within proposed Congested Districts Board Area.	Outside.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.
A. *a.* Not exceeding £10 Valuation, ...	131,316	144,028	275,344
A. *b.* Above £10 and not exceeding £30, ...	36,846	101,345	138,191
Total A, ...	168,162	245,373	413,535
B. Above £30 and not exceeding £100	9,713	51,782	61,495
C. Above £100, ...	2,445	12,826	15,271
All Ireland, ...	180,320	309,981	490,301

No. 2.

DISTRIBUTION OF VALUATION.

	Within proposed Congested Districts Board Area.	Outside.	Total.
	£	£	£
A. *a.* Not exceeding £10 Valuation, ...	571,918	682,132	1,254,050
A. *b.* Above £10 and not exceeding £30, ...	604,663	1,810,096	2,414,759
Total A, ...	1,176,581	2,492,228	3,668,809
B. Above £30 and not exceeding £100, ...	492,125	2,674,464	3,166,589
C. Above £100, ...	505,340	2,720,929	3,226,269
All Ireland, ...	2,174,046	7,887,761	10,061,667

No. 3.

DISTRIBUTION OF ACREAGE.

	Within proposed Congested Districts Board Area.	Outside.	Total
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
A. *a.* Not exceeding £10 Valuation, ...	2,758,782	1,558,085	4,316,867
A. *b.* Above £10 and not exceeding £30, ...	1,930,460	3,277,079	5,207,539
Total A, ...	4,689,242	4,835,164	9,524,406
B. Above £30 and not exceeding £100, ...	1,166,977	3,896,457	5,063,434
C. Above £100, ...	927,507	3,224,297	4,151,804
All Ireland, ...	6,783,726	11,955,918	18,739,644

No. 4.

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION.

	Within proposed Congested Districts Board Area.	Outside.	Total.
A. *a.* Not exceeding £10 Valuation, ...	635,600	543,311	1,178,911
A. *b.* Above £10 and not exceeding £30, ...	221,019	520,803	741,822
Total A, ...	856,619	1,064,114	1,920,733
B. Above £30 and not exceeding £100, ...	75,017	401,478	476,495
C. Above £100, ...	38,574	228,402	266,976
All Ireland, ...	970,210	1,694,994	2,664,204

The following Tables exhibit in percentages the relative distributions within and outside the proposed Area of the Board :—

NO. OF HOLDINGS.

—	A. (*a.*)	A. (*b.*)	B.	C.
Within Congested Districts Board new area.	47·7	26·1	15·7	16·0
Outside, ...	52·3	73·3	84·3	84·0
	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

VALUATION.

Within Congested Districts Board area.	45·6	24·7	15·6	15·8
Outside, ...	54·4	75·3	84·4	84·2
	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

ACREAGE.

Within Congested Districts Board area.	64·0	18·0	23·0	22·3
Outside, ...	36·0	82·0	77·0	77·7
	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

POPULATION.

Within Congested Districts Board area.	53·8	30·6	15·7	14·5
Outside, ...	46·2	69·4	84·3	85·5
	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

The significance of these figures is great, and they may for present purposes be thus summarised.

No. of Holdings.

Nearly half the holdings in Ireland Sub-group A (*a*) are in the proposed area of the Board, while 84 per cent. of the holdings Group C are outside it.

Acreage.

The proposed area of the Board represents one-third of the area of Ireland, about 64 per cent. of the acreage in Sub-group A (*a*) lies within the special area, but only 22 per cent. in Group C lies within it.

Valuation.

Nearly half the valuation of Ireland of holdings Sub-group A (*a*) belongs to the special area, and here again not 16 per cent. of the total aggregate valuation of Irish land of Group C is represented within it.

Population.

Of the total agricultural population occupying holdings in Sub-group A (*a*) 53·8 per cent. is located within the proposed area of the Board, while not 15 per cent. of Group C is located within it. From the above it will be seen how special are the conditions prevailing within the area proposed to assign to the operation of the Board as compared with the rest of Ireland which is about double in extent.

In relation to the question of the danger to the economic equilibrium of any substantial reduction in the amount of pasture land, it may be noticed that the amount of land Group C within the area of the Board is less than one-quarter of the whole. It must also be remembered the land grouped under C and situated within the Board's area probably includes nearly all land described in Section XVIII., paragraph 120, as either unsuitable or necessarily to be exempted from being interfered with by any action of the Board. There are also other physical causes tending to reduce the appropriation of grass lands for purposes of dividing into small holdings, such as distribution of water supplies, and absence of turbary within reasonable distance. It is, therefore, evident that were the full powers of the Board applied in respect of breaking up grass lands within their area, the result could not, to an appreciable extent, affect the Cattle Trade or the grazing system of Ireland. The result would be chiefly local, the probable consequences being prejudicial to the material interests of certain classes of agriculturists in the West, especially the small occupier, for the automatic enhancement of price of grazing, consequent upon the diminution of the amount would increase the value of pastures remaining untouched.

Having now indicated the general features of the economic situation of Ireland, it remains to examine the main features of agricultural operations as far as they can be expressed by figures. The real issue is, the relation of the business of the ordinary farmer to that of the Grazier, and reference to mixed farming is therefore unavoidable. Special information as to cattle and crops, on all agricultural holdings of from five acres upwards, were collected at the request of the Commission, Midsummer, 1907. The facts appear in Tables in Appendix IV. to Eleventh Report grouped in various ways. In order to shorten explanation I have prepared two Diagrams, one relating to cattle, the other to crops.* The figures are taken from the Return referred to, but are grouped as follows :—

See XI., pp. 55-87.

A	Group	(5 to 30	acres)	—	Average	14·3	acre per holding.
B	„	(30 to 100	„)	—	„	47·2	„ „ „
C	„	(above 100	„)	—	„	178·2	„ „ „

The two Diagrams express in form, colour, and to scale, all the information supplied in masses of figures (in Tables in App. IV. Eleventh Report). They show the numbers by classes of cattle and the average appropriated by different classes of crops, &c., in each of the three groups, *i.e.* A, B, and C. The squares represent—according to scale—the proportionate acreage occupied by each group and within each square the figures of cattle and crops appertaining to each Group respectively are shown.

It will be noticed that groups A, B, and C being classified according to acreage, are not comparable with groups A, B, and C (classified by valuation) given earlier in this memorandum. It would be interesting were it possible to compare the two sets of groups, but as the Agricultural Statistics take no account of valuation, and as the statistics classified by valuation take no account of the different crops or classes of cattle, comparison is impossible. The average valuation is about eleven shillings per acre, but the variations in the valuation of different classes of land is too great for it to be safe to make the average valuation a basis of comparison.

Group A, whilst the smallest in area, contains the greatest number of holdings, and the extreme importance of this group in the economic equilibrium of Ireland is plain. It is equally clear that in considering any policy affecting the agricultural interests of this great community, these interests demand primary attention. Any artificial action adopted by the State, or otherwise, which might adversely affect the agricultural prospect of the small farmers in Group A ought to be certainly not encouraged.

Now the striking features of No. 1 diagram are these :—Group A. The great number of cows kept both in proportion to the area on which they are and to the total of all classes of cattle in this group. The number in this group is more than double that on the much larger area C, and on the still greater area covered by B only 6·5 per cent. more of the cows of Ireland are kept than on A. It is not, therefore, surprising that cattle under one year old (calves) are distributed between the three groups in much the same proportions. Of cattle from 1 to 2 years old, the number on A is only about 10 per cent. of the total number in Ireland short of this class to be found on B, and a little more than that on C. In the case of cattle above 2 years old, the facts are most striking. On Group A in comparison with either of the other classes in this group the number is insignificant, being only 14·4 per cent. of the total of this class in Ireland; in Group B about 32·8 per cent., while in C 52·8 per cent. more than half the total number of this class in Ireland.

* See diagrams facing page 186.

The general conclusions to be drawn are, I submit, as follows:—If the area of C were broken up into holdings corresponding to those on A the distribution of number and classes of cattle would not differ much from that on A. The number, of course, would be greater in proportion to relative area, *e.g.*, 36·1 C to 25·3 A. On this basis of computation the accommodation for grazing the 531,067 cattle 2 years old and upwards on C would be reduced, as per proportion of their class on A, to about 200,000. The net total result would be that accommodation for about 330,000 two year olds and upwards would disappear. The evidence of witnesses who advocated the breaking up of the grazing lands of Ireland was, in effect, that in time the system of "intense agriculture" on small holdings would counter-balance loss of grazing. Until, however, the development of a system of "intense agriculture" on farms not exceeding 30 acres entirely changes the position of A and B disclosed by the Diagram, the danger of enforcing or promoting any such policy cannot be ignored.* It is hardly necessary to examine in detail the effects of such a policy on the different classes of cattle in Groups A and B. Special observations are, however, necessary with reference to cows, as affected by crops and tillage, the distribution of which, for 1907, is illustrated in No. 2 Diagram.

The key to the whole problem of the Cattle Trade is the cow. Upon her depends the material prosperity of the occupiers of small holdings. In the classification, the cow and in-calf heifers, are necessarily taken together.

The temperate and humid climate of Ireland favours yield of milk while it promotes the growth of succulent grasses. In this respect Ireland has a conspicuous advantage over Great Britain for dairy business. The adaptation of agricultural operations to natural conditions is the essential condition of their success, and dairying involves the production of calves to the greatest extent possible. It is also the most suitable and profitable form of agriculture applicable to small farms. Unhappily, though agricultural returns give information as to produce of different crops, and also the prices of cattle prevailing in each year, no information is available as to the quantity and value of butter produced in Ireland in the year. It is, however, clear that the output of butter in Groups A, B and C ought, if the milk is not otherwise utilised, to be in proportions to the number of cows in each Group, and, therefore, that the production of butter on farms that do not exceed 30 acres (Group A) may be taken at about 37·7 per cent. of the total output of Ireland.

I have shown that the average size of a holding in this group works out at 14·3 per acre, but for purposes of illustration take it at 15 acres. Now the valuation of Ireland as pointed out in our Report stands to-day at the figures originally fixed by Sir Richard Griffith in 1853. It was a scientific survey and computation of the value of all the land of Ireland at prices then prevailing. The value was determined by the application of formulæ for ascertaining, on a uniform basis, the nature and productivity of the soil, the yield, cost of outgoings necessary for working, &c., &c. The formula for ascertaining the net annual value of a farm of 15 acres of "Dairy Pasture," was given. The estimated gross annual produce was fixed at £58 14*s.* 0*d.*† Expenses of working to be deducted were estimated at

* The late Professor Baldwin, to whom agriculture in Ireland owes much, in evidence before the Richmond Commission said, "My colleague and I went over hundreds of these farms, and during the last fourteen years I have been over thousands of them. Taking a typical case, there is a plot of potatoes, a plot of indifferent oats, and the rest in indifferent pasture or herbage. The herbage often contains more weeds than grass. There is no rotation of crops, and no principle of cropping observed at all."

† N.B.—*Vide* instructions to the Valuers and Surveyors appointed under the 15 and 16 Vic. c. 63, dated 30th July, 1853.

£24, and £34 was left as the net annual produce of 15 statute acres of dairy pasture. The standard of stock on such a farm was taken at six cows, three calves when reared, and three pigs. It was laid down that "the average quantity of butter which a good cow would produce in a year may be taken at $3\frac{1}{4}$ firkins, or allowing nine quarts to the pound of butter the milk will be 1,960 quarts."* By the formula given six cows were estimated to produce in the year 11 cwt. 2 qrs. 19 lbs., besides providing milk for families estimated at £2. The standard price for butter being taken at 6·6*d.* per lb.† Thus the total value of a year's produce per cow in butter and milk was taken at £6 13*s.* 8*d.* The fixation of value of the calves was £9, or £3 per calf, being at the rate of 30*s.* per cow, making the total average estimated gross value of produce per cow £8 3*s.* 8*d.* These standard values only applied to farms of good "Dairy Pasture" and so could not be fairly applied to the average farms of Group A. The annual gross value of the entire produce per cow works out—on Griffith's standard—for Group A as follows :—

Butter (6·6*d.* per lb. and milk for family), .	£3,717,314
Calves, ...	271,222
	£3,988,536

For reasons given above this is probably excessive as really applicable to Group A. On the other hand, the increase of price, even of "congest" butter (1907 as compared with standard butter 1853), is a set-off, representing a total gross annual value of about £735,844. It is noteworthy that the estimated gross produce of cows (in 1906) for A was about equal to the entire valuation of its area. The sum consequent upon the rise of price is equivalent to about one-seventh of that valuation, which was made fifty-five years ago, and not since been altered. By the foregoing method the gross value of young calves works out at about 7 per cent. of the total gross produce from cows.

The above figures taken together show that upon dairy business depends the material prosperity of the people of Group A. Dairying involves a certain amount and quality of tillage, and the more developed and efficient dairy farming becomes, the greater will be the number, and the better the class of calves produced. Obviously a small farm worked as a dairy farm cannot also rear and feed dry stock for long, and so the necessity for a market for that sort of stock must increase. Were the grazing lands of Ireland all divided up into small dairy farms, best adapted to climatic conditions, the market for young dry stock would vanish.

Taking the average prices in 1906, as officially stated,‡ of store cattle one year old at £6 14*s.*, two-year-olds at £9, the value of cattle not exceeding two years old on A may be approximately estimated at £7,681,815, and the value of the dry stock two years old and upwards may be estimated at £1,918,879.

* Note.—The equivalent of 1,960 quarts being 490 gallons it is noticeable that the Secretary of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society estimated the produce of milk per cow at only 400 gallons. (Q. 21433.)

The late Professor Baldwin's opinion was that an ordinary cow properly treated "produces 600 gallons of milk in the year."

† Note.—The Secretary of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society stated in evidence that the price of what he called Congest butter was 8*d.*, but informed the Commission that the Creamery at Carndonagh (County Donegal) had obtained at wholesale price 11½*d.* per lb.

‡ *Vide* Return of Prices (Agricultural), Ireland, 1907.

Putting these figures concerning dry stock together, the value and the percentage proportion of value of each class is as follows :—

—	Value.	Per Cent.
	£	
Up to 2 year olds, ...	7,681,815	80·0
Above 2 years, ...	1,918,878	20·0
	9,600,693	100·0

It follows that the average holder of a farm, not exceeding 30 acres, on A must sell dry stock generally under two years old. His only markets are furnished by occupiers of B or C, but as the indications on the diagram show, the power of absorption is infinitely greater in C than in B; moreover C offers the only outlet for the same class of cattle on, and coming on, B. Serious diminution of the power of absorbing cattle now possessed by C must therefore injure the market for A and B. It should be pointed out the occupiers of B are of a different class to those of A, and represent a more advanced agricultural community better able, as a rule, to defend its position as such. With reference to A group it only remains to examine the facts disclosed by No. 2 Diagram in relation to the general assertions made by witnesses, that by "intense agriculture" on holdings not exceeding 30 acres (A) dry stock could be kept on until fit for the butcher, and thus compensate for the disappearance of the great grass lands and the graziers. It is hardly practical to speak of "intense agriculture" on a multitude of farms, chiefly on hill-sides and bog, among the mountains of Kerry and Donegal and other mountainous parts of Ireland, where only spade labour among rocks is possible on their small portions of arable land. On such holdings living and thriving is only possible by sale of butter and of yearlings pushed out by the succeeding calves. It is upon the great grass lands and upon the graziers that these occupiers do, and must, depend. The owners and users of the lands of C as they now exist, are the saviours of the economic interests of A, and in a lesser degree of B. What figures represent the proportions of such hill farms to the whole of those in A we do not know, but the area of the Board includes the larger part of the mountainous districts of Ireland. I, therefore, submit, that any rash treatment of the grazing lands in the plains of Ireland would be specially disastrous to the occupiers in Group A, and to even the "economic holdings" of £10 valuation. Doubtless a very considerable proportion of the holdings on A are farms of good arable land; such farms as the late Mr. Parnell contemplated as suitable for creations of new holdings.* On such a holding "intense cultivation" *if adapted to climatic conditions* is not only possible but extremely desirable. Under such conditions and on such farms, a small proportion of calves born could, and ought to, remain upon them until walked off fat to the butcher? But this would only diminish, not altogether remove, the necessity for an outlet and remunerative market for that larger number of young dry stock which must be parted with unless the calves coming on behind them are killed off.

Expert agricultural witnesses have dwelt upon the economic advantages of "intense agriculture" on small holdings as compared with present dependence upon the grazing tracts and graziers. The loose talk in support of this by others who are not practical farmers, is a remarkable feature of recorded evidence. But the policy of killing calves as opposed to rearing

* Evidence taken by Select Committee (1890) "On Colonization," Q. 5562–5 "land that would be worth £1 an acre as rent" . . . I suppose we should have to give twenty years' purchase of this land under compulsory expropriation. Therefore each holding for land alone would cost £400."

them needs special remark; the question whether the killing of calves for family consumption, or selling them to the butcher for veal—which would glut the veal markets and reduce the price of calves is a good policy, must largely depend on climatic conditions. Where winters are long and severe, housing and in-feeding is imperative, as in countries such as Denmark, the necessity of reducing stock is the death warrant of the younger (except the most promising) animals. But in Ireland with open and mild winters in which young and old dry stock can and do live and thrive outside on the land, the case is wholly different. A policy of killing the calf may be described as killing the goose that lays the Irish small farmer's golden egg, and needs but little labour or cost to keep.

The advantage of "stall feeding" in contradistinction to feeding on grass was pressed upon our attention to illustrate this theory, as applicable to Ireland. I will assume that a holding is carved out of "Superior Finishing Land," that it is broken up and subjected to "intense agriculture," to fatten by stall feeding in preference, as regards profit, to fattening on grass. The cost and labour of this process must be great. Now, it was laid down in the instruction of Sir Richard Griffith to the valuators, that in Ireland "Cattle in good condition will fatten more quickly on this description of land during the early months than under a system of stall feeding." This is a special advantage secured to Ireland by climatic conditions. Is it to be supposed that the occupier of this new farm created for him—with soil of that nature—will, in the early months of the year, prefer to incur the cost and labour of stall feeding rather than to produce the same result without either? It is unhappily the case that agriculture, in the ordinary sense, is not generally understood, and that the land is really misused in parts of Ireland. It is equally true that in other parts the farming is quite exceptionally good. On this subject there has recently been made public the Report of a Commission of Scottish farmers. As the opinion of an independent body of practical men, it may be regarded as impartial. The particular part of the Report is headed "General Farming," and thus runs* :—

> "Ireland is basin-shaped. The mountains round the coast are the rim. The inside is the flat of the basin. It is a large plain, so level that it has been said a stream rising in the centre of the plain might run either to the Irish Channel or the Atlantic Ocean. Within this basin there are really two Irelands. There is the Ireland of the North, where the land is, comparatively speaking, poor land and the climate cold, where the farmers are shrewd, intelligent men, who have made the most of their circumstances. The farm steadings are trim and well kept. The land is well tilled. There is an air of prosperity about the country. There is the Ireland of the South, where the land is better and the climate milder, and the people, possibly to some extent because nature has done so much for them, are less energetic; where the steadings are ill-kept and the land badly tilled, and waste and neglect are much in evidence. The difference between these two Irelands is so great that when the section of the Scottish Agricultural Commission which went North met the section which went South, they had formed entirely different conceptions of farming in Ireland. The Northern section was inclined to compare Irish farming, as they had seen it, to Danish farming. There seemed to be the same intelligence applied to agriculture as in Denmark. There seemed to be the same economy and thrift practised on the farms. There seemed to be something approaching to the same comfort. The Southern section, on the other hand, were disappointed. They saw good land in a good climate going to waste for want of energy on the part of the farmers. They saw bad and badly kept farm buildings. They saw an Ireland where to the outside observer the policy of the Department of Agriculture would, if followed, produce the earliest and most fruitful results, and yet that policy was making comparatively little headway."

* *Vide* Revival of Agriculture in Ireland, as seen by the Scottish Agriculture Commission, 1906.

With reference to the statement that in the North the land is comparatively "poor land, whereas in the South, land is better," it is worthy of observation that the Board of Valuation of Land under Act Rate, 1642—over 250 years ago—for "settling adventures" fixed the value of the land of Ireland by Provinces as follows :—

Leinster,	12	shillings	per	acre.
Munster,	8	„	„	„
Connaught,	6	„	„	„
Ulster,	4	„	„	„

I regret that in the passage quoted, counties on the east coast and further south, such as Louth and Wexford, are omitted from the tribute of that praise of the Commissioners which they equally deserve.

Next in order to stall feeding comes the question of mixed farming. No. 2 Diagram illustrates material facts as to the distribution by acreage of the crops in each area A, B, and C, respectively. As the percentages thereon are by group areas, it is important to examine what proportion they bear, not merely to each other, but to the whole acreage under crops in Ireland.

The following Table should be considered in relation to those given in the diagram which, however, excludes mountain grazing.

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION.—CROPS, Etc., IN IRELAND.

Group.	Corn.	Green Crops.	Potatoes.	Grass.		Hay, Rotation Grazing, and Permanent Pasture.
				Hay and Rotation.	Permanent Pasture.	
A,	36·9	29·6	51·6	34·4	21·7	25·5
B,	44·8	47·3	38·2	43·7	39·0	40·3
C,	18·3	23·1	10·2	21·9	39·3	34·2
All Ireland, ...	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

In view of what I have already pointed out as to the dependence of A upon cows and dairying, the small proportion of acreage appropriated to green crops bears striking testimony to the extraordinary advantage of climate and quality of the grass of Ireland. When this last Table of percentages of crops is examined in connection with No. 1 Diagram, the remarkable and inherent suitability of the soil and climate of Ireland to the production and rearing of cattle becomes most evident. With only 2·9 per cent. of its total area appropriated to green crops on A, the cattle of all classes, reared and maintained, number 1,428,367.

It will be noticed by No. 1 Diagram that more than half the bulls of Ireland are on B.; and that the bulls on B. and C. represent 87 per cent of the total number in Ireland. Figures, however, are of less importance than quality. The small occupiers are not able to keep bulls of the quality which larger holders, in order to succeed, must do. Small farmers have thus opportunities for the service of a class of bull they themselves cannot keep, owing to big neighbouring holdings.

Though the Agricultural Returns, specially collected for the Commission, exclude grazing animals, other than cattle, these must be referred to, though they cannot be grouped or shown on the Diagrams. The numbers for all Ireland are as follows :—

Horses, all ages, . . .	604,413
Mules, Jennets, and Asses, . .	262,636
Sheep, ...	3,714,832

As regards sheep it may be here pointed out that the number of sheep in Galway and Roscommon represent 65·9 per cent, of the total number in Connaught; while the number of sheep in Connaught is not far short of the total number in Munster and Ulster together; the sheep in the Province of Connaught being 30 per cent. of the total number in Ireland. Though small occupiers in Group A. may rear and mature horses to a limited extent, sheep farming on any scale on such holdings is, in a general sense, not possible. The obliteration, or even a substantial deduction from the agricultural map of Ireland, of the great grazing tracts would seriously affect if not destroy, those two great and prosperous branches of agriculture concerned with horses and sheep.

To inculcate better agricultural knowledge and more activity by occupiers of Group A, for the production of green crops—so essential to early forwarding of beasts towards the fattening stage—offers more certainty to the prosperity of Ireland than heroic but dangerous experiments in breaking up the great grass lands and banishing graziers from Group B and C; the result of which policy I have here endeavoured to examine.

In conclusion I desire to call attention to what is happening in Great Britain—labouring under climatic disadvantage as compared with Ireland—as a cattle producing country.

Returns for the United Kingdom, for 1867 and 1906 show, viz., that the percentage of total agricultural areas appropriated to permanent grass has in—

England increased by 14·6 per cent.
Wales „ „ 12·5 per cent.
Scotland „ „ 5·0 per cent.
While in Ireland the figure is but 3 per cent.

These facts are noteworthy, but the causes of such changes do not affect the purpose which has compelled me to state my reasons for disassociating myself from much that appears in Section XX. of the Report. I take this step because the general tenor of the section seems to me more favourable than not, to proposals for breaking up the grass land and abolishing the grazing system as now carried on throughout Ireland. I dissent from arguments favouring these proposals founded upon theories and probabilities, and, failing to recognise sufficiently the economic value of these great grazing tracts to the host of small holders whose position in this regard I have endeavoured here to explain. Apart from their interest in this matter there is involved in such proposals a danger which concerns the people of the whole United Kingdom. By a great act of State policy these occupiers are being converted into owners—subject to the payment of annuities to the State for a very long period of time. If by the action of the State the conditions under which they agreed to become annuitants are changed in a manner adverse to the interests of the overwhelming majority of these purchasers, their claims for a diminution of their annuities would become in equity irresistible. On these grounds I record my disagreement with the general character and tendency of Section XX. of the Report.

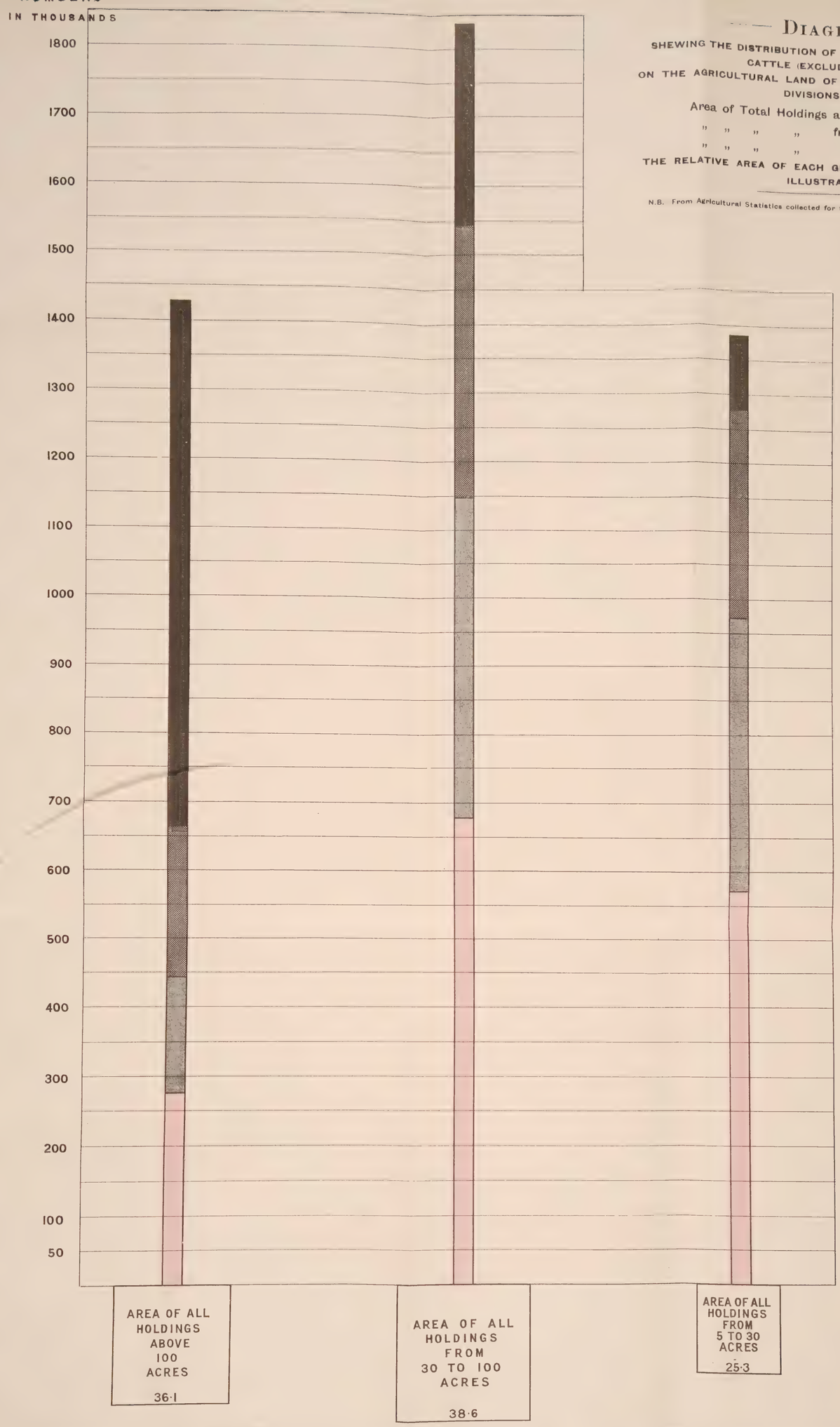
DIAGRAM

SHEWING THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE DIFFERENT CLASSES OF CATTLE (EXCLUDING BULLS) ON THE AGRICULTURAL LAND OF IRELAND GROUPED IN THREE DIVISIONS, VIZ.:

Area of Total Holdings above 100 Acres,
" " " " from 30 to 100 Acres,
" " " " " 5 to 30 "

THE RELATIVE AREA OF EACH GROUP BEING GEOMETRICALLY ILLUSTRATED.

N.B. From Agricultural Statistics collected for the Royal Commission, Midsummer, 1907.



REFERENCE.

- Cows and Heifers in Calf
- Under One Year Old
- One Year Old & under Two
- Two Years Old & upward

	ON 100 ACRES AND UPWARD. No.	Percentage to Total Ireland.	ON FROM 30 TO 100 ACRES. No.	Percentage to Total Ireland.	ON FROM 5 TO 30 ACRES. No.	Percentage to Total Ireland.
Milch Cows and in Calf Heifers	274,646	18.1	671,166	44.2	571,549	37.7
Cattle under 1 year	178,578	17.1	469,516	44.8	399,474	38.1
" 1 to 2 years	261,152	26.6	411,292	41.9	308,528	31.5
" 2 years and upward	531,067	52.8	328,810	32.8	145,254	14.4
	1,245,443		1,880,784		1,424,805	
Bulls *(not in Diagram)*	9,807	35.6	14,156	51.5	3,562	12.9
Grand Total	1,255,250		1,894,940		1,428,367	

John C R Colo
190

C B A

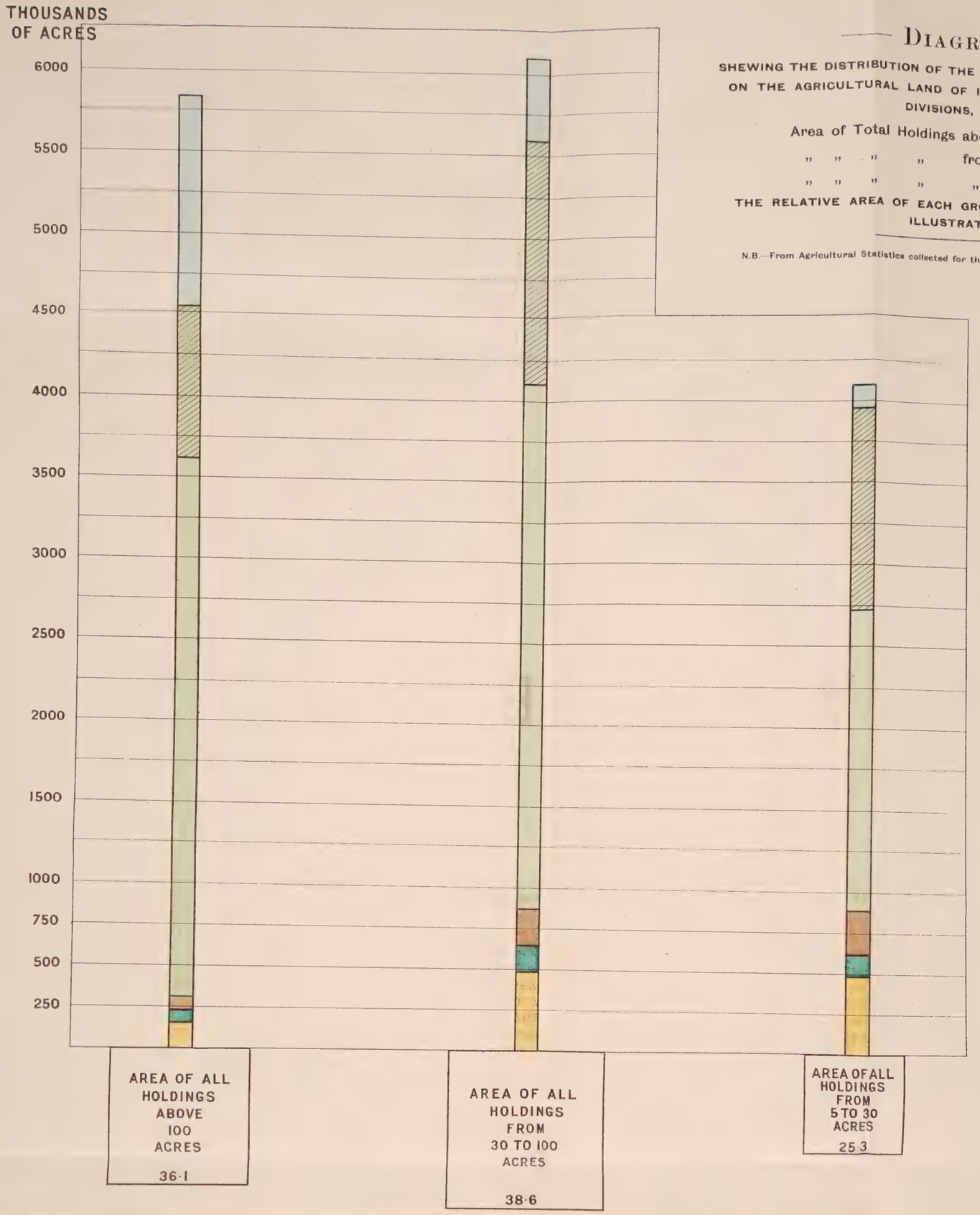
DIAGRAM

SHEWING THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE DIFFERENT CLASSES OF CROPS ON THE AGRICULTURAL LAND OF IRELAND GROUPED IN THREE DIVISIONS, VIZ.:

Area of Total Holdings above 100 Acres,
" " " " from 30 to 100 Acres,
" " " " " 5 to 30 "

THE RELATIVE AREA OF EACH GROUP BEING GEOMETRICALLY ILLUSTRATED.

N.B.—From Agricultural Statistics collected for the Royal Commission, Midsummer, 1907.



REFERENCE.

- Corn ...
- Green Crops ...
- Potatoes ...
- Permanent Pasture ...
- Hay and Rotation Grass
- Mountain Grazing ...

	OVER 100 ACRES.	Percentage of Total Agricultural area in Group	30 TO 100 ACRES.	Percentage of Total Agricultural area in Group	5 TO 30 ACRES.	Percentage of Total Agricultural area in Group
	ACRES.		ACRES		ACRES.	
Corn Crops ...	231,719	4.0	568,380	9.0	468,044	11.3
Green Crops...	89,313	1.5	182,761	2.9	114,196	2.8
Potatoes ...	56,044	1.0	210,017	3.4	282,802	6.9
Permanent Pasture	3,315,536	56.6	3,267,567	51.9	1,837,534	44.5
Hay & Rotation Grass	770,631	13.2	1,539,308	24.5	1,210,010	29.3
Mountain Grazing ...	1,384,674	23.6	493,859	7.9	186,185	4.5
	5,847,917		6,261,892		4,098,771	
Flax (*not in Diagram*) ..	4,252	.1	27,266	.4	27,954	.7
Grand Total ...	5,852,169	100	6,289.158	100	4,126,725	100

John C R Colomb
1908

II.—The Constitution of the Courts and Matters incidental thereto.

Security of Property is the essential condition, not merely of commercial prosperity, but of social order and economic stability. On the other hand, the State does, and must, in the public interest, exercise its right to interfere with, or take the private property of any individual, or body of individuals. In the exercise of that power the security of property, in its widest and most important sense, is shaken, unless two fundamental conditions are observed and enforced. These are :— Sec. XXV Para. 197.

1. That where compulsory power is applied, any individual or individuals whose property is taken, or interfered with, shall receive full measure of compensation for any and every loss sustained by the action of the State.

2. That the Court or authority set up to inquire into and assess the value of the loss sustained by expropriation shall be impartial; and independent alike of administrative influence or spontaneous popular pressure.

I venture to submit that the future of Ireland is more deeply concerned just now with the strictest enforcement of these conditions than any other community in Christendom. The history of Ireland down to to-day is but a dismal record of causes producing a chronic insecurity of property. As in the early history of all countries so in Ireland, there were ages of internecine strife, where possession had no security but the despotism of physical force wielded by numerous rival chiefs engaged in robbing each other. Next came a succession of centuries in which—as referred to in paragraph 17—properties in Ireland were the stakes with which alternating English authorities gambled. This period of successive violent disturbance of property was followed by conditions of quiescence. Things were left to take their course and economic laws free to operate. In the result "Tenure at Will" became the rule of occupation over three-quarters of the whole country. In Ulster, a custom grew up which recognized that improvements made by the occupier were an asset of occupation. So the men of Ulster, who farmed land, came "to be protected in the enjoyment of what had been created by their own industry and laid up by their self-denial." In the other three Provinces no such custom was evolved and this custom, tending toward security for the occupier, had no existence; over the greater portion of Ireland, security of tenure was but a personal or family tie. So long as the tenant fairly paid his rent, he remained in the peaceable enjoyment of what was merely a sentimental security. The holdings being small and numerous and their occupiers multitudinous—and very prolific—provision by the landlord of buildings and offices, as in England and Scotland, was a practical impossibility. So the people on the land increased and multiplied exceedingly while the whole social fabric and economic structure rested upon the potato. Implicit reliance on this single succulent root thus became, both for occupiers and owners, an article of economic faith,* to be shattered when men, women and children on these small holdings perished by the thousand, leaving famished survivors hopeless, and a host of landlords irretrievably ruined.

The great famine was nature's remorseless punishment of disregard of her laws, a warning for all time. As a consequence of this overwhelming disaster a new departure was taken in Irish agrarian policy, drastic in character

* Sir William Petty, in 1672, evidently resenting opinions that laziness was an Irish characteristic, wrote :—"Their lazing seems to me to proceed rather from want of employment and encouragement to work, than from the natural abundance of phlegm in their bowels and blood; for why need they do work who can content themselves with potatoes, whereof the labor of one man can feed forty; and with milk whereof one cow will, in summer time, give meat and drink enough for three men, when they can everywhere gather cockles, oysters, mussels, crabs, etc., with boats, nets, angles, or the art of fishing."

and momentous in effects. Its aim was to rid the country of ruined landlords, and to supplant them by new men and so bring more money into Ireland; its object being to establish land transactions, as between owner and occupier, on a purely commercial free trade basis. At that time the landowners of Ireland were mostly representative of historic connections, and held in traditional regard by their tenantry. With such links occupiers believed their tenure to be secure, subject to payment of a rent almost hereditary in character and sometimes in amount. This Incumbered Estates Act was successful in ridding Ireland, for a time, of a great number of ruined landlords and in promoting speculation, on a large scale, in Irish estates. It also tempted a multitude of Irish professional men, merchants, and even small traders to invest money in land, as the Incumbered Estates Court, acting as promoter and auctioneer, divided up many estates into many small and convenient lots all over the country. A new and smaller class of landlords was thus created by the act of the State, and competition to acquire the status of a landowner being keen, various classes of Irish citizens, without quite sufficient capital to buy land, borrowed the required balance on mortgages.

In those days confidence was general in the honour and faith of Parliaments, and in their power to enforce the obligations of both. Purchasers, therefore, felt their security would not be tampered with, that their savings invested in land, in the country of their birth and business, would be safe. They expected, and rightly expected, "to be protected in the enjoyment of what had been created by their own industry and laid up by their self-denial." But the chief consequence of the working of the Incumbered Estates Act was that security of tenure, based upon traditional association, found no place when properties were transferred by the Court, from the representatives of a romantic past to the protagonists of a remorseless commercial doctrine then enforced by the Manchester school of thought. Eleven years later the result took such painful form and effect that Parliament inaugurated that long series of Acts (from 1860 and continuing to the close of the century), to try and adjust relationship between owners in a minority, and occupiers in an overpowering majority, so as to secure agrarian peace for Ireland. The nineteenth century ended with little prospect of fulfilment. The economic position then may be thus epitomised. Those who had bought tenanted land on the Incumbered Estates, and suffered injury and loss by subsequent legislation, could not re-sell it in that Court. There were, practically, no buyers, except the occupiers on the land. Occupiers had a free, open and brisk market and prices obtained for their occupation interests were, and still are, great, often enormous. The crowning economic absurdity was that a judicial leasehold of a farm was more saleable for ready money than the freehold. To extricate Ireland from so false an economic situation, the Act of 1903 was passed, which, by the use of public credit, provided for the wholesale transfer of all the tenanted land of Ireland from owners to occupiers. Owing to that successful Act, this great organic change is progressing rapidly towards complete accomplishment.

The general character of the process (which commenced in 1849 and with an ever-increasing disturbance of property, continued down to 1903) was to depreciate the value of ownership in fee; to prevent landlords not only from interfering with their tenants, but to deter improving landlords with capital from locking up any more money in land on tenanted portions of their estates. Beyond obtaining rent, fixed by the instrumentality of the State, owners of property in Ireland were compelled to abstain from the discharge of the function of ownership appertaining to that position in all other countries. This forty years' course of legislation, actuated with the best intentions, produced economic chaos. The underlying principle of all these Acts was, by the artificial appreciation of occupation value, carved out of the value of ownership, to endeavour to settle Ireland and bring her peace. Loss of confidence in the recognition by the State of its obligation to defend rights of property, acquired and held under terms of its own making, and practical proofs of its neglect to defend them, cannot long confine results either to a particular form of property or to a particular class. The Act of 1881, passed

to bring peace to Ireland, by a drastic change of relationship between occupiers and owners in the manner referred to above, produced evil consequences to classes other than landlords. A comparison of the figures of the Census of 1881 with those of 1891 shows how great was the exodus of the artisan and industrial classes from the three provinces, which are practically wholly agricultural, and without, as in Ulster, great centres of industrial employment.

It would seem that the particular purge applied to owners—who, however, might perhaps remain in the country—harshly operated upon the industrial class, by diminishing opportunities of employment. Numbers could not continue in their homes, and so they disappeared altogether from Ireland. This present century opened with a general recognition that the social and economic situation in Ireland was intolerable, and that means of escape from the network of confusion, due to legislation, must be found. The only possible door of retreat was by a courageous and wholesale conversion of tenants into owners by the use of State credit, and on a sufficient scale to encourage landlords to part with their properties. The principle of facilitating purchase by State aid had already been applied to a limited extent. Under previous Purchase Acts the bankrupt and impoverished landlords, without any substantial margin of income, had already been forced to sell, almost on any terms. The owners of estates remaining were mostly well-to-do, and therefore had naturally to be offered inducement to sell voluntarily. Their properties had, in very many cases, been in their families for generations, and the force of sentiment made it hard to part with them.

Thus at the present moment the tenants are in process of conversion into owners, subject to payment of annuities to the State over a long period of time. For a couple of generations, occupiers of agricultural holdings in Ireland will be tenants of the State subject to the payment of annuities, but with secured reversion to them of ownership in fee of their holdings when the purchase money, advanced by the State, has been repaid. But that great and salutary change cannot of itself attract capital, nor keep it localised in Ireland, unless financial confidence be restored, and a belief in assured security of property in Ireland be finally re-established. In the absence of these things it is not likely capital sums paid by the State, in the form of purchase money, will remain in the country. In the interests of the economic welfare of Ireland—including those of the purchasing tenants—it is most desirable it should. The "*magic*" of ownership—of which this Commission has heard so much—will not long abide in a land from which capital has been frightened and fled. Those who have capital in the liquid form of money cannot be restrained from investing it where they choose, and following it if they like, while the peasant proprietor, whose all is the land, has no door of escape from economic disaster, due to the absence of national capital and depreciation of national credit.

It is notorious that the great volume of opinion of the propertied classes of Ireland tends much more to distrust than to confidence in the security of property in that country. This is a by-product of antecedent legislation. Under these circumstances the method and procedure to be adopted for carrying into effect compulsory expropriation is one of grave moment, even though it is only within a limited area the principle of compulsion is to apply. It is from the point of view of the general interest of the whole community—Professional, Industrial, Commercial, as well as Agrarian, that the probable effect of the State's action must be considered. If the terms and conditions for the compulsory expropriation of owners, tenant-purchasers, tenants, and other representatives of landed interests in whatever form, are to be settled by Courts, too much care cannot be taken in the nature and character of such Courts. If confidence in Parliamentary honour and faith is not wholly to disappear, and if belief in the security of property in Ireland is to be re-established, the constitution of the Courts must be regarded as the paramount consideration in carrying out the operations of compulsory expropriation.

Now, the proposal of Paragraph 197, is to set up two Courts :—A Court of First Instance and a Court of Appeal. The question as to whether there should be one or two Courts ; or whether the ordinary principle of arbitration is or is not applicable, are subordinate questions as compared with the nature, the structure and the *personnel* of the body or bodies to be set up. The main function of such Courts must be to re-establish in Ireland that confidence which is essential to economic stability ; to uphold principles of equity and justice, by which property is alone secured, against administrative influence exercised by the State to get properties cheap, or popular pressure to extinguish a propertied class on the quickest and easiest terms. In effect the courts must act as the executors of the honour and faith of Parliaments of the past. In the interests of the economic future of Ireland, the Court, or body, set up to perform such high duties, should command general confidence not only in Ireland, but outside it, and exemplify in highest form the cold impartiality of the judicial spirit. I cannot agree with the assumption, so obvious in the proposals of Paragraph 197, that the Department of the Land Commission is the true reservoir from which can be drawn all the elements required to constitute such Court, or body, possessing those necessary characteristics I have attempted to describe, which I am convinced are essential to induce capital, not in the form of fixtures, to remain in Ireland.

Such being my contention, it remains for me to support it by reference to facts and circumstances.

Before stating the case as it presents itself to me, I feel that in order to avoid being misunderstood, it is necessary to make one general observation. Cool impartial judgment is not so remarkable a characteristic of an imaginative people as violence of partizanship and bitterness of class prejudices. The stream of tendency of popular thought is much more influenced by persons than by principles. The personal element—so peculiarly and indigenously ephemeral—counts for so much while principles are not very acceptable unless very elastic. I desire, therefore, to say, I entirely repudiate participation or sympathy with those who cast reflections upon persons who have in the past served the Department of the Land Commission, or who are now serving the State in that, or the Estates Commission branch of the public services.

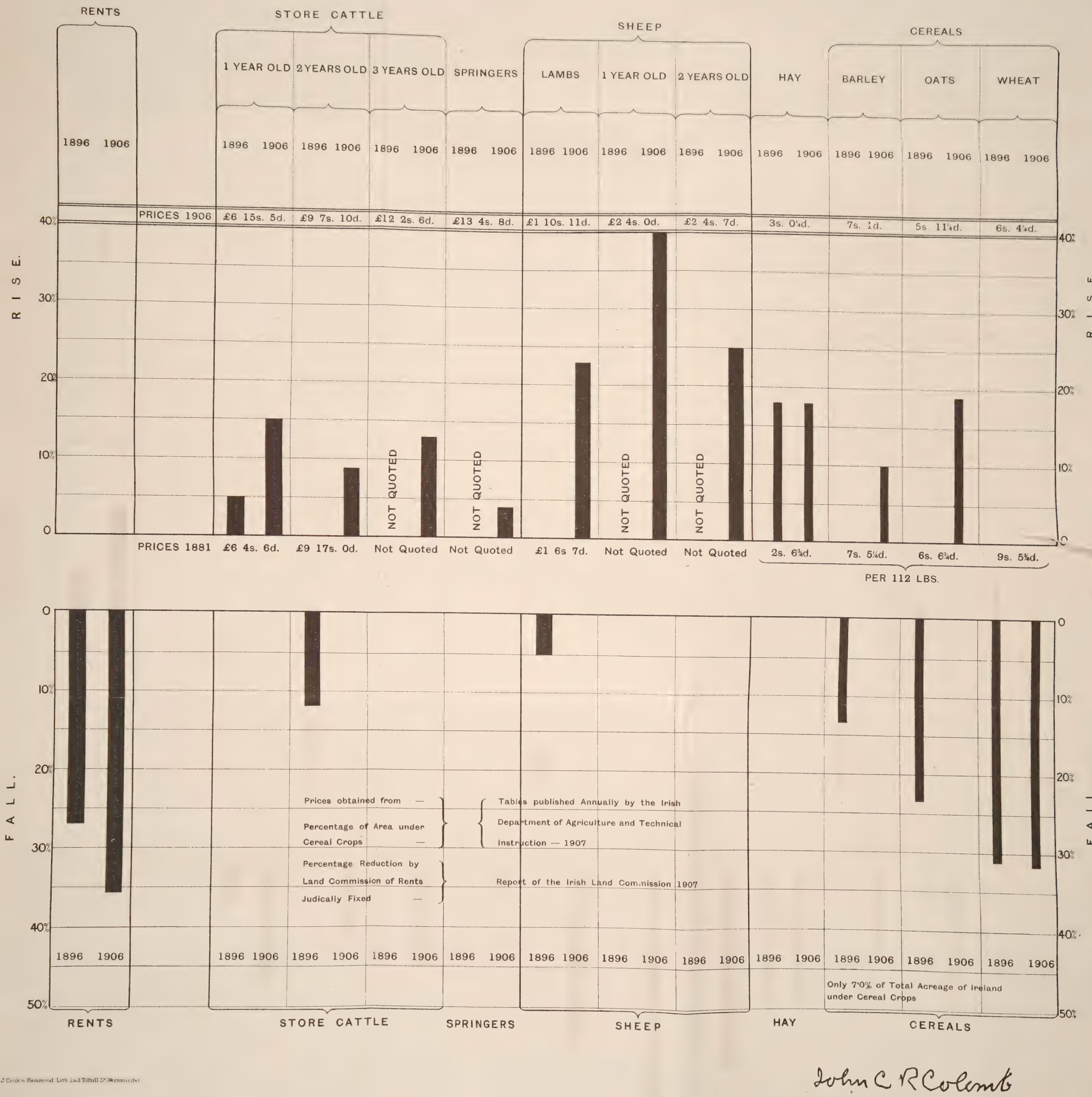
The Court of the Land Commission was by the Act of 1881 set up and consisted of one judicial and two lay Commissioners. The first holders of these offices being named in the Act (Sec. 41). They were all distinguished men, one of the lay Commissioners being not only a landed proprietor himself, but by profession one of the largest, if not the largest, Land Agents in Ireland at that time. Power was conferred upon the Lord Lieutenant to appoint and to remove Assistant Commissioners with "prescribed"* qualification to held office for the "prescribed"* time. Provision was made for the delegation of the power of the Court (except as to appeals) to Sub-Commissioners ; and immediately after the passing of the Act the operations of the Court commenced and have continued to the present time. The power conferred upon this Court really embraced the supervision and control of all matters concerning the mutual relation of owners and occupiers. For present purposes only reference to proceedings concerning the fixation of rents is necessary, and, as already explained, the question of tenure and tenants' improvements were the prime factors determining the principles of policy which legislations expressed. The question of rent was but incidental to the general character of that policy.

As regards the Act of 1881, I point to the fact that the Ministers who framed and passed the Bill never appeared to contemplate a general and sweeping reduction of rents all over the country. It is still more remarkable that Mr. Parnell himself and many prominent Irish landowners then in the House, repudiated the notion that such a thing would happen. In support of this I append a memorandum (A) of extracts from Hansard.

* The term "prescribed" meant prescribed by Rules made in pursuance of the Act.

Diagram

ILLUSTRATING THE REDUCTION OF RENTS JUDICIALLY FIXED BY THE LAND COMMISSION FROM YEAR OF ESTABLISHMENT, 1881, TO 31st MARCH, 1906, AND SHEWING DURING THE SAME PERIOD THE CONSIDERABLE RISE OF PRICES IN MOST OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS OF IRELAND.



J Cook & Hammond Lith 263 Tothill St Westminster

John C R Colomb

In studying the debates during the passage of the Bill through Parliament, the reflection is unavoidable that, had the consequences been foreseen of setting up a Court with powers of delegation to subordinate assistants to deal with rents as they thought fit, and uncontrolled by principles or precedent, the provision of the Act of 1881 would have been widely different. However this may be, reference to the accompanying diagram I attach to this memorandum can hardly fail to illustrate the anomalous curiosities and economic confusions which are the product of twenty-seven years of unceasing labour by the administrative machinery set up in 1881 to settle the Irish land question. For salaries, offices, and incidental expenses, this machinery has cost the general taxpayers of the United Kingdom hundreds of thousands of pounds. This is not all. A huge amount has been transferred from the pockets of both occupiers and owners into those of solicitors. Perhaps this accounts for the curious fact that, though during the twenty years preceding 1881 the ratio of number of solicitors per head of population was steadily decreasing, it has during the twenty years following the Act most markedly increased. Besides, when Courts assemble the public-houses do a roaring business during their sittings, so the proceedings of the Land Commission may perhaps in part account for another fact, viz. :—that between 1881 and 1891, the number of "On Spirit Licences" per number of inhabitants was greatly augmented. The money spent on lawyers and the money and time wasted in public-houses, and so diverted from the land, was also a wastage of national resources in full swing during the last twenty-seven years.

The Diagram I attach is designed to illustrate to the eye the result of the Land Commission's operations. It shows at a glance that this "Court" has apparently inflicted upon Ireland a new law in economics, wholly unknown in any other country of the world, viz. :—that fair agricultural rents should be fixed in inverse ratio to the price of the chief agricultural products.

Undoubtedly much of this result and the defeat of the anticipation of the framers and supporters of the Act of 1881, may be traced to the following administrative causes :—

1. The too free use of powers of delegation.

2. The fact that the field of choice of persons qualified to perform the functions of Assistant Commissioners was very limited, and so adequate tests of fitness were difficult to enforce, especially under the pressure of political patronage so exacting in Ireland.

3. That no rules or principles to govern the judgment and action of fixing rents by Sub-Commission Courts were made.

In support of this view I append Memorandum B, which gives extracts from the Reports of Committees, and a Royal Commission, which, from time to time, have inquired into the working of the Act of 1881. It is also necessary to call attention to evidence given to this Commission by those especially qualified to express opinions upon this subject.

As pointed out in Paragraph 159 of the Report, "Mr. Commissioner Bailey, who was himself engaged for sixteen years in the administration of the Act, spoke of the dissatisfaction expressed both by landlords and by tenants as to the fixations of rents." This is not surprising in view of his answer to Q. 16285—". . . . my own view is that the Land Commission did not work perhaps as satisfactorily as it ought to have worked from the fact that it never has faced the question of laying down principles for the valuation of holdings. It has always left these matters to the opinion of the particular valuer, and the result is that there are no settled principles for the valuation of land for the last twenty-five years, which will enable you to find on what basis it is done."

Mr. Commissioner Finucane gave it as his opinion that "the system of fixing rents is demoralising to the people, apart from any other considerations," Q. 16181. ". . . It would not be safe to base a revision of rents

here on the rents previously fixed." Q. 16184. Again he epitomised the process of fixing fair rents and valuing tenants' improvements, in these words, "The tenant reasonably, or unreasonably, will say—'The Assistant Commissioner is coming round next year, and if he finds the land in good condition the rent will be raised.' He will not, therefore, go in for improvements. On the other hand, in regard to such improvements as he claims, it is well known that some are occasionally pretended improvements. He sticks in a drain at the end of a field leading into a ditch, as I have seen for myself. The Assistant Commissioner comes along to look at the improvements that have been made, and he will see the end of the drain. This is not done to any extent, but it is sometimes done, and the drain is claimed as an improvement. The result of that is, that the system leads to deterioration of the land, and the discouragement of improvements, and to perjury in the Courts, and demoralisation of the worst character" (Q. 16165). A curious practical illustration of methods of dealing with tenants' improvements for abatements of the landlord's rent was given by Mr. W. H. Boyd. In the position of a quasi-trustee and under advice of Counsel he applied to have a judicial rent fixed. The old rent since 1869 had been £18 9*s.* per annum. Mr. Boyd gave evidence and conducted his own case. He stated to the Court that he had received for the use of the land for each year from 1869 to 1899 £35, and since 1899 to the date of the proceedings, £28. He told the Court that the land was always grazed or in hay, and that he had not done any improvements. Nevertheless, the "Judicial Rent" payable to the landlord for the next fifteen years was reduced from £18 9*s.* to £9 3*s.*, more than 50 per cent. reduction (Q. 25189).

The above sufficiently indicate the grounds of my contention, that experience and facts do not justify a proposal to establish, out of the existing Land Commission Department, Courts for settling the terms under which owners of land are to be compulsorily expropriated.

The Estates Commission having been mainly recruited from that Department naturally presents the same characteristic.* The opinion expressed to this Commission by the Estates Commissioners themselves has impressed me with the conviction that there exists in both Departments a very strong tendency to "bear" the price of land in owners' hands and to "bull" the value of tenant's occupation interest. After all, this is not surprising, they are honourable men and, as public servants, intent upon doing their duty to the public according to their lights. They occupy the position of Government brokers. It is their business to buy as cheap as they can, and they have at their back the whole volume of popular favour generated by the desire of all occupiers wanting the land. Now, they may be very excellent brokers, but if my view be correct, that does not qualify them for judicial functions.

Having now reviewed the broad features of the general question on which I take issue, I pass to the proposed method of dealing with land where net income returns are not available, mainly untenanted, and liable to the exercise of compulsory powers within the Board's area. From what I have already said it will be understood I strongly object to the suggestion that, as a preliminary to assessing the value, a fair rent on such land should be fixed by the Land Commission. It is proper here to point out that "untenanted" differs from "tenanted" land in this, that land "untenanted" is outside the purview of the Act of 1881, and by that Act the owner was left the enjoyment of an open market. The owner can do what he likes as regards letting, or otherwise, and fix his own terms when granting temporary use of untenanted land for any period of time he may choose. What a "Fair Rent" really means no one knows, no attempts have been made to give the term a statutory definition. "Fair Rents," in the practice of the Land Commission, have been fixed according to the view of particular men at a particular

* Note.—The experienced Solicitor of the Board, Mr. J. O'Connor, informed us that the Land Commission and the Estates Commission were "one and the same." [Q. 13150.]

time—and how much the actual amount so fixed may be affected by the state of digestion of an individual, at the particular moment, no one knows. But such fixation is only applicable to tenanted land and only for 180 months, whereas if applied to untenanted land, and accepted *as a true basis for computing capital value* for compulsory expropriation of its owner—it is for all time. These reflections appear to me to be fatal to the proposal contained in paragraph 197, unless rudimentary principles of justice are to be abandoned. In that case, of course, restoration of confidence in security of any sort of property in Ireland cannot be regarded as within the reasonable expectation of the present generation. I therefore approach consideration of the methods and the assessment of true value of untenanted land from the point of view that there is no parallel between the case of tenanted land and untenanted land in relation to purchase price; except where the net income derived from untenanted land is ascertainable. I go further and claim that where, from one cause or another, the net income from untenanted land cannot be exactly ascertained, the same treatment as by law and custom safeguards all properties elsewhere when subjected to compulsory acquisition in pursuance of public policy, should apply. I can see no reason why, because the land is in Ireland, its owner should suffer any disabilities from which ownership of land in England, Scotland, or Wales is exempt. If the State takes land away from an owner in Ireland it should, as regards price, and conditions, be subject to the decisions of a Court of Arbitrators as qualified, and commanding as much public confidence for impartiality and freedom from administrative influence, as in Great Britain. If, in carrying out a careful and wise policy of relieving congestion involving compulsory expropriation, loss is incurred, that loss should fall upon the British Exchequer, and not, through the instrumentality of questionable tribunals, be imposed upon the private resources of private individuals whose property so taken happens to be situated within a prescribed area in Ireland. I now turn to examine some reasons offered to the Commission in support of a programme of "crying down the credit" of owners of untenanted land in Ireland and of a theory as to the depreciation in value of grazing lands.

Alleged Grounds for Reduction of Value of Grass Lands.

Mr. Commissioner Bailey explained to us that certain people on mountain or bog plots "had become vocal, and made it plain that in their opinion the system (*e.g.*, the grazing system) that deprived them of the chance of acquiring the land was objectionable and contrary to the good of the community," and that as a consequence "graziers became unpopular and owners found that difficulties were put in their way." "The result," he said, "is that, in some localities, especially mid-Galway, and in parts of Mayo, after a period of agitation, stress, and discussion, owners became inclined to sell their untenanted land for the purpose of distribution among small tenants." I do not dwell upon side issues of such a statement from a high official in a Government Department, but content myself with observing, that a wish to obtain land is not peculiar to Ireland, and has nothing whatever to do with value, except that the better the land the stronger will be the desire to get it. He then proceeded to explain the policy inflicted upon owners of untenanted land—when confronted with these difficulties—by the Estates Commissioners. "Some owners," he said, "finding that the existing system of letting grass lands on the eleven months' system was becoming difficult, attempted a procedure of breaking up their grass lands into suitably-sized holdings, and getting and obtaining fines for the tenant-right in such newly-created holdings, either by public auction, or more generally by private agreement." I point to this official confirmation of the readiness with which grass lands can be sold in that free market, which law and custom assumes still to exist for them, just as occupation interests can be disposed of by tenants in their open markets. But according to Mr. Commissioner Bailey "this method of dealing with grass lands is objectionable. It encourages the land-hungry people to bid prices, frequently out of all proportion to their value. The effort to raise the purchase-money

frequently led to borrowing and indebtedness, that kept the people in poverty and misery, and lessened the security for the repayment of advances of public money." With reference to this, it must be observed that there is no embargo upon purchasing tenants, judicial tenants, or non-judicial tenants buying and selling holdings to any extent or at any price they like. There is no evidence whatever before us that the Estates Commissioners have even hesitated to accept tenants as purchasers of their holdings on estates they have purchased, on the ground that they or their predecessors in title had paid fines for occupation.

We have had before us, and upon our records appear much evidence and many Tables setting forth the freedom with which tenants' interest is bought and sold, and we have ample testimony of the enormous amounts paid for it (see, for example, Appendix to our Second Report, p. 244). But it now appears there is to be one system for owners and another for occupiers in the matter of a free and open market. What law and custom assumes the owner of untenanted land in Ireland still to possess, the Estates Commissioners regard as "objectionable," and use their vast powers to deny him its advantage, for, Mr. Bailey added, "The system of creating holdings by the payment of fines is accordingly discouraged by the Estates Commissioners, who refuse to declare land so dealt with as 'Estates' for the purpose of the Land Acts" (Q. 16,805). In other words, no public advance can be obtained by an owner of grass lands who, driven by the stress of popular agitation making things difficult for him, presumes to divide his land up into lots to suit purchasers. Besides, the reasons given above for this action of the Estates Commissioners, for the protection of the land-hungry people who have agitated, Mr. Commissioner Bailey made the following remarkable statement:—"Where this was not the case the system resulted in the land getting into wrong hands. It enabled the sons of wealthier farmers and graziers to acquire the grass lands, and took away all hope of bettering their position from the smaller and poorer people who most needed relief." (*Ibid.*) In other countries it is not a usual public policy to discourage sons of wealthy farmers and graziers from putting their capital and labour into the land. There is, however, *another* aspect of the question, and it is this—*the double pressure exercised upon the owner to sell his land to the State—cheap.* On the one hand the exercise of his lawful rights and the security of his property are deliberately impaired by the irresponsible pressure of "land-hungry people;" and when he seeks to save himself and his property by breaking up this land into "suitably-sized holdings," and selling the occupation interest to the sons of well-to-do farmer graziers, not only he himself, but tenants so established on his property are, by the Estates Commissioners, debarred from advantages of sale and purchase under the Land Acts. A stroke of the pen of a Department thus aids outside influence in destroying the market value of untenanted grass lands, and so secure for the State, as an expectant purchaser, bargains at knock-down prices.

Alleged General Deterioration of Grass Lands.

Mr. W. L. Micks, of the Local Government Board for Ireland, informed us that "the best lands were in the original grants. I believe," he said, "in the Plantation Grants, but in addition to that a great deal of land was taken up during the Famine by landlords. Then the lands undoubtedly became better handled by men with capital." (Qs. 314 and 316). It was strongly alleged by many witnesses that untenanted land, being mostly grazing land, ought to be bought cheap, because it had deteriorated. Experienced and competent witnesses firmly deny that proposition as capable of general application, but of course admit that there are cases where, through neglect, the land had gone back. Mr. Patrick Flynn, Chairman, Carrick-on-Shannon Rural District Council—an intelligent farmer who employed labour and capital on his farm—gave interesting and instructive information as the results of his own practical experience. Questioned as to the eleven months' system of grazing, he was emphatic in his opinion "that with cattle grazing on the land it is not deteriorating" (Q. 33236).

Alleged General Fall in Grazing Rents.

It was also asserted, as a reason for knocking down the purchase price of grazing lands, "that grazing rents were falling." Much weighty evidence was given to the contrary effect, by those who ought to know best, such as Mr. J. Irwin (Q. 58,683–8). Colonel W. A. G. Saunders Knox Gore (Q. 47488), Mr. F. Shaw Taylor (Q. 56789), [O'Connor Don (Q. 41706–17)], and very many others who were either themselves in receipt, or as managers of properties were collectors, of grazing rents. It may, however, be desirable to quote a wholly independent witness—the Rev. J. P. Callanan. He said, "Rents for smaller grazing tracts have been kept up because of the greater competition, but in the case of the large grazing tracts I believe they have gone down." This is conclusive as to the demand for grazing, and where the market is free and lettings unfettered by artificially and arbitrarily produced causes, there is no depreciation of value—at all events for small tracts—of untenanted grazing land.

Alleged likelihood of future Fall in Value of Untenanted Grazing Lands.

Those who realise that present facts do not sustain contention for arbitrary reduction of price—on the plea of general deterioration, or fall in grazing rents—turn to the unknown future for justification of the demand for compulsory reduction of price to be given for grass lands.

For example, the probable effects of removal of restrictions in Importation of Store Cattle is urged. The interesting Memorandum on this subject (Appendix to our Third Report, p. 345), shows that opinion as to probable effects of such removal is not unanimous. Removal of existing restrictions will be a voluntary act of the State. The County of Wexford presents a good example of advanced and prosperous "mixed farming" carried on by small occupiers. In that Memorandum is a quotation from a communication received from that county—saying the farmers in that county, who have bought out, "depend mainly on the sale of store cattle to pay their instalments, and if the Government see fit to alter the economic conditions, which prevailed at the time the tenants undertook to pay these instalments, they will only consider it fair and just that a corresponding alteration be made in the method of payment." This question in relation to price to be given for grass lands in owners' possession, may be dismissed with these observations. The removal of present restrictions would affect all agricultural lands, though doubtless in different degrees. [O'Conor Don, Q. 41706–8.] If, therefore, in anticipation of a problematical alteration of existing law, purchase value of land is to be reduced, such reductions should be enforced against all description of land. I may also remark that it would seem likely that the smaller holdings which produce the cattle would suffer far more by the removal of existing restrictions than the owners of grazing tracts upon which cattle are matured and fattened. The graziers would find compensation for having to sell cheaper, in buying cheaper from those who must sell because they cannot live unless they sell young stock which generally they cannot keep. As other arguments, prejudicial to present purchase value of this class of property, have, in various forms, been advanced in evidence, it is desirable to affirm that speculation upon the future has its other side.

There are those who honestly and sincerely believe that if certain great organic constitutional changes were accomplished, Ireland would become a paradise of prosperity. It may be asked why is an owner of untenanted grass lands, who so believes, and is confident of the fulfilment of such hope, to be turned out of his property for less than its present and without regard to its future value to him? He will naturally say—"The probable enhancement of property in Ireland will increase the value of my land. I desire to hold on, and if turned out justice requires that I should receive full compensation for prospects as well as present loss."

Again, in view of the public expenditure and effort, through the agency of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, all classes in Ireland are entitled to believe that agricultural knowledge, industry and habits are in process of development and improvement. The result of all this must be to increase agricultural prosperity and so as a result the value of all sorts of agricultural land must correspondingly rise.

It is undoubtedly the case that there is now in Ireland a "rattling of the dry bones" of personal effort and industrial self-reliance long buried under disbelief in strenuous self-help, a disbelief—I may remark—largely attributable to former insecurity of property in tenants' improvements, and uncertainty of tenure.

In this prospect lies justification for reasonable hope of increased agricultural prosperity and augmentation of value of agricultural land. The advantages accruing therefrom are by law secured to the whole mass of tenant purchasers and tenants of all descriptions. It may, therefore, be asked why should these practical considerations be wholly ignored in fixing terms of expropriation?

Existing laws enforce payment of compensation to non-judicial tenants for disturbance. This, as an established principle in relation to tenants, cannot be overlooked in considering the question of compulsory disturbance of owners.

Other arguments presented to us may be classed as—

Sentimental and Speculative Claims for Reduction of Price of Untenanted Grazing Lands by the Action of the State.

In view of the amount of evidence tendered partaking of this character, I feel bound to make some brief remarks upon a subject I should much prefer to avoid. Broadly speaking those most insistent upon the expropriation of owners of untenanted land seem wholly unable to realize that the value of any commodity cannot be measured by the antecedents, the character, the popularity, or unpopularity, of its possessor.

Public feeling, whether it be ethically right or wrong, cannot successfully, or for long, defeat the working of the ordinary law of supply and demand, but it can produce economic chaos in which the whole community suffers—perhaps for unlimited time.

The questions of the constitution and character of the Court to deal with compulsory expropriation is therefore of paramount importance to the whole community of Irishmen in Ireland. Doubtless the difficulties presented by the problem are not inconsiderable.

As regards fixation of value, the witnesses appearing before us on behalf of the landowners suggested a method of assessing the annual value of untenanted land, which would obviate some of the difficulties to which I refer. They were unanimously of opinion that the State should accept the valuation fixed by its authority for purposes of Imperial taxation, as the basis of purchase price in compulsory sales to the State. If in designing the framework of legislation to carry out the recommendations of this Report, that unanimous suggestion is rejected, the gravity of the question of the constitution and character of the Court will be greatly emphasised.

Incidentally, will arise considerations concerning the appointment of members of such Court, or Courts, and I therefore draw attention to some precedents.

1. I have already mentioned that the Land Commissioners first appointed were named in the Bill (1881), the appointments being thus approved and ratified by Parliament before the Bill became Law. It is important to note that future appointments were vested in the Irish Executive.

2. That in the last great Act of compulsory expropriation for transferring the property of certain Companies to a Public Board (The Metropolis Water Act, 1902), not only were the members of the Court of Arbitration named in the Bill, but provision was made that vacancies occurring should be filled on the nomination—not of the Executive Government—but by the Lord Chief Justice of England (Sec. 23).

3. Still more recently arose—in relation to the settlement by Arbitration of Railway Strikes—questions of the character and composition of a Board of Arbitration, as between Railway Companies representing private capital on the one hand and Railway Employees, whose capital is largely their labour, on the other. The constitution of the Boards of Conciliation and Arbitration was determined by mutual agreement of the two bodies concerned. It was provided that in the event of Conciliation Boards being unable to arrive at agreement a single Arbitrator was to be appointed by agreement, or, "in default of agreement to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Commons and the Master of the Rolls." Following the general character of the Land Clauses Act (1845), by which the settlement of terms and conditions are determined in an atmosphere free from any external influences, the above precedents are of importance. Their importance lies in the fact that the Irish Land Act (1881) and the Metropolis Water Act (1902) were framed to interfere with private property, and before these measures became Acts, Parliament approved the names of the first members of the tribunals charged with carrying out their provisions. Unhappily similarity ends there. In the case of the English Act—as I have already pointed out—it was provided that vacancies occurring were to be filled by the nomination of the Lord Chief Justice, while under the Irish Act the filling up of vacancies was left to the Lord Lieutenant, who changes with the rise and fall of political parties, and who is, rightly and properly, the fountain of political patronage in Ireland,

I have referred to the Railway Settlement as showing how in Great Britain both employers and employed in the vast Railway business, appreciate the grave importance of obtaining the exercise of a wholly independent judgment in the appointment of members of such tribunals.

To provide for non-agreement by their representatives, as to selection of an Arbitrator, they turned for his selection to the two great functionaries who are utterly removed, by their position and authority, from party interests, class prejudices, or the every varying gusts of popular favour.

It is because I look and hope for a new Ireland in which such a spirit may arise and prevail, and because without the security of property confidence can find no abiding place, that I have ventured to place on record the views I have so feebly and inadequately expressed.

If I seem to have unduly occupied space, I have done so because I hold fast to what seems to me to be an undeniable truth eloquently expressed by a master hand in the following words :—

> "It is not necessary for me in this place to go through the arguments which prove beyond dispute that on the security of property civilisation depends ; that where property is insecure, no climate, however delicious, no soil, however fertile, no convenience for trade and navigation, no natural endowment of body or mind, can prevent a nation from sinking into barbarism ; that where, on the other hand, men are protected in the enjoyment of what has been created by their own industry and laid up by their self-denial, society will advance in arts and wealth notwithstanding sterility of the earth and inclemency of the air, notwithstanding heavy taxes and destructive wars."

NOTE A.

RENT-FIXING ACTS—THEIR EFFECT ON IRISH RENTALS.

Extracts from Parliamentary Debates.

(1.) *Mr. W. E. Forster.* (*April* 25, 1881 ; *Hansard, p.* 1162).—We have no expectation that the low-rented tenants would venture into Court. They would rather leave well alone.

(2.) *Mr. C. S. Parnell.* (*June* 17, 1881 ; *Hansard, p.* 803).—He believed that the result of the working of the Act would be that, instead of the total rent-roll of Irish landlords being lessened they would have it considerably increased. Certainly he did not believe that a penny would be taken off the rental of the Irish estates.

(3.) *Mr.* (*afterwards Judicial Commissioner*) *Litton.* (*June* 20, 1881 ; *Hansard, p.* 889).—The tenants constantly urge that they at all events had the impression that at the end of the fifteen years there would come probably an increase of rent.

(4.) *Mr. C. S. Parnell.* (*July* 1, 1881 ; *Hansard, p.* 1838).—The Bill would undoubtedly reduce many rents which were extreme rackrents ; but he thought that on the other hand it would raise many rents which were at present moderate, and that, as regarded the class of rents which were too high but which could not come under the denomination of rackrents, it would leave them untouched. The net result would be that the total amount of rent paid to the landlords in Ireland would be increased rather than diminished.

(5.) *Lord Carlingford.* (*August* 1, 1881; *Hansard, p.* 252.).—I maintain that the provisions of this Bill will cause the landlords no money loss whatever. I believe that it will inflict upon them no loss of income, except in those cases in which a certain number of landlords may have imposed upon their tenants excessive and inequitable rents, which they are probably vainly trying to recover.

(6.) *Lord Monck.* (*August* 2, 1881 ; *Hansard, p.* 476.)—The advantage which the tenants would gain by the Bill was this—that it would give them security for their tenure and for their rent, and the landlord would not lose in a pecuniary sense were his lands only fairly let.

(7.) *Mr. Gladstone.* (*July* 22, 1881; *Hansard, p.* 1697.)—Without presuming to attempt to determine the future relations of the judicial rents to the present rents, I will only say that I for one shall be bitterly disappointed with the operation of the Act if the property of the landlords in Ireland does not come to be worth more than twenty years' purchase on the judicial rent.

(8.) *Right Hon. John Bright.* (*May* 9, 1881 ; *Hansard*, p. 103).—The rents of Ireland will for the most part in nine cases out of ten be fixed very much as they are now.

(9.) *Mr. W. E. Forster.* (*July* 22, 1881 ; *Hansard, p.* 1685).—I think this Bill will be justified by what will happen, and I think the final result of the measure within a few years will be that the landowners of Ireland, small and large, will be better off than they are at this moment.

(10.) *Mr. W. E. Forster.* (*April* 25, 1881; *Hansard, p.* 1166).—I, therefore, am not surprised to hear a claim made for compensation. But the English law in the matter depends upon whether damage can be proved, and my firm belief is that no damage can be proved; on the other hand that, if the landlord were compensated, you would compensate him for conferring on him a benefit.

(11.) *Lord Chancellor Selbourne.* (*August* 2, 1881; *Hansard, pp.* 532, 533).—And now I pass to the subject of Free Sale. With regard to it, I deny that, under the provisions of this Bill, there is any ground whatever for saying that the tenant is enabled to sell, either in Ulster or in places where no Ulster Custom prevails, what is the landlord's, or is taken from the landlord. *I deny that it will diminish, in any degree whatever, the rights of the landlord or the value of the interest he possesses.* I should never agree to such a proposal. I adhere to what I said in 1870, that, to extend the Ulster Custom, or to do anything else in such a way as to take the landlord's interest from him and give it to the tenant would, in my opinion, require compensation. But nothing of the kind appears to me to be either contemplated or done by the permission to sell in this Bill. And if the rights of the landlord are not really diminished by this permission of free sale, I do not see how it can be a subject for compensation. *What does the tenant sell?* He sells his own interest in his own improvements, those which were not made by the landlord, and over and above that he sells the good-will of his tenancy as a going agricultural concern. That goodwill, in the actual circumstances of Ireland, is a most real element in the value of the interest which the tenant sells, for if a new tenant entered without the goodwill in the literal sense of the old, there is no question that his holding might be most insecure and even dangerous. There is also another sense of the word goodwill in which it also represents that which belongs to the tenant, but which the landlord would never, in any way, realise. I mean that fluctuating difference of value between the rent for the time being and what a person would give to succeed to the position of tenant, under all its actual conditions, a person desirous of land as a means of living in Ireland. Now both these—the goodwill of the holding, and the value of the improvements—are things which in no sense belong to the landlord.

(12.) *Lord O'Hagan.* (*August* 11, 1881; *Hansard, p.* 272).—Another objection entertained by opponents of the Bill was that it would subject the landlords to certain losses. But he believed that if it were administered conscientiously and honestly no material injury would be done to the landlord.

(13.) *Mr. Gladstone.* (*May* 31, 1881; *Hansard, p.* 1828).—The landlord's rights will not in my opinion be infringed.

(14.) *Mr. Law* (*afterwards Lord Chancellor*). (*April* 28, 1881; *Hansard, p.* 1401). Could anyone suppose that the tenant would rush into Court for such a sum as a pound? He would be a very bold tenant who would do so, at the risk of having to pay the cost of the proceedings.

(15.) *Right Hon. John Bright.* (*May* 9, 1881; *Hansard, p.* 103).—It will be the interest of neither of them (landlords or tenants) to go into the Court, and I believe they will almost universally, without going to the Court, make agreements with which reasonable landlords and tenants alike will be perfectly satisfied.

(16.) *Mr. Law* (*afterwards Lord Chancellor*). (*May* 26, 1881; *Hansard, p.* 1378).—All that would probably happen would be that a certain number of rack-rented tenants would get their rents reduced, and have a limited fixity of tenure.

NOTE B.

Land Commission Valuations.

1. The unreliable character of Land Commission Valuations has been the subject of unfavourable comment by every Parliamentary Committee or Royal Commission which has inquired into the subject since 1881, and also by witnesses who must be considered as having been in the best position for forming clear opinions about it.

2. The Select Committee of the House of Lords who inquired into the working of the Act of 1881 in 1882 and 1883, in their First Report (H. L. Paper No. 37 of 1882, page III., par. 3) referred to the "great uncertainty as to the principles on which the tribunals proceed."

3. In the Evidence appended to that Report (Qs. 1845–1848 ; 1873–1876, and 1883) remarkable evidence as to the difficulties of making correct valuations by valuers or other so-called experts was given by Mr. Morrough O'Brien, who was afterwards one of the Irish Land Commissioners.

4. In the Evidence appended to their Third Report (H. L. Paper No. 37 of 1883, Qs. 1012-1037) very strong comments on the want of any system or instructions for the guidance of Sub-Commissioners were made by Professor Thomas Baldwin, who was then himself a Sub-Commissioner, and was also generally recognised as one of the highest living authorities on Irish agricultural questions.

5. Finally, in their Fourth (and last) Report (H. C. Paper No. 139 of 1893, pars. 9-29), the Lords' Committee comment strongly on the unsatisfactory results arising from the want of definite instructions or principles, or any system or procedure which might produce uniformity or avoid injustice.

6. Some years afterwards, in 1894, a Select Committee of the House of Commons, presided over by Mr. John Morley, reported on the working of the Irish Land Acts up to that time, and arrived at the conclusion (H. C. Paper, No. 310 of 1894, page VII.) that, in fixing judicial rents, "each individual administrator acts absolutely according to his own opinion of what may have been intended" (by Parliament), "and there is neither a common understanding of the law nor anything approaching to uniformity in practice."

7. Later on, in 1897, a Royal Commission, with Sir Edward Fry as Chairman, was appointed to inquire into these and cognate questions. In their Report (C. -8734) they refer to the above passage in the Report of Mr. Morley's Select Committee, and they say of it (page 13) "our experience convinces us that what was true in 1894 is true now."

8. In the next paragraph on same page of their Report the Fry Commission refer to the whole of the rent-fixing procedure of the Land Commission in the following scathing terms :—"In such fashion is the solution attempted of one of the most arduous problems of distributive justice which has ever been raised.

9. The Fry Commission, moreover, found that the County Court Judges had failed quite as signally as the Land Commission to devise any trustworthy method of fixing fair rents. They say of their procedure (Report, page 9), "Some of the judges endeavour to form an independent opinion as the sum proper to be fixed, but the majority of them feel themselves incapable of so doing, and (in the absence of evident mistake) do nothing but adopt and register the finding of their valuer."

10. As to the principal officials who undertake to make these valuations, the Fry Commission say (Report, page 12):—"We believe that, as a whole, the Assistant Commissioners and the Court Valuers have striven honestly and to the best of their ability to discharge the difficult duties cast upon them," but the worthlessness of these good intentions and honest efforts as a means of securing trustworthy valuations becomes painfully evident later on, for the Commission say (Report, page 13) that "there is great diversity of opinion and of practice amongst the large class of Assistant Commissioners." Again, "It is remarkable that in many cases Assistant Commissioners and Court Valuers have been found to agree in their results, though differing in the process and principles by which the results have been arrived at." The Commission then refer to "several remarkable illustrations of this fact," and they record their opinion that "such agreement on the part of the valuers is, if possible, more strange than their differences."

11. This "strange agreement" between classes of valuers supposed to be independent of each other is more or less—but of course not satisfactorily—accounted for later on, for the Commission say (Report, page 17):—"The investigation of the Court Valuer, as hitherto carried on, cannot be considered an independent one. He generally considered himself bound by the decision of the Sub-Commission as to what improvements were to be allowed for; he admittedly accepted much on the strength of the pink schedule under appeal, and he was left at liberty to determine for himself what is a substantial difference from the previous findings."

12. It may be said that all these imperfections might be remedied by a Court of Re-hearing or Appeal. But we have had such a Court in the Chief Land Commissioners ever since 1881, and here is what the Fry Commission (Report, page 15), say of their procedure:—"An almost universal dissatisfaction is expressed with regard to these appeals, a dissatisfaction felt by some at least of the Commissioners themselves. No witness, with perhaps a single exception, spoke in defence of the existing system."

III.—Primary Education.

(*See paragraph* 246.)

However adequate the public expenditure and however efficient the administration of the Congested Districts Board may be, the permanent success of their operations depends upon the people concerned making the best use of the land they occupy. Acute intelligence and quickness of perception are striking characteristics of the people to be dealt with, while, on the other hand, the vast area over which the Commission travelled presents in western Ireland a lamentable picture of a widespread deficiency of even the most rudimentary agricultural knowledge. The importance, therefore, of agricultural education cannot be exaggerated. It is an essential condition of the real relief of congestion, and the promotion of prosperity generally, that the minds and energies of the people should be directed to making the best use of the land they occupy.

At present there is a great multitude of holdings hardly yielding a bare subsistence to their occupiers, not more by reason of the inferior quality of the land or the insufficiency of its extent, than because the treatment of the land by its occupiers is unskilled if not thriftless. The remedy for the evil conditions prevailing in the West of Ireland is not, by any means, wholly a question of migration or of enlargement of holdings, but largely depends upon teaching the people how to use the land properly for their own advantage. The Department of Agriculture has not been long enough in existence to show substantial results, but it may be expected that in due time great and abiding advantages will follow the efforts of that Department to improve the knowledge and practice of agriculture throughout the country. The work of that Department is, however, mainly concerned in helping and instructing the adult population, while many witnesses have pressed upon the attention of the Commissioners the great importance they attach to the adoption of a more suitable system from that which now prevails for training the youth of the country in preparatory knowledge and habits essential to ultimate agricultural and industrial success.

It appears to me that the representations made to us upon this question, in relation to the subject matter of our inquiry, are of such extreme importance that I feel it right to call special attention to evidence upon the subject tendered to us by witnesses representative of all sorts and conditions of men—priests, peasants, officials, and non-official persons, all speaking with the weight and authority which close touch with the people and knowledge of local circumstances can give. (*Vide* Qs. 19663, 21085, App. V., p. 230, 28069, 30110, 35428, 38199, 38557, 40197, 40201 46144, 46728, 5236 5343, 5343, 53917, and 57566).

XL., p. 110. I also draw attention with great satisfaction to the Resolution unanimously passed at the Board of National Education and of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, on the 17th December last. These resolutions in effect recognize the force of representations made to us by the witnesses to whose evidence we have referred, and when practically carried out accomplish these improvements in training the youth of an agricultural community for which these witnesses strongly pleaded.

I submit it is most desirable that within the area of operations of the Congested Districts Board that body should assist and co-operate in giving effect to the resolutions in question.

JOHN C. R. COLOMB.

MEMORANDUM BY DR. O'DONNELL.

While I am in general agreement with the Report there are two points on which I differ from the majority of my colleagues, (1) the measure of price under compulsion, as to which I record my opinion below, and (2) the question of giving compulsory powers to the Estates Commissioners for the relief of congestion outside the Board's area. On this point Mr. Kavanagh and I record our joint opinion. On the question of Practical Primary Education in congested districts I append a supplementary note.

The Measure of Price under Compulsion.

In voluntary sales net income has been much under discussion for several years past. The question arises with more propriety when it is proposed to take land for a great purpose by compulsion. In this case the owner is not to be placed in a worse position financially for the future than he would hold if the land were not taken; and to secure that object the readiest way seems to be to secure him his profit net income, provided it rest on a fairly stable basis. But the stability of the present income and the class of investment in which it is to be secured are essential, as well as correlative, elements of the problem.

Tenanted Land.

Hitherto in acquiring land for public purposes the State has prescribed no such measure of price as a sum that would yield net income to the vendor when judiciously invested. The principles that regulate the prices of lands taken up for railways or labourers' plots, small holdings or farms for evicted tenants, are no more defined in detail than those that regulate the fixing of fair rents. Nor do the latest Acts allow an addition to price on the score of compensation for compulsion.

Moreover when superior interests are compulsorily redeemed in connection with the Land Purchase Acts no such standard as that of net income has been followed. Crown rents, tithe rents and head rents are not subject to periodic revision and they have the ordinary rents as a margin of security. Yet these superior interests are redeemed at prices that render it economic under our scheme to pay them off before determining the sum that will yield the vendor his net income from year to year. This shows that we are recommending a higher price, in order to secure compulsorily the land required for the relief of congestion, for an interest subject to revision and with no margin of security but the tenants property than, say, for a tithe rentcharge. However, the recommendation is limited to profit net income.

No doubt owners selling voluntarily under the Act of 1903, between the bonus and the discharge of mortgages bearing high interest, apart from other considerations, sometimes improve their income very considerably. But when land is taken compulsorily, if they are secured their net income, the advantage that arises from paying off mortgages cannot be maintained in addition. The justification for securing the vendor his net income is to protect him from financial loss in the transaction. If net income did not mean profit net income the reason for the provision would disappear.

If the advantage to the vendor of redeeming mortgages is to be considered in compulsory sale (with which alone I am dealing), a more comprehensive measure of price than net income should be adopted. The alternative, then, would be to leave the price to the decision of the Court in view of all the circumstances of the case, after hearing landlord and tenant and anyone else interested in the matter. Thus a court, such as now fixes the amount of income the owner receives, year by year, in the shape of rent, would determine the aggregate sum, corresponding with the full value of his interest, that would yield his future annuity.

Just as it is generally felt that a town property yielding a steady annual income from a multitude of tenants in a poor quarter is not so desirable nor so valuable as a property yielding the same income from prosperous tenants in a wealthy quarter, so there is a considerable difference between income from a large number of poor agricultural tenants and the same amount of income from the comfortable tenantry of a prosperous estate; and the Court could

allow for this difference. It would not overlook the security of the holdings for advances as they stand nor the difficulty of making them economic, nor on the other hand, the advantages to the owner if he sold of himself under the Act of 1903. There would be no need on the part of the Court to provide a trustee investment for the proceeds of the sale of land that was settled property ; much less for the price of land under the vendor's control. The difficulty of investment would not be one for the Court unless so far as it affected a fair price. That price, as fixed by the Court's decision, would be binding on the landlord, the Board, and in the main upon the tenants. But all parties would have been heard.

As rents are much more likely to fall than to rise under future judicial revisions, and as ordinary rents have no margin of security except the tenant's interest, the owner's financial position is permanently and considerably improved if in compulsory sale his profit net income is secured. In all the circumstances of the case I agree to the standard of profit net income from tenanted land, as recommended by the Commission. But in case of any departure from this standard I should be altogether in favour of the compulsory price being fixed by the Court after considering any relevant circumstance, and hearing every person interested in the case. This would be in accordance with such precedents as exist.

Untenanted Land.

Net income from judicial rents has a basis of some stability. The occupier may be said to take a lease for fifteen years of the owner's interest, and tenant-right furnishes no inconsiderable margin of security for the judicial rent during the judicial period. Thereafter the tenant's interest will be a like security for, presumably, a smaller judicial rent. But to all this security scarcely anything corresponds in the case of grazing rents from untenanted land. No doubt there are cases where the same family of graziers have held from the same family of owners for more than one generation on easier terms than those that prevail on neighbouring properties. But in ordinary cases the competitive grazing rent covers the whole value of the land. There is no reserve of tenant's interest unrented. There is no margin of security. The ordinary grazier would not undertake to pay the grazing rent for fifteen years on lease. His agreement is for a year, or less, while the judicial tenant (*a*) contracts to pay the judicial rent for fifteen years, (*b*) is practically obliged thereafter. owing to his interest in the farm, to pay such a rent, less or more than the first, as the Court will fix, and (*c*) has the security of his own interest to offer for his payments.

That some of the grazing lands are deteriorating, that some of the graziers have not been successful, and that the importation of foreign cattle may cause a collapse, are also important considerations. Then, the outcome in the West of Ireland of the adverse feeling against the grazing system, which has for years being gathering momentum, is scarcely open to doubt. Whatever is to be said of the contention that the harshness of some owners largely helped to bring rent-fixing on the whole class, it is plain that the clearances of some have distinctly contributed to make it inevitable that the grass lands in the scheduled counties should be transferred from the owners to an occupying peasantry. The system of competitive grazing rents there is not likely to be again what it was. No doubt, it is a different case from that of the competitive agricultural rents that prevailed before the Gladstonian Land Acts; but the claim for more land is a sequel to, or the complement of, the claim for less rent in the congested districts. Men living on poor holdings, perhaps on patches of bog or mountain, saw at no great distance wide areas of good land under cattle and sheep. They may have recollected when some of this land was tilled, or known in some cases that their own families once occupied a certain portion of it, and were swept away. Such men had made their demands well known before the Land Bill of 1903 was introduced, and that measure passed through Parliament on the declared policy of securing larger holdings for the congests. The delay in giving effect to that policy has resulted in more extensive demands. Prices have gone up under the Land Act of 1903; but, on the other hand, in the circumstances attendant on and subsequent to that legislation, even if there were more than enough land to supply the migrants, it looks as if partition were the destination of the grazing tracts as a whole in the Western counties.

Nor can it be overlooked that, while in individual cases the effect of intimidation is rightly discounted when a price is being fixed, it is scarcely possible to make a corresponding allowance if trouble becomes chronic or recurrent over a wide area, and a general movement considerably dislocates a system which has not the commendation of giving employment to many people, and which, subject to exceptions, is declared on expert authority to be inconsistent with the best economic use of the soil. If legislation for the relief of congestion did not intervene, this adverse feeling against the grazing system would of itself largely dissolve the competition that hitherto existed, no matter how strenuous the efforts to keep order.

For the foregoing reasons income from grazing rents is too precarious to furnish a sufficiently stable basis for purchase, and profit net income, because of its liability to heavy diminution, seems inadmissible as a standard whereby to determine the price that should be paid the vendor, in the compulsory sale of grass lands, with the object of fairly securing that his financial position will not be worse than it would be if no sale took place. Where so much is problematical, the available alternatives seem to be either (*a*) to leave it absolutely to the Court to fix a "reasonable price," after the precedent of the Evicted Tenants Act of 1907, on examining the circumstances that are deemed pertinent to the case, and hearing the persons interested in it; or (*b*) to direct the Court to attend to certain specified considerations affecting the value of the land.

If the second course were followed, valuation as far as a second term rent would constitute the dominant factor in determining the price in view of the more permanent system of mixed tillage in moderately sized farms, under which the ranches are to pass in the scheduled counties. But occupation interest and net rent on the estimated gross rent, would also be important considerations; and net profit income in its estimated prospective value to the particular vendor, would be relevant as a different, but complementary, light on the subject of price, due regard being had to its instability. The Commission, however, has decided to leave to the Court, without drawing any guiding lines for it, the decision of the price corresponding with the full value of the interest acquired wherever the vendor cannot produce satisfactory evidence of net income, as net income cannot then be the index of price; and for one holding the views stated above in regard to the precariousness of net income from grazing rents and its unsuitability as a standard of price, even when ascertained, there would be little meaning in specifying the considerations that are to weigh with the Court when evidence of net income is forthcoming, if they are not to be specified in the absence of such evidence. Indeed it is more than doubtful whether the Court, under a general instruction to fix a reasonable price, is not more likely to fix a really fair price in its decision than if it were trammelled by directions that might not be wide enough to fit the conditions of every sale. So much has in any case to be left to the discretion of the Court, even if considerations are prescribed for its attention, that it seems better to put upon the tribunal the entire responsibility of determining a reasonable price according to its own judgment in all the circumstances.

Tenancy Interests.

The Board, acting wisely, would, no doubt, frequently offer the *bona fide* large farmer, whose land it was proposed to take for the relief of congestion, a better farm elsewhere. In some cases it would scale down the holding of a large occupier, leaving him land of at least £100 valuation. But as the law now stands the Board is bound to do neither. It can resume an entire holding, whether a small patch or an extensive ranch, for the relief of congestion wherever a judicial agreement exists; and while it is necessary to make compulsion applicable to holdings of every class of tenure, it seems undesirable to limit the discretion of the Board in the matter of land provision for those whose holdings are taken compulsorily. In relieving congestion the new Board should have a free hand in taking up farms of every class, those of tenant purchasers included, the price of the interest acquired by compulsion to be fixed by the Court after hearing those interested as to its value or any other relevant circumstance.

✠ PATRICK O'DONNELL.

Practical Primary Education in Congested Districts.

(*See paragraph* 246.)

I.

Underlying every plan for improving the condition of the people in the congested districts is the education received by children in the national schools. It is at once more necessary and more difficult to give primary education a practical aim in the poor districts than in the rest of the country. A broken attendance for some years at a national school sums up all the schooling most of the children receive. Distance, home occupations, want of food or clothing, and other reasons are rightly given for irregular attendance; and irregular attendance is of itself a bad education.

Whenever the teaching of Irish makes attendance more regular, the education, apart from everything else, is distinctly improved from a practical point of view, inasmuch as regularity and perseverance, with temperance, are essential to form a solid industrial habit in the young. Meals for very poor children, though a many-sided issue, would also bring some of this advantage.

But pupils who are going to earn their bread by the work of their hands have need, moreover, to be taught from the beginning to use their faculties skilfully in the line of the work that lies before them in life. This specially practical part of education need in no way interfere with reading, writing, arithmetic, or drawing, with music or drill. It in no way overburthens the pupil to whom it can be made a welcome variety and whose mental faculties it greatly helps to develop. Its difficulties arise from want of staff, accommodation, apparatus, and materials.

Since the Report of the Commission on Manual and Practical Instruction was published in 1898 it is agreed on all sides that primary education should have a practical aim; and certainly it would enormously facilitate the work of raising up the poorer districts if the schools gave practical instruction in the principles that underlie domestic and agricultural industry. Such training belongs to primary education. Indeed, as regards the working class, primary education has nothing so important for this world on its programme. It was always the kind of education the poorer districts needed; and without it, the expectation that the soil will be cultivated with the greatest care and skill or its produce turned to the best account, if entertained, would seem to rest on no sure foundation.

II.

The programme of practical instruction sanctioned by the National Board for girls can readily be made such as the pupils require in large schools with a duly qualified staff. Needlework, cookery, and laundry work, with lessons in health and temperance and household duties, all belong to a suitable elementary education for girls in home work, home care, and home industry. Such education can stand by itself, and no further education, technical or other, can well stand without it. For girls in the poorer districts this education is peculiarly needful, whether from the point of view of entering domestic service, or of utilising the produce of the farm and garden for the advantage of the household, or of engaging in cottage industries in a way that will serve the worker, the family and the community. In such a system the moneymaking cottage industry will not be allowed to oust the still more useful art of good house-keeping.

But the large schools for girls in the congested districts are comparatively very few. The population is scattered; and the schools are necessarily small and often mixed. The above programme, which is not for the youngest children, is difficult without a second room and, perhaps, still more, without a second teacher, considering the weight of the other school work, unless where a mistress has a special aptitude for giving instruction in domestic science. Whatever accommodation is necessary ought to be provided and the requisite apparatus without further tax on the local resources in poor places where the up-keep of the schools is already a heavy burden on the managers;

and until much more is done in training the teachers in domestic economy the best plan seems to be for the National Board to employ an instructress of the standing of those employed by the Congested Districts Board or by the County Committee of Technical Instruction. One visit in the week would suffice for each school and probably two schools could be visited on most days, with an allowance of two hours to each. The teachers could come to a convenient school on Saturdays for special instruction. In this way girls would receive at the primary schools the practical primary education they require; and the Congested Districts Board and the County Committee would be largely relieved from the need to provide in some hurried way for grown people some part of what all should have received at school in the ordinary course of their education.

III.

Practical education is not less important for boys than for girls. Here again, manual instruction and elementary science point to the need of a second room. Whether the teacher of these subjects is the school teacher or an itinerant instructor under the Board, or an instructor supplied by the Congested Districts Board, or the County Committee, the subjects belong essentially to elementary education, and are of the first importance for boys in the congested districts. To be useful in the world, no other part of primary education is so needful to them. This education again, can stand by itself, and it is the right preparation for technical, mechanical and agricultural training. Then, if every rood of Irish land is going to be turned to its best economic use, the elementary science course should be such as to illustrate practically, the principles that underlie the agricultural art. The treatment of soil and plant on reasoned principles, can be made a practical exercise of such interest, as to develop a delight in the skilful cultivation of the soil. Here the school garden comes in, and in favourable circumstances, the school farm. It is no more the province of primary education to turn out a trained farmer, than it is to turn out a trained cook. But just as a sound elementary education teaches a girl the principles and practice of all the cookery that is needed in the house of the small farmer; so, the principles underlying the best use of the soil in the neighbourhood, illustrated by practice suitable to his age, certainly belong to the primary education required by a boy, if he is destined for the farming occupation.

At least in the congested districts, Mr. Doran would like to see, as far as possible, a small farm attached to each rural school for boys, and the pupils trained to till it in a model manner. Many others, who would not go so far, desire that one central school in a parish should haue such a farm cared by a teacher of special aptitude and special training, and that all the teachers should be trained to manage school gardens properly. It is well known that in a consultation between representatives of the National Board and the Department, it was arranged to ask Treasury sanction for a somewhat similar scheme to operate all over Ireland. An important proviso is "that the teaching of agriculture, as distinct from school garden teaching, in schools under the National Board, should be undertaken only in a school organized as an upper primary centre to which pupils from the national schools in the neighbourhood could come." An arrangement of that kind for boys about to leave school behind, is absolutely necessary, if primary education is not to lack the practical aim that is essential to it; and the poorer the district, the more necessary it is that the primary schools should supply the practical education that will furnish children with some suitable preparation for their work in life.

These observations have been set down, not to suggest views to the National Board, with which they are not perfectly conversant, but with the object of emphasizing how important it is for the uplifting of the congested districts, that the practical part of the Board's programme should be allowed to operate fully in them.

✠ PATRICK O'DONNELL.

NOTE BY Dr. O'DONNELL and Mr. KAVANAGH

In favour of giving Compulsory Powers to the Estates Commissioners for the Relief of Congestion outside the Board's Area.

It is recommended in paragraph 312, that upon the Estates Commissioners should devolve the work of relieving congestion outside the area of the Board, by migration and the enlargement of holdings. For this purpose they are to have the powers of exempting from the restrictions of the zones any uneconomic holding on an estate that is being sold under the Act of 1903, but they are to rely on voluntary purchase alone for the acquisition of untenanted land for the relief of such congestion, *i.e.*, they are not to have the compulsory powers of the Congested Districts Board, because it is assumed that their field of choice is so large that they will not need them.

This seems to us to be imposing on them a task without giving them the full means of carrying it out. For this reason we would be in favour of giving them the right after they have tried voluntary purchase without success, to apply to a Court, such as we have already recommended, for compulsory powers to acquire such an amount of untenanted land as they require for the relief of congestion. They would in the first place, have to prove to the satisfaction of the Court that they have tried voluntary purchase, and have failed to obtain the land required at such a price as would enable them to re-sell to the tenants without unreasonable loss, and in the second place, that the lands that they wish to acquire are suitable and necessary for the purpose in view.

If they prove their case, the after procedure would be the same as in the case of the Congested Districts Board.

✠ PATRICK O'DONNELL.

WALTER M'MURROUGH KAVANAGH.

NOTE BY MR. KAVANAGH

On Liability of Tenant Purchaser's Holdings to be Taken for Relief of Congestion.

(Page 44, Paragraph 117, Section 5.)

I disagree with these recommendations—I am of opinion that the holding or holdings of any tenant-purchaser under any Land Purchase Act ought to be exempt from the operations of compulsory purchase. It is urged against this view, that if the property of the landlord is to be subject to compulsion, so ought that of the tenant-purchaser. I would put both on exactly the same footing. The landlord's demesne and home farm are, and rightly so, to be exempt from the operation of compulsory purchase. I think that the holding of the tenant-purchaser ought to be regarded as his demesne and home farm and as such reserved to him. In reality it is more to him than the landlord's demesne is to him—besides being his home it is probably his whole means of livelihood, and for that reason ought to be doubly secured to him. The whole aim and object of land purchase has been to create a peasant proprietorship, and if legislation is now to turn round and revoke the contract which has just been entered into, a great blow will be struck at all future land purchase, and, in my opinion, a great injustice done to one of the parties to that contract.

WALTER McMURROUGH KAVANAGH.

NOTE BY MR. CONOR O'KELLY.

With the organic changes in law and procedure, recommended for the better relief of congestion as set out in Section V., Paragraph 48* of Sir Antony MacDonnell's Minute of Dissent, I am in entire agreement.

CONOR O'KELLY.

* See page 172.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF WITNESSES EXAMINED BEFORE THE COMMISSION, SHOWING THE VOLUME IN WHICH THEIR EVIDENCE APPEARS AND THE PAGE IN THAT VOLUME ON WHICH IT BEGINS.

Name.	Volume containing Evidence.	
	Volume.	Page.
Agnew, Rev. Thomas, C.C., ..	VII.	110
Aherne .Mr. Patrick, ...	VIII.	24
Aird, Mr. J. J., ...	VII.	158
Anderson, Mr. Andrew, ..	VII.	139
Anderson, Mr. R. A., ...	IV.	117
Armstrong, Mr. E. G., ..	X.	127
Armstrong, Mr. Luke, ..	VI.	100
Ashtown, The Right Hon. The Lord, J.P., D.L.	X.	176
Bailey, Mr. Commissioner, ..	III.	158
Baillie, Col. J. R., ...	II.	176
Baker, Mr. Thomas, ...	VIII.	27
Balfour, The Right Hon. A. J., M.P.	V.	1
Balfour, The Right Hon. Gerald, M.P.	V.	9
Barton, Sir John G., C.B., ..	V.	22
Beirne, Mr. Daniel, J.P., ..	X.	267
Bell, Mr. W. R., ...	VII.	18
Bewglass, Rev. W. J., ..	II.	163
Bingham, Mr. Denis G. B., J.P.,	IX.	52
Black, Mr. Alexander, ..	VII.	65
Black, Mr. Denis, ...	VII.	79
Blake, Mrs. Caroline, ...	X.	36
Blosse, Sir Henry Lynch, Bart., J.P., D.L.	IX.	157
Boles, Mr. Edward G., ..	VI.	85
Booth, Sir Josslyn Gore-, Bart., J.P., D.L.	VI.	25
Bowen, Mr. Edward, J.P., ..	X.	258
Boyd, Mr. W. H., J.P., D.L., ..	V.	43
Boyle, Mr. James, ...	II.	217
Brady, Miss, ...	II.	119
Brady, Mr. Thomas, ...	X.	250
Brady, Rev. Owen, P.P., ..	VII.	147
Breen, Mr. Thomas, ...	VII.	161
Brennan, Mr. Henry, ...	VI.	1
Brennan, Mr. Kenny John, ..	II.	134
Brennan, Mr. Michael (Junior),	IX.	151
Brennan, Mr. Michael (Senior),	IX.	152
Brogan, Mr. Michael, ...	IX.	151
Browne, Mr. Ernest, ...	VII.	178
Burke, Mr. Henry A., J.P., ..	X.	1
Byrne, Mr. John, ...	VII.	45
Cahill, Mr. Thomas, ...	X.	210
Callanan, Rev. J., P.P., ..	X.	143
Campbell, Mr. John, ...	II.	206
Campbell, Mr. Patrick, ..	II.	211
Campbell, Professor J. R., ..	IV.	45
Campion, Mr. Rody, ..	VII.	164
Carney, Mr. James, ...	VII.	140
Carr, Mr. John, ...	II.	212
Carroll, Mr. John J., ...	VIII.	190
Carter, Mr. Michael, ...	VI.	188
Casey, Mr. George, ...	VII.	196
Casey, Mr. Patrick, ...	VII.	177
Cassidy, Mr. James, ...	VII.	146
Cassidy, Mr. Michael, ...	X.	264
Castletown, The Right Hon. The Lord, K.P.	V.	188
Cawley, Mr. Peter, ...	VI.	105
Clancy, Rev. James, C.C., ..	VII.	197
Clarke, Mr. Charles E., ..	VII.	124
Clarke, Mr. Patrick, ...	VII.	141
Clarke, Mr. Patrick, ...	IX.	139
Clarke, Mr. Peter, ...	VII.	103
Cleary, Mr. James, ...	VII.	147
Cloherty, Mr. Joseph, ..	X.	39
Coghlan, Mr. Timothy, ..	VIII.	179
Colleran, Rev. Martin, P.P., ..	IX.	82
Collins, Mr. Michael, ...	VII.	212
Conaghan, Mr. Patrick, ..	II.	217
Concannon, Mr. Martin, ..	X.	225
Connell, Mr. Thomas, ..	IX.	134
Connolly, Mr. Michael, ..	VI.	159
Connolly, Rev. T. C., C.C., ..	VI.	144
Connor, Mr. Thomas, ...	VI.	104
Connor, Mr. Thomas, ...	IX.	139
Conroy, Mr. J. C., ...	X.	89
Conroy, Rev. Mark, P.P., ..	X.	68
Considine, Mr. Michael, ..	VII.	166 *and* 173.
Conway, Mr. Patrick, ..	VII.	96
Cooper, Captain R. W., ..	VIII.	188
Corcoran, Mr. John, ...	IX.	9
Corrigan, Mr. Edward, ..	IX.	86
Corr, Rev. Thomas, P.P., ..	VII.	138
Costello, Mr. Peter, ...	X.	88
Cotton, Mr. Cox, ...	X.	226
Craddock, Rev. J., P.P., ..	X.	116
Craig, Mr. Charles, ...	II.	51
Crawford, Mr. Robert, C.E., ..	IX.	141
Crawford, Mr. Walter, J.P., ..	VII.	101
Crichton, Mr. Alexander, ..	V.	222
Crookshank, Mr. C. H., ..	III.	221
Crosbie, Mr. David Talbot-, J.P., D.L.	V.	202
	X.	194
Crosbie, Mr. Lindsey Talbot-, ..	V.	147
Crossan, Mr. James, ...	II.	225
Cryan, Mr. J. M., ...	VI.	80
Culleton, Mr. Louis, ...	VII.	164
Cullinane, Mr. M., ...	X.	39
Cunningham, Mr. John, ..	X.	185
Curran, Mr. Patrick, ...	X.	87
Curran, Rev. J., P.P., ...	X.	140
Dallinger, Mr. Percy G., ..	VII.	116
Daly, Mr. Richard, ...	VIII.	173

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF WITNESSES, &c.—*continued.*

NAME.	Volume containing Evidence.	
	Volume.	Page.
Daly, Mr. Thomas K., ..	VII.	200
D'Arcy, Mr. John R., ..	X.	131
Darley, Captain, ...	VI.	187
Davis, Mr. Anthony, ...	IX.	149
Deeny, Mr. John, ..	II.	219
Delahunty, Mr. Timothy, ..	VII.	213
Delaney, Mr. William, M.P., ..	VII.	162
Delap, Mr. William J., F.S.I., ..	VIII.	90
De Lurgy, Mr. Hugh, ...	VII.	78
Dermody, Mr. John, ...	VII.	149
Digges, Rev. J. G., M.A., ..	VI.	221
Dobbs, Mr. St. C. M., ..	VII.	69
Doherty, Mr. Charles, ..	II.	220
Doherty, Mr. Cornelius, ..	II.	233
Doherty, Mr. Daniel, ...	II.	108
Doherty, Mr. Denis, ...	II.	233
Doherty, Mr. Michael, ..	II.	232
Doherty, Mr. Patrick, ..	II.	126
Doherty, Mr. William, J.P., ..	II.	1
Doherty, Rev. John, P.P., ..	II.	39
Dolan, Mr. Patrick, ...	VII.	135
Dolan, Rev. Patrick, P.P., ..	VI.	215
Donnell, Mr. John, ...	VII.	126
Donnelly, Mr. Alexander, ..	VII.	95
Donnelly, Rev. J. J., P.P., ..	VII.	29
Doogan, Mr. Michael, ..	II.	110
Doran, Mr. David, ...	VIII.	118
	I.	75
	VIII.	13
Doran, Mr. Henry, J.P., ..	IX.	74
	X.	232
	XI.	1
Doran, Mr. John, ...	VIII.	22
Doris, Mr. John, ...	VII.	97
Downing, Mr. John, ...	VIII.	133
Doyle, Mr. John J., ...	X.	257
Driscoll, Mr. James, ...	VII.	217
Drury, Mr. John, ...	X.	267
Dudley, Mr. James, ...	VIII.	143
Dunleavy, Mr. James, ..	II.	182
Dunlevy, Rev. Patrick, C.C., ..	II.	160
Dunnion, Mr. John P., ..	II.	200
Durcan, Mr. Edward, ..	VI.	109
Duthie, Mr. A. T., ...	IV.	11
Dyar, Mr. Patrick, ...	VI.	93
Eagleton, Rev. Mark, P.P., ..	X.	139
Edmonds, Mr. Leslie, ...	X.	18 *and* 208
Egan, Mr. Matthew, ...	X.	251
Fallon, Rev. John, P.P., ..	IX.	130
Feehy, Mr. Joseph, ...	X.	267
Feeney, Mr. Timothy, ..	X.	189
Finegan, Very Rev. Patrick, V.G., P.P.,	VII.	136
Finlay, Mr. Maurice, ...	VII.	81
Finnerty, Mr. Martin, ..	X.	202
Finn, Mr. Patrick, ...	IX.	164
Finucane, Mr. Commissioner, C.S.I.	III.	104

NAME.	Volume containing Evidence.	
	Volume.	Page.
Fitzgerald, Mr. Maurice, ..	VIII.	83
Fitzgerald, Mr. Robert, F.S.I., ..	VIII.	76
Fitzgibbon, Mr. John, J.P., ..	V.	140
	X.	223
Flatley, Rev. John, C.C., ..	X.	12
Fleming, Mr. Michael, ..	VIII.	62
Fletcher, Mr. George, ..	IV.	100
Flynn, Mr. Patrick, J.P., ..	VI.	181
Flynn, Mr. Thomas, ...	VI.	192
Foley, Mr. Timothy, ...	VIII.	77
Fox, Mr. Bernard, ...	VI.	175
Franks, Mr. Harry, J.P., ..	VII.	157
Gallagher, Mr. Charles, ..	II.	211
Gallagher, Mr. Daniel, and Mr. William Duff.	VI.	33
Gallagher, Mr. Hugh, ...	VI.	160
Gallagher, Mr. John, ...	IX.	56
Gallagher, Mr. John, ...	II.	125
Gallagher, Mr. Patrick, ..	II.	116
Gallagher, Mr. Patrick, ..	VI.	105
Gallagher, Mr. Thomas, ..	IX.	115
Gallagher, Mr. Thomas, ..	II.	126
Gallagher, Rev. James, P.P., ..	II.	20
Gavigan, Rev. J., P.P., ..	II.	78
Gilligan, Mr. P. J., ...	VI.	46
Gilligan, Very Rev. Canon, P.P.,	VI.	163
Gilmartin, Mr. John, ...	VI.	157
Gilmartin, Mr. William, ..	VI.	80
Gilroy, Mr. John, ...	VI.	161
Glass, Mr. James, ...	VII.	60
Glynn, Mr. James, ...	IX.	144
Glynn, Mr. Joseph A., ..	X.	117
Glynn, Mr. Thaddeus, ..	X.	197
Glynn, Rev. P., P.P., ...	VII.	183
Gore, Col. W. A. G. Saunders Knox-, J.P., D.L.	IX.	20
Gough, The Right Hon. the Viscount, K.C.V.O.	X.	160
Graham, Mr. James, ...	VII.	79
Grant, Mr. John, ...	II.	232
Gray, Rev. Denis, P.P., ..	VI.	226
Grealey, Very Rev. Canon, P.P., V.G.	IX.	67
Greene, Mr. Charles E., ..	VII.	27
	I.	195
Green, Rev. W. S., ...	IV.	1
	X.	34
Griffin, Mr. Patrick, ...	VIII.	26
Griffiths, Miss Rose A., ..	X.	175
Guilfoyle, Mr. J. J., ...	VII.	161
Halpin, Rev. J., P.P., ...	VII.	202
Hamilton, Major James, ..	II.	179
Hanrahan, Mr. James, ..	VIII.	21
Harbinson, Mr. W. J., ..	VII.	99
Hardy, Mr. William, ...	X.	212
Haren, Mr. Patrick, ...	VIII.	99
Harkin, Mr. John, ...	II.	126
Harkin, Mr. John, ...	VII.	127
Harkin, Mr. Michael, ...	II.	101
Harrington, Mr. Daniel, ..	VIII.	138

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF WITNESSES, &c.—*continued.*

NAME.	Volume containing Evidence. Volume.	Page.
Harrington, Mr. W. S., ..	VII.	254
Harrington, Rev. T., P.P., ..	VIII.	115
Harte, Mr. Bernard, ...	VI.	9
Hayden, Mr. John P., M.P., ..	X.	213
Hayes, Very Rev. Canon, P.P., V.G.	VIII.	17
Hazell, Mr. Thomas, ...	X.	54
Hegarty, Rev. J. J., P.P., ..	IX.	42
Hennelly, Mr. Maurice, ..	IX.	147
Henry, Mr. Dominick, ..	VI.	82
Henry, Mr. Mark C., ...	IX.	153
Henry, Mr. P. J., ...	VI.	83
Henry, Rev. Martin, P.P., ..	IX.	172
Heraghty, Mr. Thomas, ..	IX.	125
Heron, Mr. William, ...	II.	209
Hewson, Mr. Geo. F., F.S.I., ..	VI.	128
Hibbett, Mr. T. B., ...	X.	198
Higgins, Mr. Patrick, ...	IX.	96
Hogan, Mr. Patrick J., ..	VII.	208
Hosty, Rev. Thomas, P.P., ..	X.	90
Howe, Mr. Richard, ...	VII.	142
Hurley, Mr. Jeremiah, J.P., ..	VIII.	185
Irvine, Col. Henry, ...	II.	95
Irwin, Mr. John, ...	X.	237
Jagoe, Mr. Abraham, ...	VIII.	171
Johnston, Mr. James, ..	II.	229
Jordan, Mr. David, ...	IX.	137
Joyce, Mr. John H., ...	X.	98
Joyce, Mr. Michael, ...	X.	20
Judge, Mr. Henry, ...	II.	212
Julian, Mr. James E. J., J.P., ..	VIII.	8 *and* 20
Kane, Rev. Matthew, C.C., ..	VI.	235
Kavanagh, Mr. John, ...	II.	42
Keane, Mr. Patrick, ...	VII.	216
Keaveney, Mr. John, ...	X.	253
Keaveney, Mr. Michael, ..	VI.	148
Keaveney, Rev. Michael, P.P., ..	IX.	167
Keaveney, Rev. Patrick, ..	IX.	29
Keenan, Mr. John, ...	VII.	143
Kelleher, Mr. William, ..	VI.	221
Kelly, Mr. Joseph, ...	X.	64
Kelly, Mr. Patrick, ...	II.	224
Kelly, Mr. Peter J., ...	X.	152
Kelly, Rev. James, ...	X.	21
Kelly, Rev. John, ...	IX.	15
Kelly, Rev. J. J., P.P., ..	VII.	154
Kelly, Rev. Michael, ...	VI.	13
Kennedy, Mr. Cornelius, ..	X.	128
Kenny, Mr. Edward, ...	II.	205
Kenny, Mr. P. D., ...	IX.	104 *and* 164.
Kerin, Rev. H., P.P., ...	VIII.	80
Kerr, Rev. Montgomerie, ..	VII.	52
Killeen, Mr. Patrick J., ..	IX.	117
Kirwan, Mr. Denis, ...	X.	102
Kirwan, Mr. Patrick, ...	VII.	161
Lafferty, Mr. William, ..	II.	229
Larkin, Mr. John G., ...	II.	43
Larminie, Mr. Alexander, ..	IX.	113
Laverty, Rev. Francis, P.P., ..	VII.	49
Lawless, Mr. William, ..	X.	92
Leeper, Mr. William, J.P., ..	VII.	101
Lennon, Mr. John, ...	VII.	20
L'Estrange, Mr. Henry G., F.S.I.,	VI.	17
Loftus, Very Rev. Canon, P.P., V.G.	VI.	75
Lowry, Rev. Andrew, P.P., ..	VII.	5
Lucey, Mr. Jeremiah, ...	VIII.	49
Lyden, Mr. John M., ...	X.	27
Lynch, Mr. Patrick, ...	VII.	112
Lyons, Mr. Michael A., ..	X.	81
Lyons, Very Rev. Canon, P.P., V.G.	IX.	93
M'Aleenan, Mr. John, ..	VII.	35
M'Aleer, Mr. Patrick, ...	VII.	95
M'Alister, Mr. Daniel, ..	VII.	73
M'Aloon, Mr. Terence, ..	VII.	146
M'Alpine, Very Rev. Canon, P.P., V.G.	X.	29
M'Andrew, Rev. B., P.P., ..	X.	41
M'Arthur, Mr. Joseph, ..	II.	50
M'Ateer, Rev. John, P.P., ..	VII.	163
M'Auley, Mr. Bernard, ..	VII.	75
M'Auliffe, Mr. John, ...	VII.	219
M'Bride, Mr. John, ...	II.	124
M'Bride, Mr. Patrick, ..	II.	121
M'Bride, Mr. Patrick, ..	VII.	125
M'Cabe, Mr. John, ...	VI.	190
M'Caffrey, Mr. Peter, ...	VII.	149
M'Callion, Mr. Patrick, ..	II.	234
M'Callum, Mr. James, ..	II.	220
M'Cambridge, Mr. John, ..	VII.	77
M'Cann, Rev. Thomas, ..	VII.	84
M'Carron, Mr. John, ...	II.	221
M'Carthy, Mr. Charles, ..	VIII.	37
M'Carthy, Mr. Florence, ..	VIII.	174
M'Carton, Mr. James, ..	VI.	226
M'Clafferty, Mr. Hugh, ..	II.	105
M'Clintock, Mr. Arthur, ..	III.	1
M'Cloy, Mr. Alexander, ..	VII.	76
M'Clure, Mr. Robert, F.S.I., J.P.,	VIII.	109
M'Conalogue, Rev. John, P.P., ..	VII.	107
M'Connell, Mr. Charles, J.P., ..	VII.	63
M'Connell, Mr. John, ...	II.	124
M'Cormick, Mr. Patrick, ..	VII.	73
M'Cullagh, Mr. Hugh, ..	VII.	123
M'Cullagh, Mr. Peter, ..	VII.	115
M'Cullagh, Mr. Peter, ..	VII.	113
M'Curdy, Mr. John (of Cragmacreggan, Rathlin Island).	VII.	58
M'Curdy, Mr. John (of Mig, Rathlin Island).	VII.	57
M'Daid, Mr. Hugh, ...	II.	235
M'Dermott, Mr. Peter James, ..	VI.	83
M'Devitt, Mr. Hugh, ...	II.	155
M'Donagh, Mr. Patrick, ..	X.	73
M'Donald, Rev. Michael, P.P., ..	IX.	99
M'Donnell, Rev. John, P.P., ..	IX.	160
M'Donnell, Very Rev. Canon, P.P.,	VIII.	134

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF WITNESSES, &c.—*continued.*

NAME.	Volume containing Evidence.	
	Volume.	Page.
M'Enroy, Mr. Bryan, ..	VI.	225
M'Evoy, Mr. John, ...	VII.	13
M'Fadden, Very Rev. Canon, P.P.,	II.	86
M'Farlane, Mr. James, ..	VII.	96
M'Garvey, Mr John, ...	II.	119
M'Gaughey, Mr. William, ..	VII.	128
M'Gauran, Rev. Thomas, ..	VII.	134
M'Gillicuddy of the Reeks, The,	VIII.	63
M'Glynn, Right Rev. Monsignor,	II.	166
M'Govern, Mr. John, ...	IX.	84
M'Gowan, Rev. E. V., ..	VII.	40
M'Gowan, Rev. J., ...	VII.	55
M'Gowan, Rev. Michael, ..	VII.	87
M'Gregor, Mr. R. R., ...	IV.	142
M'Guill, Mr. James, ...	VII.	18
M'Hale, Mr. John, ...	IX.	59
M'Hugh, Rev. M., P.P., ..	X.	44
M'Hugh, Rev. Redmond, P.P.,	X.	77
M'Kenna, Very Rev. Canon, P.P., V.G.	VII.	12
Macken, Very Rev. Canon, P.P., V.G.	X.	132
M'Kinlay, Mr. Denis, ...	VII.	80
M'Loughlin, Mr. John, ..	VI.	57
M'Loughlin, Mr. Martin, ..	IX.	140
M'Loughlin, Rev. Patrick, P.P.,	VI.	111
M'Mahon, Mr. William, ..	VIII.	5
M'Mananny, Mr. Patrick, ..	VI.	106
M'Manus, Mr. Bernard, ..	VII.	132
M'Namara, Mr. A., ...	IX.	102
M'Namara, Mr. Henry V., J.P.,	VII.	168
M'Namara, Mr. Michael, ..	VII.	216
M'Naw, Mr. James, ...	II.	209
M'Naw, Mr. Michael, ...	II.	207
M'Neill, Captain James, ..	VII.	78
M'Nelis, Mr. Michael, ...	II.	157
M'Nelis, Mr. Patrick, ...	II.	152
M'Nulty, Mr. John.	IX.	1
M'Nulty, Rev. Patrick, P.P., ..	VI.	44
M'Quig, Mr. John, ...	VII.	57
Maguire, Mr. Hugh, ...	VII.	146
Maguire, Rev. James, P.P., ..	II.	33
Maguire, Rev. J. J., ...	VII.	218
Maguire, Rev. J. R., P.P., ..	VII.	144
Mahoney, Mr. Thomas M'Donagh,	VIII.	78
Mahoney, Mr. Timothy, ..	VIII.	178
Mallon, Rev. P. A., ...	VII.	148
Malone, Mr. John, ...	VII.	213
Manning, Rev. James, P.P., ..	VI.	170
Marley, Mr. Patrick, ...	VI.	49
Marron, Rev. James, C.C., ..	II.	159
Masterson, Mr. Michael, ..	IX.	85
Maude, Captain Anthony, J.P.,	IX.	27
Maye, Mr. Michael, ...	VI.	110
Meehan, Mr. Patrick, ...	VI.	28
Meehan, Mr. Patrick, M.P., ..	VII.	151 *and* 160.
Meehan, Rev. Joseph, C.C., ..	VI.	118
Melvin, Mr. Matthew, J.P., ..	IX.	3
Melvin, Mr. Thomas Patrick, ..	VI.	47
Mescal, Mr. Michael, ...	VII.	193
Micks, Mr. William Lawson, ..	I.	1
Mitchell, Mr. F. W. D., ..	I.	22
	XI.	36
Mitchell, Mr. Patrick, ...	VI.	157
Mitchell, Mr. William, ..	VI.	41
Moclair, Mr. Thomas, ...	IX.	112
Moeran, Mr. Archibald, ..	X.	162
Molloy, Rev. Thomas, ..	II.	192
Molyneux, Very Rev. Canon, P.P.,	VIII.	21
Mongan, Mr. Martin, ...	X.	65
Montgomery, Mr. William, ..	II.	94
Moore, Mr. James, ...	VII.	109
Moran, Mr. Thomas, ...	VI.	107
Moriarty, Mr. David, ...	VIII.	59
Morrin, Mr. James, ...	IX.	172
Morris, Mr. Solomon, ...	VII.	90
Morrow, Mr. Andrew, ..	VII.	33
Mulhern, Rev. Thomas, ..	II.	46
Mulkeen, Mr. Martin, ...	IX.	151
Mullaghan, Rev. Denis, C.C., ..	VII.	37
Mullen, Mr. John, ...	X.	153
Mullens, Mr. J. A., ...	V.	107
Mullin, Mr. J. B., J.P., D.L., ..	II.	8
Mulvery, Mr. Patrick, ..	VI.	237
Mulville, Mr. Michael Walsh, C.E.,	VIII.	26
Murphy, Mr. Henry, ...	X.	107
Murphy, Mr. John, M.P., ..	VIII.	44
Murphy, Rev. R. J., P.P., ..	VII.	23
Murray, Mr. John, ...	VII.	192
Murray, Mr. Patrick (of Castlewellan).	VII.	38
Murray, Mr. Patrick (of Glendun),	VII.	80
Naughton, Mr. Patrick, ..	X.	94
Neary, Mr. James, ...	X.	235
Neil, Mr. William, ...	X.	164
Newman, Rev. Patrick, C.C., ..	VI.	194
Nicholson, Mr. Patrick, ..	VI.	86
Noone, Mr. Neal, ...	II.	227
O'Boyle, Mr. John, ...	VIII.	75
O'Brien, Mr. J. R., ...	I.	61
O'Brien, Mr. Michael, ..	VII.	150
O'Brien, Mr. Patrick, ..	VIII.	167
O'Callaghan, Rev. J., P.P., ..	VIII.	144
O'Connell, Mr. A. G., ...	VIII.	97
O'Connell, Mr. M., ...	VIII.	1
O'Connell, Rev. J., ...	VIII.	170
O'Connor, Mr. Christopher, ..	X.	57
O'Connor, Mr. John, ...	III.	1
O'Connor, Mr. William, ..	VII.	211
O'Conor Don, The, H.M.L., ..	VII.	221
	X.	246
O'Doherty, Mr. J. E., ..	II.	29
O'Doherty, Mr. Philip, ..	II.	40
O'Doherty, Rev. Philip, P.P., ..	VII.	122
O'Donel, Mr. E. T., J.P., D.L., ..	IX.	78

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF WITNESSES, &c.—*continued.*

NAME.	Volume containing Evidence. Volume.	Page.
O'Donnell, Mr. Anthony, ..	II.	125
O'Donnell, Mr. Hugh (of Meenaneery).	II.	198
O'Donnell, Mr. Hugh (of Milford),	II.	10
O'Donnell, Mr. James (of Kilraine)	II.	212
O'Donnell, Mr. James (of Shawley)	II.	203
O'Donnell, Mr. James (of Templecrone).	II.	107
O'Donnell, Mr. J. F., ...	II.	67
O'Donnell, Mr. Manus, ..	II.	116
O'Donnell, Mr. Patrick, ..	IX.	82
O'Donnell, Mr. Thomas, M.P., ..	VIII.	29
O'Driscoll, Mr. Alexander, ..	VIII.	72
O'Flaherty, Mr. Timothy, ..	VIII.	35
O'Halloran, Mr. Patrick, ..	X.	92
O'Hara, Mr. P., ...	VII.	1
O'Hara, Rev. Denis, P.P., ..	I.	153
O'Hara, Right Rev. Monsignor, P.P., V.G.	IX.	27
O'Hara, Very Rev. Francis, P.P.,	VI.	142
O'Hare, Mr. John, ...	VII.	20
O'Leary, Rev. Timothy, P.P., ..	VIII.	146
O'Leary, Ven. Archdeacon, P.P., V.G.	VIII.	121
O'Leary, Very Rev. Canon, P.P., V.G.	VIII.	42
O'Loughlin, Mr. Daniel, ..	VII.	174
O'Malley, Mr. John, ...	IX.	30
O'Malley, Mr. Peter J., J.P., ..	X.	6
O'Meara, Mr. T. J., M.D., ..	VIII.	195
O'Neill, Mr. John, ...	VI.	48
O'Neill, Mr. Michael, ...	VI.	35
O'Neill, Mr. Arthur, ...	VII.	128
O'Neill, Mr. J. J., ...	VII.	156
O'Neill, Mr. T. J., C.E., ..	VI.	76
O'Reilly, Mr. Thomas, ..	VII.	136
O'Reilly, Rev. Patrick, P.P., ..	VII.	131
O'Riordan, Very Rev. Canon, P.P., V.G.	VIII.	67
O'Rourke, Mr. Timothy, J.P., ..	X.	251
Orr, Rev. S. H., ...	II.	128
O'Shea, Mr. James, ...	VIII.	49
O'Sullivan, Mr. Denis, ..	VIII.	100
O'Sullivan, Mr. James, ..	VIII.	99
O'Sullivan, Mr. T. (of Castletownbere).	VIII.	142
O'Sullivan, Mr. T. (of Kenmare),	VIII.	105
O'Sullivan, Rev. James, P.P., ..	VIII.	198
Pearson, Mr. David, ...	II.	187
Pelly, Rev. Joseph A., C.C., ..	X.	166
Phibbs, Mr. Charles, J.P., ..	VI.	64
Pierse, Mr. Garret, ...	VIII.	25
Pigot, Mr. J. L., ...	VII.	258
Plunkett, Rt. Hon. Sir Horace, K.C.V.O.	III.	233
	IV.	129
Poe, Lieut.-Col. William Hutcheson, C.B., J.P., D.L.	X.	222
Pomeroy, Mr. John A., ..	II.	70
Porter, Mr. T. S., ...	III.	32
Power, Mr. Maurice, ...	VIII.	141
Prendergast, Mr. Luke, ..	IX.	135
Quigley, Mr. John, ...	II.	230
Quilty, Mr. John G., ...	VI.	29
Quinn, Mr. Francis, ...	VII.	99
Quinn, Very Rev. Canon, P.P., ..	VII.	14
Quin, Rev. Bernard, P.P., ..	VI.	77
Rafferty, Mr. J. H., ...	X.	211
Rafferty, Mr. Michael, ..	VII.	106
Reidy, Rev. Thomas, P.P., ..	X.	208
Reilly, Mr. Thomas, ...	X.	210
Reynolds, Mr. Farrell, ..	VI.	219
Reynolds, Mr. Patrick, ..	VI.	154
Riney, Mr. John, ...	VIII.	131
Robinson, Mr. Henry A., ..	X.	85
Robinson, Mr. R. St. G., F.S.I.,	VI.	49
Rochfort, Mr. William, J.P., ..	VIII.	119
Roddy, Mr. Michael, ...	VI.	232
Rogers, Rev. Francis, C.C., ..	VIII.	177
Rooney, Mr. Patrick, ...	VI.	151
Rooney, Mr. Patrick J., ..	VI.	32
Roughneen, Mr. Thomas, ..	IX.	174
Rouse, Mr. William, ...	VI.	43
Roycroft, Mr. Edward, J.P., ..	VIII.	162
Ruddy, Mr. James, ...	II.	226
Russell, Mr. George, ...	III.	53
Russell, Mr. T. W., M.P., ..	IX.	175
Rutledge, Mr. Thomas, F.S.I., ..	IX.	87
Ryan, Mr. Daniel, ...	VII.	219
Ryan, Mr. James, ...	X.	190
Satchwell, Mr. Herbert, J.P., ..	X.	195
Scanlan, Mr. Felim, ...	IX.	35
Scollard, Mr. Charles, ..	VIII.	25
Scott, Dr. Henry Mark, ..	VI.	34
Sharkey, Mr. James, ...	X.	255
Sheehan, Mr. J. L., ...	VIII.	130
Sheehy, Mr. Timothy, ..	VIII.	181
Slein, Mr. Patrick, ...	VI.	108
Sloan, Mr. R. O., ...	VIII.	95
Smyth, Mr. Thomas, ...	VI.	192
Smyth, Mr. Thomas F., M.P., ..	VI.	195
Spargo, Mr. Edmund, ..	II.	75
Spiers, Mr. James, ...	VII.	81
Stack, Rev. T. L. F., M.A., B.D.,	VII.	92
Stanley, Mr. James, ...	VII.	163
Stephens, Very Rev. Canon, P.P., V.F.	IX.	128
Stewart, Mr. Geo. F. R., F.S.I., J.P., D.L.	VI.	209
Stuart, Mr. W. H., ...	(III.	224
	(X.	141
Sullivan, Mr. Patrick, ..	X.	34
Swan, Mr. Thomas, ...	II.	25
Sweeney, Mr. John, ...	II.	112
Sweeney, Mr. Patrick, ..	IX.	80
Sweeney, Very Rev. Canon, P.P.,	II.	140
Taylor, Mr. Frank Shawe-, J.P.,	X.	153
Taylor, Mr. George, F.S.I., ..	IX.	111
Tener, Mr. E. Shaw, J.P., ..	X.	158
Townsend, Rev. Precentor, ..	VIII.	193
Traill, Mr. William, C.E., M.A., ..	VII.	71
Travers, Mr. James, ...	VI.	218
Treanor, Mr. Patrick, ..	VII.	42

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF WITNESSES, &c.—*continued.*

NAME.	Volume containing Evidence. Volume.	Page.	NAME.	Volume containing Evidence, Volume.	Page.
Trench, Mr. George, F.S.I., J.P.,	VIII.	50	Walsh, Mr. Patrick, ...	X.	93
Trench, Mr. P. Chenevix, F.S.I., J.P.	X.	212	Ward, Mr. John, ...	II.	136
Turner, Mr. A. B., F.S.I., ..	VIII.	153	Ward, Mr. John F., ...	X.	186
Vaugh, Mr. Wilton, ...	VI.	165	Ward, Mr. Peter, ...	II.	194
Waldron, Mr. Laurence A., M.P.,	III.	9	Webb, Mr. Patrick, ...	X.	228
Waldron, Mr. Mark, ...	IX.	136	White, Mr. Edward, ...	X.	261
Walker, Mr. W. J. D., ..	IV.	30	Williams, Mr. William, ..	VII.	61
	X.	52	Wills, Mr. E. W. Sandford-, J.P.,	X.	225
Walker, Very Rev. Monsignor, P.P., V.G.	II.	53	Woodside, Mr. Robert, J.P., ..	VII.	53
Wallace, Mr. Robert, J.P., ..	VI.	203	Wrench, Right Hon. F. S., ..	III.	64
Walpole, Mr. W. J., ...	X.	242	Wyndham, Right Hon. Geo., M.P.,	V.	33
Walsh, Mr. John, ...	IX.	65	Young, Mr. G. L., ...	II.	14

LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION.

Documents put in by	Description.	Vol.	Pages.
ANDERSON, Mr. R. A., ..	A. Co-operative Grazing, ...	IV.	232–3
	B. Killeroran Co-operative Agricultural Society, ...	,,	233
	C. Report on Co-operative Grazing Scheme on Mr. Percy Magan's Estate in Co. Roscommon.	,,	233–4
	D. Case on behalf of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society, Limited, for Counsel to Advise *re* Acquisition of Grazing Farms.	,,	234–5
	E. Draft of Bill promoted by the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society, and submitted to the Right Hon. Gerald Balfour, then Chief Secretary.	,,	235–6
ASHTOWN, The Right Hon. The Lord.	A. Summary Table showing Gross Rents, Arrears, and Salaries on the Woodlawn Estate.	X.	285
	B. Particulars as to Uneconomic Holdings in Woodlawn, ...	,,	285–6
	C. Sums allowed for Improvements, ...	,,	287
	D. Agricultural Tenants who also work as Labourers, ...	,,	287–8
BAILEY, Mr. Commissioner,	A. Sketch of the Irish Land Acts, ...	III.	327–32
	B. The problem of Agricultural Congestion in the West of Ireland, ..	,,	332–6
	C. Observations on the Valuation of Land in Ireland—		
	(1) The Government Valuation of Ireland. History and Criticism of.	,,	336–9
	(2) Method of Valuing Land and Buildings separately, ..	,,	339
	(3) Increased Letting Value. How dealt with in fixing Fair Rents,	,,	339–40
	(4) Arrears of Rent. On fixing Judicial Rents, ...	,,	340
	(5) Automatic System of fixing Rents. How far suitable in Ireland.	,,	340
	(6) Nature of Tenant's Interest in Holding, ...	,,	340
	D. Report of Hearing in case of Blake-Forster (Kinvarra) Estate, ..	,,	341–3
	E. Inspector's Report in Estate of Charles S. Pelham Clinton, ..	,,	343–4
	F. Memorandum on Effect of Removal of Restrictions on the Importation of Store Cattle into Great Britain.	,,	345–8
	G. Memorandum on the Encumbered Estates Act, ...	,,	349
	H. Table showing Gross Rental percentage in cases within "Zones," ..	,,	350
	J. Judgment. Estate of James D. Crosbie. Amount of Improvements included in Purchase Money.	,,	351
	K. Reports of Hearing in Estate of James D. Crosbie. Arrears of Rent added to Purchase Money.	,,	352–7

LIST OF DOCUMENTS—*continued.*

Documents put in by	Description.	Vol.	Page.
BLAKE, Mrs. CAROLINE, ..	Notes on conditions of life in Renvyle, ...	X.	275–6
BOOTH, Sir JOSSLYN GORE-,	A. Notes of Evidence, ...	VI.	243–4
	B. Agreement as to Division of Streamstown Grazing Farm, ...	„	245
	C. Schedule referred to in Agreement B, ...	„	245
BURKE, Mr. HENRY, ..	Notes of Evidence, ...	X.	273–5
BOYD, Mr. W. H., ..	A. Outlines of Evidence, ...	V.	231–9
	B. Memorandum on Drainage, ...	„	239
	C. Copy of "Pink Schedule"; Landlord, Viscount Southwell; Tenant, Mrs. C. A. Boyd.	„	240–1
	D. Statement as to Sales of Tenants' Interests on Sir William Style's Estate.	„	242
	E. Statement as to Sales of Tenants' Interests on Estate of the Dowager Countess of Kingston.	„	243
	F. Statistics as to Deposits and Cash Balances in Irish Banks, ..	„	243
CAMPBELL, Professor J. R.,	A. Memorandum on Agricultural Work of Department, ...	IV.	179–220
	B. Leaflet (No. 34) on the Revival of Tillage in Ireland, ...	„	220–3
CASTLETOWN, Lord, ..	A. Re-Afforestation of Ireland.—Draft Scheme, ...	V.	245–8
	B. Report of the Irish Forestry Society for 1906, ...	„	248–50
CROSBIE, Mr. DAVID TALBOT-,	Headings of Evidence, ...	„	251–5
CRICHTON, Mr. A. J., ..	A. Notes of Evidence, ...	„	256–8
	B. Memorandum on the Problem of Congestion, ...	„	258–61
CROOKSHANK, Mr. C. H., ..	A. Return showing position of Estates purchased by Congested Districts Board.	III.	360
	B. Return showing position of Estates purchased by Estates Commissioners.	„	361–3
DELAP, Mr. W. J., ..	A. Rents received on Estates managed by Witness, ...	VIII.	216
	B. Sales of Tenants' Interests managed by Witness in County Kerry, ..	„	216
DOHERTY, Rev. J., ..	Number of large holdings in Glenagannon, ...	II.	239
EDUCATION IN IRELAND, The Secretary to the Commissioners of.	Statement respecting the Townawilly Estate, ...	II.	245
DOLAN, Rev. PATRICK, ..	A. Outlines of Evidence, ...	VI.	270–2
	B. Short Report on Drainage of Rivers in Union of Mohill, ...	„	273
DORAN, Mr. H., ...	Memorandum H. on Land Work of Board, ...	I.	304–23
	Map showing three classes of Congested Districts, ...	„	*To face* 332
	Tables—		
	1. Particulars of Holdings in Congested Districts arranged in classes according to valuation.	„	324–5
	2. Land required to raise average valuation to £2 per head, 1901, ..	„	328–9
	3. Area, population, and valuation of Congested Districts counties, ..	„	328–9
	4. Return of non-residential holdings in Mayo and Roscommon, ..	„	330–1
	5. Land required for raising average valuation to £2 per head, 1891,	„	332
	6. Particulars of Parish Committee Schemes, ...	„	333
	Map of the Cashen River showing Section requiring Drainage, ..	VIII.	*To face* 208
	Notes of Evidence, ...	XI.	42–5

LIST OF DOCUMENTS—*continued.*

Documents put in by	Description.	Vol.	Pages.
DORAN, Mr. H.—*continued.*	Memorandum on Vested Congestion, ...	XI.	45
	Notes on Maintenance of Improvements, ...	,,	45–6
	Table showing Loss on Estates, ...	,,	46
	Table showing Tenancy Interests acquired by the Congested Districts Board.	,,	47
	Return of Non-residential Holdings over £25 Poor Law Valuation, ..	,,	48–9
DUTHIE, Mr., ...	Notes of Evidence, ...	IV.	172–5
ESTATES COMMISSIONERS, The Secretary to the.	Statistics of Estates purchased by the Commissioners, ...	V.	300–3
	Map showing Estates purchased in County Mayo under the Land Act of 1903.	IX.	*To face* 290
FINUCANE, Mr. Commissioner,	A. Memorandum on Congestion in Ireland, ...	III.	309–23
	B. Note on Griffith's Valuation, ...	,,	324
	C. Note on price of Untenanted Land, ...	,,	324–5
	D. Note on the Sub-letting and Sub-division of Holdings, ...	,,	325–6
	E. Statement classifying advances made in the Congested Districts, according to the amount of the Annuity payable.	,,	326
	F. Map showing Estates purchased in Co. Galway, ...	,,	*To face* 322
FITZGIBBON, Mr. JOHN, ..	Return showing Number of Holdings under Certain Valuations in County Roscommon.	V.	244
	Statement as to Valuation and Area of Agricultural Holdings in County Roscommon (excluding towns).	X.	292–3
FISHERMEN, Deputation of,	Particulars as to Interview with Fishermen from Newbridge, County Donegal.	II.	249–51
FLETCHER, Mr., ...	A. List of Industrial and Domestic Economy classes in Congested Districts prior to 1st August, 1903.	IV.	224
	B. Return showing Places and Dates on which such Classes have been established.	,,	224–5
	C. List of Manual Instruction Classes conducted in Congested Districts,	,,	225–6
	D. Technical Classes for Girls, ...	,,	226
	E. Rural Economy—Suggested Outline Syllabus, ...	,,	227
	F. Memorandum on Rural Industries and Training for Home Life. ..	,,	227–31
GORE, Colonel SAUNDERS KNOX-.	A. Schedule of Grass Lands offered for sale, ...	IX.	192
	B. Sales of Small Holdings in Ballina District, ...	,,	192
	C. Two typical Sales of Tenants' Interests on Estate of Mr. Joseph Pratt, D.L.	,,	192
GOUGH, Rt. Hon. Viscount,	A. Report of Dr. Gentrsch on Consolidation of Holdings, ...	X.	277
	B. Laws of Saxony with regard to Agricultural and Peasantry Holdings,	,,	277–84
GREEN, Mrs. ALICE STOPFORD,	Memorandum on Irish Land Tenures, ...	III.	358–9
GREEN, Rev. W. S., ..	Memorandum (including statistical information) on Fisheries, ...	I.	337–50
	Diagram showing fluctuations of Herring and Mackerel Fisheries, ..	,,	*To face* 350
	Marine Works Constructed by the Congested Districts Board, ...	IV.	158–60
	Map showing locality and expenditure on works connected with Fisheries,	,,	*To face* 158
	Memorandum of certain points relating to the history and present needs of Irish Fisheries.	,,	161–9
	Memorandum on condition of Fisheries, ...	,,	170–1
HAMILTON, Major, ...	Statement as to Sales of Tenants' Interests since 1st January, 1882, ..	II.	248

LIST OF DOCUMENTS—*continued.*

Documents put in by	Description	Vol.	Pages
HARKIN, Mr. MICHAEL, ..	Typical Family Budgets, ...	II.	245
HAYDEN, Mr. J. P., ..	A. Reduction in Number of Habitations in County Roscommon between 1841–1901.	X.	288
	B. Valuation of Agricultural Holdings in certain Rural Districts of Roscommon.	..	289
	C. Special Comparisons as to Agricultural Land and Grazing Land, ..	..	289
HEWSON, Mr. GEORGE, ..	A. Sales of Tenants' Interests on Congested Estates, ...	VI.	264–9
	B. Statistics as to Payment of Rents on Estates managed by him, ..	..	268–9
IRISH LAND COMMISSION, Secretary of.	Letter as to Tenants on Maghery Glebe, ...	II.	247
	Statement as to Securities by Irish Land Commission, ...	III.	280–1
	Correspondence relating to the Payment of Land Purchase Annuities, ..	..	282–5
	Figures relating to Interest in lieu of Rent for year ending 31st March, 1907.	V.	244
	Return showing since 1869, the Number and Amount of Advances made (and Applications pending), to enable Tenants and others to purchase Holdings or Parcels of Land.	XI.	50–1
IRVINE, Col. HENRY, ..	A. Notices issued against Sub-division on the Hill Estate, ...	II.	240
	B. Premiums given in April, 1845, by Lord George Hill to his Tenants at Gweedore.	..	240
	C. Premiums given in September, 1852, by Lord George Hill to his Tenants at Gweedore.	..	241–2
	D. Contrast between Gweedore Estate in 1838 and 1866, ...	..	243
	E. Statements as to Sales of Tenants' Interests on Capt. Hill's Estates since 1st January, 1882.	..	244
KIRWIN, Mr. DENIS, ..	Payment of Rents on Estates managed by Witness, ...	X.	276
LARMINIE, Mr. ALEX., ..	Notes on Congestion in Ireland, ...	IX.	200
L'ESTRANGE, Mr. H. G., ..	A. Statement showing how Rents have been paid on Estates managed by him in the County Sligo.	VI.	242
	B. Statement as to Payment of Rents on Estate of Major William Griffith Phibbs.	..	242
	C. Statement of Loans on Estate of late Col. E. H. Cooper, ...	..	243
M'CLURE, Mr. ROBERT, ..	A. Landlord's Improvements, ...	VIII.	217
	B. Sales of Tenants' Interests on the Ventry Estate, ...	..	218
	C. Hints for Dairy Farmers in South Dunkerrin, ...	..	218–9
M'GILLICUDDY OF THE REEKS, The.	Pamphlet on Kerry Fishermen's Association, ...	..	210–5
M'GLYNN, Right Rev. Monsignor.	Districts in the Stranorlar Union which the Stranorlar Rural District Council consider should be scheduled as "Congested."	II.	246
M'GREGOR, Mr. R., ..	A. Statement of the Salaries of the Staff of the Congested Districts Board for Scotland for 1906–07.	IV.	237
	B. Statement of Particulars of Small Holdings for Sale in Strathnaver,	..	237–9
	C. Particulars of Small Holdings for Sale in Barra, ...	..	240–2
MEEHAN, Mr. P. A., ..	A. Small Holders in Abbeyleix, with Acreage, and Valuation, ..	VII.	269
	B. Untenanted Land on De Vesci Estate, ...	..	269
	C. Statement showing Condition of Labourers and their Holdings in Abbeyleix.	..	270
	D. Condition of Houses in a Street in Abbeyleix, ...	..	270
MEEHAN, Rev. JOS., ..	The Case of County Leitrim, ...	VI.	251–62
MICKS, Mr. WILLIAM L. ..	1. Table showing Population of Counties in Ireland in 1881, 1891, and 1901.	I.	227
	2. Table showing Population of Towns in Ireland in 1881, 1891, and 1901,	..	228–31

LIST OF DOCUMENTS—*continued.*

Documents put in by	Description.	Vol.	Pages
MITCHELL, Mr. F. W. D.,	*Memoranda.*		
	1. Memorandum A. Relations of the Congested Districts Board with Irish Land Commission.	I.	232–41
	2. Memorandum B. Income and Expenditure of the Congested Districts Board.	,,	241–62
	3. Memorandum C. Relations of Congested Districts Board with Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.	,,	262–72
	4. Memorandum F. Parish Committees, ...	,,	273–4
	5. Counsel's opinion on power of Congested Districts Board to construct roads, &c.	,,	274–6
	6. Statement of reasons of withdrawal of certain Subsidies to Steamer Services.	,,	277
	Tables.		
	1. Statement showing shares of counties in Guarantee Fund, ..	,,	278
	2. Statement as to Guarantee Fund, ...	,,	279
	3. Apportionment of Guarantee Fund, ...	,,	280–1
	4. Receipts and Expenditure in respect of barrel-making, ...	,,	280–1
	5. Irish Boat-building, ...	,,	282–3
	6. Rates struck under Agriculture and Technical Instruction Acts,	,,	284
	7. Prices paid for land by the Congested Districts Board, ...	,,	284
	Statistics of Estates purchased by Board, ...	V.	262–99
	Map showing Estates purchased in County Mayo, prior to, and since 1903,	IX.	*To face* 290
	Map showing Estates purchased by the Board in County Roscommon, ..	X.	*To face* 300
	Table showing Appropriation of Board's Income, ...	XI.	52
	Tables showing Expenditure by the Board on various schemes up to 31st March, 1908.	,,	53–4
	Copies of Correspondence between the Board and the Irish Government relating to the Income of the Board.	,,	112–29
MULLENS, Mr. J. A., ..	Table showing Yield from Seven Typical Trustee Investments, ..	V.	231
MULLIN, Mr. J. B., ..	Memorandum on the Fishing Industry along Lough Swilly, ...	II.	238
O'BRIEN, Mr. J. R., ..	Memorandum D. Powers of Congested Districts Board, ...	I.	285–7
	Tables.		
	1. Return showing the ratio of population to valuation in Congested Districts.	,,	289–300
	2. Summary of Fishery Loans, ...	,,	301
	3. Particulars of Poor Law Unions containing Congested Districts, ..	,,	302–3
O'CONNELL, Mr. M., ..	A. Notes of Evidence, ...	VIII.	204–5
	B. Notes of a Special Meeting held by the Listowel Rural District Council in reference to Large Holdings.	,,	205
	C. Tracts of Grazing Land, either untenanted or held by Tenants not residing thereon.	,,	206
	D. Correspondence relating to Congestion in Listowel, ...	,,	207
	E. Particulars as to the Collection of Seed Rate, ...	,,	207–8
	F. Particulars as to the Working of the Labourers Act in Listowel, ..	,,	208
O'CONNOR, Mr., ...	1. Statement of the Solicitor for the Congested Districts Board for Ireland.	III.	284–90
	2. Minute of Transfer of Tenants' Interest on Holdings, ...	,,	291–2
O'CONOR DON, The. ..	Notes of Evidence, ...	VII.	334–6
O'HARA, Rev. DENIS, ..	1. Memorandum as to funds devoted to estates business, ...	I.	334–5
	2. Mr. Wyndham's Memorandum as to increase of Board's funds, ..	,,	336
PEARSON, Mr., ...	Statement as to Brenter Property, ...	II.	248
PIGOT, Mr. J. L., ..	Memorandum on the Working of the Irish Land Act of 1903, as bearing upon the destruction of Trees and Forests.	VII.	337–41

LIST OF DOCUMENTS—*continued.*

Documents put in by.	Description.	Vol.	Pages.
PLUNKETT, Sir HORACE, ..	A. Imports of Agricultural Produce from Russia, ...	III.	366
	B. Tables showing certain particulars of Cattle in Ireland, and Exported from and Imported into Ireland in certain years.	,,	366
	C. Technical Instruction Scheme for County Mayo, ...	,,	367–70
	D. Table showing Total Expenditure on County Schemes and Department's Special Expenditure in Congested Counties.	,,	370
	F. Table showing Endowment of Board and of Department per head of population.	,,	370
	G. Table showing Expenditure by County Committees and Department in Seven Congested Counties in certain years.	,,	370
	Diagram illustrating this Expenditure, ...	,,	*To face* 370
	H. Table showing the actual and estimated Expenditure in Seven Congested Counties on each Scheme.	,,	372–3
	J. Memorandum on Problem of Congestion.	,,	374–84
POË, Lieut.-Col. HUTCHESON-	A. Notes of Evidence, ...	X.	290
	B. Sales of Tenants' Interests on Witness's Estate, ...	,,	291
	C. Area and Valuation of certain Holdings on Witness's Estate, ..	,,	291
PORTER, Mr. T. S., ..	Report by Professor Schlich on the Knockboy Plantation, ...	III.	293–6
QUILTY, Mr. JOHN G., ..	A. Statement as to Tenants on the Logan Estate, Drumcliffe, ...	VI.	246
	B. Statement as to Midleton Tenantry, ...	,,	247
ROBINSON, Mr. R. St. G., ..	A. Sales of Tenants' Interest on Congested Estates in the Counties of Sligo and Roscommon.	VI.	248–9
	B. Statement as to Payment of Rents on Estates managed by him, ..	,,	250
ROCHFORT, Mr. WILLIAM, ..	Table showing Area and Valuation of Untenanted Land on Lansdowne Estate in County Kerry.	VIII.	219
RUSSELL, Mr. GEORGE, ..	Statistics of Agricultural Credit Societies, 1905, ...	III.	297–300
RUTLEDGE, Mr. THOMAS F.,	A. Notes of Evidence, ...	IX.	193
	B. Sales of Tenants' Interests on Estates managed by witness, ..	,,	194
	C. Schedule showing average yearly rent and average yearly rent collected for ten years on six typical Estates.	,,	194
	D. Untenanted Lands managed by witness, ...	,,	195
	E. Record of Holdings sold by Tenants on Estate of the Marquis of Sligo,	,,	195–9
STUART, Mr. W. H., ..	Return of Estates bought by the Estates Commissioners, ...	III.	364–5
TRENCH, Mr. G. F., ..	Map showing extent of Co-operative system in Ireland in 1901, ..	VIII.	*To face* 209
	A. Sales of Tenants' Interests on two typical Estates in County Kerry, ..	,,	209
	B. Agricultural and Co-operative Statistics, ...	,,	209
VAUGH, Mr. WILTON, ..	Statistics as to Payment of Rents on Estates managed by him, ..	VI.	263
WALDRON, Mr. LAURENCE A.,	A. Price and Yield of Certain Typical Trustee Securities, ...	III.	278
	B. Letter from Mr. M. V. Blacker-Douglass on the decision of the Court of Appeal in the Case of the Public Trustee *v.* Blacker-Douglass.	,,	279
WALKER, Mr., ...	A. Notes on Evidence.	IV.	176–7
	B. Statement showing Rates struck in Congested Districts, ...	,,	178
	C. Table taken from the Report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation.	,,	178
WHITE, Mr. EDWARD, ..	A. Leaflets as to Preservation of Game in Ireland, ...	X.	293–5
	B. The £ *s. d.* of Sporting Rights, ...	,,	295–7
	C. Draft Deed of Conveyance of Sporting Rights, ...	,,	297–8
	D. Memorandum for Instruction of Tenants who have acquired the Sporting Rights on their Holdings.	,,	298–9
	E. Extracts from the Sixteenth Annual Report of the Irish Game Protection Association.	,,	299–300
WRENCH, The Right Hon. F. S.	A. Statement of Views, ...	III.	301–5
	B. Extract from Report to the Government, in November, 1898, on the German Colonization Commission.	,,	305–7
	C. Statement showing the Proceedings adopted by the Estates Commissioners for the Acquisition of Untenanted Land.	,,	308

LIST OF DOCUMENTS—*continued.*

Documents put in by	Description.	Vol.	Pages.
SECRETARY TO COMMISSION,	Memorandum of statistical information available with regard to number, area, valuation, and population of holdings.	I.	351–5
	Return showing the ratio of population to valuation in certain electoral divisions in Ireland and other particulars.	„	356–87
	Memorandum on State-aided Emigration, ...	„	387–9
	Note as to Limitation on Road-making Powers of County District Councils.	II.	251–2
	Statistical Abstract for County Donegal, ...	„	253–316
	Note on Griffith's Valuation and its relation to Rent, ...	V.	261
	Statistical Abstract for County Sligo, ...	VI.	274–322
	Statistical Abstract for County Leitrim, ...	„	323–75
	Statistical Abstract for County Clare, ...	VII.	271–321
	Statistical Abstract for County Kerry, ...	VIII.	220–92
	Statistical Abstract for County Cork	„	293–403
	Statistical Abstract for County Mayo, ...	IX.	203–290
	Statistical Abstract for County Galway, ...	X.	302–414
	Statistical Abstract for County Roscommon.	X.	415–81
	Memorandum on Statistics showing Crops grown and Cattle carried on different classes of Holdings, with Summaries as regards Holdings under and over 50 acres, and under 30 acres, between 30 and 20 acres, and over 200 acres.	XI.	55–87
	Tables showing Total Number of Agricultural Holdings in certain Counties of Ireland, in 1841 and subsequent years.	„	88–90
	Memorandum on Relief of Distress, ...	„	91–7
	Table showing for Ten Years, 1891–1901, the Number, in Ireland, of Marriages, Births, Deaths, the Excess of Births over Deaths, Decrease in Population, and the Emigration.	„	98–9
	Statistics as to the Number, Valuation, Acreage, and Population of Holdings in those Districts which are Scheduled as Congested.	„	100–1
	Similar Statistics for the whole of Donegal, Connaught, Kerry, Clare, and Four Unions in County Cork.	„	102–3
	Returns showing Number and Valuation of certain Holdings (*a*) not exceeding £10 Valuation, and the Valuation of Land required to bring Small Holdings up to a uniform Rateable Valuation of £10, and (*b*) over £100 Rateable Valuation.	„	104
	Tables showing for certain Maritime Counties of Ireland the Number of Fishermen who are engaged in other pursuits besides that of Fishing.	„	105
	Documents connected with the Question of Sporting Rights, ..	„	106–9
	Report of Conference between Commissioners of National Education and the Agricultural Department on the subject of School Gardens.	„	110
	Statistics as to Expenditure on Labourers' Cottages, ...	„	111

DUBLIN: Printed for His Majesty's Stationery Office,
By ALEX. THOM & CO. (Limited), 87, 88, & 89, Abbey-street.

EYRE &
SPOTTISWOODE
Bookbinders
EAST HARDING ST
LONDON